
THE CIRCULAR

ISSUE 23

WINTER 1995

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THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES - FREE TO MEMBERS



Photo Gallery 1995 - Part Three
Summary Statement of ADAS Tests
Dowsing Crop Head Aura
Minutes of the 1995 AGM
Crop Circles in Art, Popular Culture & Advertising
Messages in the Circles of 1994
Circle Sickness
Where Do We Go From Here?
Lancashire Report 1995
Who Flew the Saucer?
"Scorpio II" - An Analysis
Readers' Letters
Photographic Anomalies

THE CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES

Chairman: Michael Green

TELEPHONE HOTLINE: 0171 - 622 - 5044

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Membership enquiries:

Ron Jones, "Hillview", Abbots Ann, Andover SP11 7BA (01264 - 710356)

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Editorial & Production:

John Sayer, "Hillview", Abbots Ann, Andover SP11 7BA (01264 - 710356)

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Bits n' Pieces

At the CCCS Conference in July, Arthur Hamlin (Norfolk) suggested dowsers getting together to plan a unified approach to the dowsing of crop formations. Arthur is willing to co-ordinate this exercise and can be contacted by those interested at 19, Howell Road, Drayton, Norwich NR8 6BU (01603 - 423405).

From time to time members ask to be put in touch with others. If you would like your name, address and/or telephone number to be included on a list to be circulated to people in the same position, please write to "The Circular", marking the envelope "Contact List".

Theoretically, membership of the CCCS runs from year to year. However, since what we pay for is four consecutive issues of "The Circular", and since publication has fallen a little out of sync recently, confusion has set in with some members as to when they are supposed to renew their subscription. The simple answer is, once you have received the fourth issue to which you are entitled. Mailing labels now show the number of that issue, and normally you should receive a renewal reminder with it. (With the changeover from membership and distribution of "The Circular" being handled by an outside organisation, membership details suffered a few anomalies. Pat Palgrave-Moore had the unenviable task of trying to unravel this problem and he is now handing over the job of Membership Secretary. Things may not yet be perfect, but please have patience!) Publication dates for the calendar year 1996 will be March, June, September and December. Deadline for contributions for Issue 24 (Spring 1996) is 31st. January. The deadline for Issue 25 (Summer 1996) will be 30th. April.

Outlines of the two formations which appeared this year on the western side of Stone Avenue near Avebury were still clearly visible in mid-November. This is surprising, since the field had been ploughed and replanted. The traces take the form of the new crop being considerably higher where the formations were. If anyone can manage it, please take photographs and forward them to "The Circular". Thanks.

On a similar theme, now that Pat Palgrave-Moore is no longer focalising Anomalous Effects, please forward any relevant material to "The Circular". This issue features unexplained orange bands on a photograph taken by Linda Wirer at the West Stowell ringed-quintuplet as well as an apparent UFO (with iyles in shot in the original print!) photographed at one of the Roundway Hill formations (see "Letters" in this issue).

The increase in the cover-price of "The Circular" should not ring alarm bells, by the way. It does not mean an increase in membership subscription, but is designed to be of benefit to the outlets which help with extra sales (e.g. The Henge Shop in Avebury and The Inner Book Shop in Oxford), who make only a token amount on the deal and whose services are much appreciated.

On a sombre note, it was learned at the Council and Con-

venor' meetings in November that Dr. Mike Fowley of ADAS, the officer responsible for the soil analysis of crop formations conducted on behalf of the CCCS this year and David Yarham (head of section) have been dismissed. David had also suffered a serious car accident. Questions were being asked in the House of Commons about ADAS' involvement with the CCCS. All of this apparently happened after BBC1 and 4 announced that ADAS's research showed that not all crop formations were hoaxes. In the circumstances, condolences seem inadequate, but are offered.

All Publicity Is Good Publicity

The book "Bizarre Beliefs" (an exercise in debunking "strange" phenomena), published this year, contains a chapter on crop circles which includes quotes from George Wingfield and Barbara Davies and photographs by Busty Taylor, all of whom are on Council, yet the text makes no reference to them belonging to the CCCS. "Encounters" (December 1995) devotes a full page to the photographic work of Steve Alexander yet, while mentioning that he is involved with the "Circular Review", makes no mention of the CCCS. "Nexus" (Oct./Nov. 1995) features an article on crop circles, including three pages of silhouettes by Peter Sorensen and photographs by Steve Alexander and Lucy Pringle (another member of Council), as well as a half-page advert for crop circle photographs, marketed in Holland, and illustrated by Peter Sorensen's silhouettes but, again, makes no mention of the CCCS. A set of crop circle postcards being sold by a company in Georgia, USA, records thanks to Busty Taylor and Herman Hegge (Netherlands Convenor) amongst others, but - you've guessed it - makes no mention of the CCCS. Small wonder that the public is not more aware of our existence!

With the best will in the world, it is almost impossible to get the media to represent us properly. We are not a multinational conglomerate with limitless funds with which to engage the services of advertising companies. We have to rely on our own resources - hence the production of postcards and calendars, which bring in not only the funds needed to keep our work and the organisation itself going, but also help to spread the word about both crop circles and the CCCS. What we *do* have at the moment is an illustrated six-panel publicity brochure, master sheets for which were made available at the Convenors' meeting in July. If you can take copies of the brochure to disseminate - generally wherever you go, or for libraries or at talks, please write to me with the number required. Also available free of charge is an A4 poster (which can, of course, be enlarged to A3), which you will find on the back cover of this issue, from which you can make photocopies. This has an empty panel at the bottom for advertising local meetings/talks or whatever. It would be helpful if those (especially Branch Convenors and Council members) who participate in/give talks and lectures on behalf of other groups or organisations would also do so on behalf of the CCCS in order to raise awareness and funds. Please do what you can to assist in the publicity drive.

While membership of the CCCS is tantamount to subscribing to "The Circular", part of the membership fee does go towards administration and research costs. *Donations*

are also, of course, always welcome. We have a set of 1995 postcards and a 1996 calendar now on sale. You can help to spread awareness of the phenomenon and the CCCS and assist in fund-raising by purchasing these items (order from Ray Cox, 4, Lulworth Close, Halesowen B63 2UJ, England). Remember, we are not a commercial concern out to make a profit: running costs have to be met and a colossal amount of administrative work is being done by a handful of hard-pressed volunteers who are not paid for their efforts.

A request has been made for the inclusion of a list of recommended books, articles, videos etc. We have made a start on this with the list of "Sources of useful information", but please write in with your suggestions and they will be included.

Rumours of Rumours

"...the disturbing prevalence of gossip and rumour, and 'rumours of rumours', has at last brought it home, I think, that only through *first-hand* evidence, both about circles and people, can we hope to get anywhere..."

When those words were written for the editorial of "The Circular", March 1993, it could not have been known then how relevant they would be today: recently there was an attempt to disrupt the CCCS and, willing accomplices or not, those behind this move could not have done more, had they succeeded, to help those who seek the destruction of the organisation at the forefront of recording the crop circle phenomenon, not to mention interest in the phenomenon itself. Wheels were put in motion for the calling of a Special Meeting, purportedly under the terms of our Constitution, in order to restructure the CCCS, but

the whole exercise was invalid from the start.

To call a Special Meeting, a minimum of thirty members must act *jointly* and fix a venue, date and agenda for such a meeting. Furthermore, *only* the items on the agenda can be discussed and voted on. What actually happened was that, amid the spreading of much "gossip and rumour and 'rumours of rumours'", a meeting was arranged in Alton Barnes on 15th. October (including non-members of the CCCS) which did not vote on or agree an agenda for a Special Meeting. Instead, someone was given the task of writing an agenda *after* the meeting. Various people were subsequently asked if they would also put their names to the calling of a Special Meeting - without them being clear on what was on the agenda, and some of them even thinking they would be allowed to discuss their own areas of interest. Others, who had expressed support for a Special Meeting, but with other items for the agenda, were not included on the list of names to be presented in the Secretary's notice to the membership. Inadvertently or not, this was in contravention of the democratic process and our Constitution.

Fortunately, the whole issue was aired at the Convenors' meeting of 12th. November, where fair-mindedness, common sense and decency prevailed. It soon became clear to those present that many of them had been misled (one Convenor, for example, had received a request that he put his name to the calling of a Special Meeting, being told that all the other Convenors had already done so). Once those whose names had been misused in connection with the outcome of the Alton Barnes meeting had subsequently withdrawn support for the proposed Special Meeting agenda, the necessary criterion of a minimum of thirty signatories was no longer met and the whole exercise had to be abandoned. What will happen now is that a Review Body of Convenors will co-ordinate members' wishes for items to be discussed at the next AGM, which is, of course, the proper forum for such an exercise.

Chinese Whispers

This summer a false claim was printed in the July editorial of "The Circle Hunter", namely that "Certain big-wigs in CCCS have tried, and succeeded, to block the flow of information and photos" to Issue *20 of "The Circular". I refuted that allegation in my article "Setting the Record Straight" in Issue *21. There was no point in writing to "The Circle Hunter", as it was about to cease to exist and amalgamate with the "Circular Review", and besides, the story had already spread beyond the magazine's readership, having been brought up as an item for discussion at the Branch Convenors' meeting on 2nd. July. With the credibility of the CCCS Council being clearly already damaged, the truth had to be told to our membership. I received not one complaint from members about my article, but several phone calls and letters expressing support and praise for my action. I therefore stand by it.

That damage *had* been done was evidenced during the attempt to bring about a Special Meeting referred to above. The minutes of the meeting held on 15th. October recorded slanders against members of the CCCS and were disseminated to people who had not been in attendance - thus an act of libel was committed. Some of this libel was repeated when draft copies of a notice from the Secretary to the membership concerning the possible calling of a Special Meeting, prepared for the Council meeting of 11th. No-

THE
WESSEX AQUARIAN FOUNDATION
PRESENTS
A ONE DAY CONFERENCE
ON

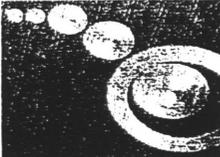
**U.F.O.s
CROP CIRCLE FORMATIONS
AND
GOVERNMENT CONSPIRACIES.**

ON
SUNDAY 14th APRIL 1966
10a.m. to 6.00pm
at
THE CORN EXCHANGE, DORCHESTER, DORSET.

SPEAKERS:

GRAHAM BIRDSALL (EDITOR OF U.F.O. MAGAZINE.)
MARCUS ALLEN (FROM NEXUS MAGAZINE.)

LUCY PRINGLE.
DAVID KINGSTON.
PAUL VIGAY.
VIRGINIA KINGSTON.
GEORGINA FRY.
MARTIN DRISCOLL.

TICKETS PURCHASED PRIOR TO THE
CONFERENCE AT A REDUCED RATE.
LAST DAY FOR TICKET PURCHASE PRIOR TO
CONFERENCE IS THE 1st MARCH 1996.
FOR ALL TICKET AND CONFERENCE DETAILS
PLEASE TELEPHONE:
(01305) 266832

member, were distributed to those attending the Convenors' meeting the following day. The injured parties would be perfectly entitled to sue for damages. Defamation is a *very* serious business.

The Convenors' meeting agreed that the documents in question should not be circulated, although the Chairman's "Notice to Members" was in "The Circular" *22, the issue already having gone to press. This was unfortunate in light of the meeting's wishes, but unavoidable. Since then, I have been sent a set of documents in response to the "Notice", for printing in this issue. One of the them is a letter addressed to the membership which when included in the Secretary's draft documents to Council was not the original but a "sanitised" version of it. The original contains potentially libellous comments and therefore will not be reproduced by me in this journal. What I have done is to ensure right of reply by including an edited version of the covering letter, which is comparable in length to the Chairman's piece and which contains the salient points being made. I trust that I have been as impartial as possible in doing justice to it (see page 22).

Receiving contradictory "instructions" from different sources, I am now left, as editor, in the position of having to decide how to present all this to the membership, which carries a very heavy responsibility, and at this point I would like to draw attention to the facts that I was elected to Council by the membership, that I was elected to the editorship of our journal by Council and that I am currently the Assistant Secretary. (I mention this last point because the present Secretary has resigned as of 31st. December, and until a new one is appointed, I will be carrying the can.)

Because I have had this lot dumped on me, I am now - having studied all the relevant documentation at great length - going to give my considered opinion on the whole episode:

There was an invalid attempt to call a Special Meeting which was to have the express purpose of suspending the elected Chairman and Council, suspending the Constitution, and appointing a Steering Committee of Convenors to formulate a replacement structure for the CCCS based on a proposal by one of the local Branches. (The only difference to the structure I could see in this proposal was that there would be no separate Council as such, but that the administrative tasks currently carried out by Council - e.g. Journal Editor, Database Holder, Hotline organiser etc. - would be taken over by Convenors.)

The invalidity of the call for a Special Meeting was discussed at the Council and Convenors' meetings of 11th. and 12th. November respectively. The Convenors' meeting rejected the proposals presented after the Alton Barnes meeting and agreed to the setting up of a "Review Body consisting solely of Branch Convenors to investigate current/ex/future members' feelings towards the existing set-up and functioning of the CCCS by interviewing all concerned parties" which would present its findings to the 1996 AGM for discussion.

My personal feelings on this are that (a) I don't agree that the opinions of *non-members* should be sought (i.e. "ex/future members"), (b) that the only way to "interview" the membership is to do so individually (which is why you may find a questionnaire inserted in this issue) and (c)

that this seems to be just another way of bringing in a Special Meeting by the back door, as part of the next AGM.

I fully realise that (c) is going upset some people, but it strikes me that the same thing is about to happen as did at Alton Barnes in October: there is no call for a Special Meeting by the required minimum number of thirty members acting jointly. The Alton Barnes episode was designed to make it seem so - that much has been realised already. I would have thought that if there really were a groundswell of dissatisfaction about the way the CCCS is being run, we would have been inundated with complaints by now. We haven't. It's that simple. This seems to me to be clearly an endorsement of the way things are (although there might be the inevitable individual gripes, as there always are in any organisation). Why, therefore, go to all the trouble and expense of forming a committee to investigate members' feelings, when a simple question in "The Circular" would do: i.e. "Do you have any motions you would like to propose at the next AGM?"

Now, I've been a member of Council since April 1994, and like the others who have actual administrative roles besides conducting field investigations and research, have been working extremely hard. Over the last twenty months I, like others, have spent an incalculable amount of time and energy on behalf of the CCCS - in my case on mailing out sales materials, the magazine, addresses updates, formations updates, minutes of meetings, Branches Newsletters, chasing up invoices, writing minutes of Council and Convenors' meetings and Branches Newsletters, attending meetings, responding to enquiries, producing publicity materials and now, sorting out the Archives and producing "The Circular" (which, apart from a little typing, I do completely alone). I think I've done a satisfactory job so far. I would therefore like to know from any member *personally* why he/she thinks I, for example, should be removed from the work I do for the CCCS: I am asking everyone to write and tell me whether I should be removed, and *why* - or whether I should carry on. My address is on page 2.

So why am I going into all this? Because too much gossip, rumour and speculation has been broadcast already and this will be the effect of any questionnaire to the membership anyway. Too many insinuations, half-truths and lies have already been spread, provoking an unwarranted loss of confidence in the CCCS and putting the continued existence of the organisation in jeopardy. I, for one, am not prepared to see the CCCS destroyed in this way. This nonsense has got to stop, and as long as I am editor of this journal I will stand by the truth and for common sense, for the good of all concerned - at the risk of being relieved of my role by Council. I take full responsibility for this editorial and am willing to put my head on the block over it. With this in mind, if you find that "The Circular" has a new editor after this issue, you'll know I've been removed - whatever other explanation might subsequently be given.

In the meantime, I'm sticking to my promise of getting this issue out by Christmas. Any delays which may have occurred by the time you read this will have been beyond my control. It remains only for me to record special thanks to Ute Weyer for her invaluable help with getting out Issue *22 and putting together Issue *23. Finally, of course, many thanks to our contributors - and best wishes to all our readers for Christmas and the New Year!

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ADAS & OTHER 1995 CROP CIRCLE TESTS

Jim Lyons

Background

As part of the 1995 season, it was deemed beneficial to undertake certain tests on CROP CIRCLES to ascertain remnant measurable effects or otherwise of their process of formation. This approach recognises the comprehensive work of the US BLT team to date, but also identifies the need to establish additional complementary testing to provide additional confirmatory evidence.

The tests undertaken are based on the fundamental hypothesis that the process of formation, independent of the argument of any intelligent creative forces at work, is essentially geophysical in nature and therefore strongly related to processes occurring naturally in the earth's biosphere. The most likely process involves strong vertical electrostatic fields interacting with low-impedance points on the earth, these being at the cross-over of energy lines on the earth's energy grid. This is known to be the effect involved in lightning strikes on the earth's surface and is a serious area of study for floating balls of light at or near earthquake zones. The basic hypothesis is that these fields strongly influence atmospheric nitrogen and oxygen which, under normal circumstances, remain separate, but combine under the influence of the ambient transient electrical fields forming gases such as NO, N₂O and NO₂. Since the effects are clearly present in the vicinity of the crop and soil, they should also leave tell-tale effects which can be analysed post the event. This is the principle of the Levensgood tests, though, in this case, the primary effect sought is the result on plant growth-rate as well as visible measurable damage to the plant. For the tests undertaken at ADAS, the hypothesis was suggested that other plant tests should be undertaken, e.g. combustible organic matter and total nitrogen. Soil tests for nitrate content were also carried out, since this is an accurate test (to within 5 %) and can be carried out cheaply.

Results

A number of formations were sampled - in excess of 20. This gave an opportunity to investigate the variation in nitrate content of samples from a variety of locations and widely differing points within a formation. ADAS provided a sampling protocol which at times proved difficult to strictly adhere to, though the enthusiasm of the teams overcame the major problems. The results obtained were considered over-

all to be representative of the true field readings.

A large variation in absolute readings was obtained throughout the tests and as a result a survey of representative readings from soil samples taken throughout the country under normal conditions is to be carried out. It was deemed necessary to have a control formation and consequently, with the help of the Suffolk Branch, a formation was created at Pentlow on Montague Keen's land. Even within the formation there were significant variations in readings, some +/-30%. There was also one high reading taken from a tramline where the fertilizer had clearly not penetrated the soil sufficiently. The number of samples from the formation itself was, however, low - and therefore did not give a solid enough data base on which to draw solid general conclusions.

As a more representative set of results, the Sussex Southeast formation showed a consistent pattern, with the readings from the flattened crop within the formation being 81% higher than the corresponding standing crop. This is a significant result and way beyond the normal expected variation. There was indication here that the crop just outside the formation was affected strongly, although it clearly was not flattened.



Telegraph Hill (Busty Taylor)

Another consistent set of data was obtained from the East Midlands Broombriggs formation near Loughborough, where the central reading exceeded the average for the rest of the formation by almost exactly 100%.

Although only two samples were taken from the simple formation at Sibson near Peterborough, the central figure exceeded the control by over 350%. Other circumstances relating to the creation of this formation led to a strong conviction that this was geophysically created. The dowsing pattern was also classic.

Another Sussex formation, at East Grinstead, was sampled in its main multi-ring circle, which resulted in the centre indicating a 400% greater reading than the remainder of the formation.

The Beckhampton "spiral", which generated well-recorded human effects, showed some 90% greater effect at the centre compared with the remainder of the formation.

The above formations were particularly noticeable for these soil effects but also responded to other more qualitative tests in a consistent manner, in particular dowsing of both the energy lines and the crop subtle energy storage capability. We await results of BLT tests for further comparison, but at this point in time can declare these to be very satisfactory formations.

Of the others tested at ADAS, there was a mixed-bag of inconsistencies. By way of example, the Telegraph Hill formation, although displaying intrigu-

ing geometry, good dowsing and battery effects, did not show up well in soil sampling.

The Bratton formation, which was not well regarded, did not show any consistent results. Likewise, the East Meon formation, despite its impressive appearance, produced inconsistent results. There were no others worthy of special mention.

Conclusions

As an exercise, the soil tests were well worthwhile. More detailed analysis will reveal finer detail in due course, but this will only be considered alongside other reliable measurements such as BLT results and water/crop vibrational analyses. These results are not expected before the end of the year.

Overall, the results obtained from ADAS in particular are consistent with the postulated hypothesis of formation creation, though in no way does it yet confirm it. The scatter in the results indicates a need for improving protocols in the future. Several formations have shown consistent results from all tests so far undertaken, but it remains to review these together with other test results now being prepared. As a first attempt at producing a useful data base, the work was very successful, with the confidence factors focussing highly on those formations located away from the Wessex area.

DOWSING CROP HEAD AURA

Michael Newark

Early this year at a meeting at Michael Green's house, Jim Lyons came up with an idea which has had a great effect on dowsing research in crop circles this season.

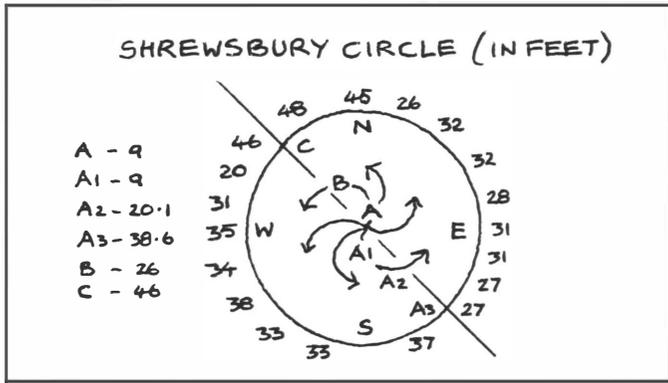
Jim is a dowser himself and he found that all things display an aura around them, and that the crop heads within any crop circle show a greater aura in genuine formations than man-made ones - or, to look at it another way, the earth energy force that makes the circle formation leaves more absorbed energy within the formation than outside any crop circle, to a high level. This would also apply to the soil within any genuine formation and this is being looked at as well as the crop head absorption factor. ADAS have been sent soil samples which display differences between those taken from inside compared with those from outside formations: changes take place to the soil structure within genuine crop circles which can be calculated.

Early in the year when I dowsed my first genuine formation, I never got the chance to dowse the crop head aura test because I could not get permission to enter the formation. This happened a few times -

I just could not get permission to go into any formation I dowsed as genuine from the road. It was very frustrating. While I was happy to find genuine crop circles, not being able to gather crop head samples started to get on my nerves.

The first chance came from an area where crop circles have never been what you can call "thick on the ground", around Shrewsbury. A phone call from CCCS member Ray McCaffrey told me a large crop circle had formed close to the A5. I drove over the next day. It was a beautiful formation in the corner of the field, just yards away from the main A5 road round Shrewsbury (*described in "The Circular" *21, p.19*).

With all genuine crop circles having earth leys at N/S/E/W crossing every formation, I took crop head samples from a line about N/W to S/E across the circle, to avoid any leys in the circle. These might prove to have more than normal absorption in a formation at this point, so it is better to get them from other places in a circle. And I found it better not to try and dowse the power absorption in the crop heads within the circle while I was in it - for me it was



better to do it at home.

At last I had a genuine formation and some crop head samples to dowse. It was going to be good to see how the power had affected different parts of the same circle. The first thing was to remove any effect my own aura would have with the dowsing of the heads. Getting to know that everything has an aura lets you remove these outside influences. From this first formation I took samples about 9-10 feet apart, going from about S/E to N/W, and the others came from Ray at a later date, from 1-2 feet outside the circle wall.

After clearing myself I dowsed the heads. The centre of the circle proved to have an aura of 9 feet each side of the middle and the heads to the south side of the middle point showed less power absorption than those to the north side. While the edge of the circle on the south side displayed 38.6 feet aura, the north side displayed 46 feet. This showed that the circle was more "zapped" on its north side than the south. But without doubt the edges of the circle dowsed much more power absorption than the centre, and this feels right to me because I feel dizzy in every formation - as if it were a spinning-top. This indicates to me that the power, whatever it is, would push outwards to the edge of the circle, and the power absorption figures arrived at through dowsing seem to confirm this.

Dowsing the crop heads for the first time showed large aura figures within the circle formation while the sample taken from about 50 yards outside this circle dowsed just 31 inches aura. Even around the outside edge, 15 inches from within the circle wall, large figures of power absorption can be dowsed, again with the higher figure being on the north side of the circle.

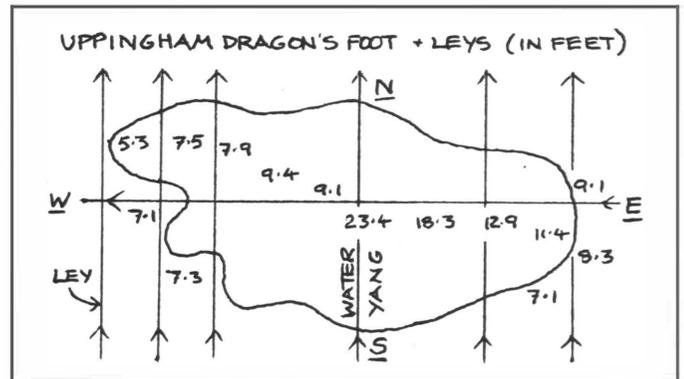
Following a crop circle lecture he gave in Wellington, near Telford, in July, Ray Cox (the West Midlands Convenor) received a phone call from people who had attended the lecture, informing him of a circle and "dragon's feet" all in the same field near Uppingham. Ray and I went straight away to see this field. It was very special, so full of natural earth energy patterns in the form of a number of rough dragon's feet, one very good circle and one good drag-

on's foot. Dowsing a dragon's foot is something I have always wanted to do, but had never had the chance. Now I had the opportunity to not only dowse one, but also to take crop head samples to dowse as well.

The dragon's foot had a "spider's web" at its middle and leys running across the pattern. The entire crop in this formation lay E/W. The "heel" of the dragon's foot had a higher power absorption level than the rest of the formation and the level dropped dramatically after the Yang water line. (This was the field where Ray and I had the experience of hearing children's voices and laughing chatter, although there were no children in the fields near us.) Some of the dragon's feet had 3 and 5 "toes" and all dowsed genuine, with leys and spider's webs. Another dragon's foot which arrived later in the summer near Shrewsbury again showed a large drop in power absorption after the Yang water line, so this would seem normal for this type of formation.

Genuine crop circles which come with paths or tails have a huge increase in power absorption figures over the normal single circle formation. I have dowsed some crop circles with paths attached where samples taken from the paths dowse over 65 feet auras. And the dowsing shows that even outside a crop circle wall power absorption figures can be very high compared to inside the formation. This summer has shown just how important this aura dowsing is. We can now take apart a formation, so to speak, and find just where the main power absorption has taken place.

First reports seem to suggest that the north side of any formation gets the most power. But then I dowsed the huge Redditch crop circle and found that the south side showed the largest figures - but this may have been because of its unique shape. Dowsing the power absorption figures across any genuine crop circle is something very new and exciting and it remains to be seen if the soil samples also show the same pattern. I intend to dowse the soil within crop circles next summer in order to check this. It would be a step in the right direction to be able to match both crop head and soil samples. And does it need saying that these figures and facts cannot be produced in man-made circles, unless you have a microwave oven the size of East Field?



MINUTES OF THE 1995 AGM

Fayre Deal Motel, Cholderton, 1st. April 1995

(1) Welcome by Chairman

(2) Minutes of 1994 AGM read, with following amendments noted:

Specialist Knowledge Services were no longer contracted to handle membership & finance; Michael Glickman elected to Council in '94 (Paul Vigay brought in later to fill vacancy left by Leonie Starr).

Amended minutes approved by meeting and signed by Chairman.

(3) Chairman's Report - Michael Green

Optimistic about achievements and work of organisation, especially in recording and reporting. Hopes to be able to continue Barbara Davies' high standards with Hotline and Formations Updates (Datalists), jobs which she is relinquishing.

Tribute paid to those working in the field, especially Steve Alexander, Peter Mearns and Michael Newark. Special thanks also to Branch Convenors Colin Jackson (Wiltshire), David Kingston (Dorset), John Holman (Yorkshire), Barry Reynolds (Sussex), Anthony Cheke (Oxford), Joyce Galley (Kent) and John Sayer (Norfolk). Thanks also to Sussex Branch for high standard of reporting and Dorset for PR work in local community.

Field inspections and aerial reconnaissance now being co-ordinated by Richard Smith.

CCCS able to produce calendar last year (organised by Lucy Pringle and Michael Glickman) and two sets of postcards (compiled by self).

Thanks expressed to dedicated work in North America, especially to Ilyes (US Network Co-ordinator), Convenors Carol Pedersen (Oregon), Doug Rogers (Connecticut), Ron Russell (Colorado), Sharon Warren (Arizona), Forest Crawford (Illinois), Paul Anderson (Canadian Network Co-ordinator), Daniel Clairmont (Saskatchewan), Peter Miller (Ontario), and Chad Deetken.

Mention also made of ambassadorial role of Michael Glickman in giving lectures at own expense to American audiences.

Burden of administration of organisation considerable, and thanks expressed to Pat Palgrave-Moore (Secretary), Richard Smith (Treasurer & Branch Liaison), Barbara Davies ("Circular", Datalists & Hotline), John Sayer (Assistant Secretary & Mailings),

Paul Vigay (Computer Database) and Anthony Cheke. Regrets expressed that Anthony Cheke and Michael Glickman are standing down from Council for personal reasons, likewise Richard Andrews for health reasons - they will be missed.

Events of year included successful summer conference, organised by Michael Glickman and Uta Hope, and Winter Lecture Series organised by Carol Cochrane and chaired by Michael Glickman.

Marcus Allen's "sleuth" work seems to have uncovered evidence that main proponents of the "hoax scam" are CSICOP (Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal) and its UK counterpart, the "Wessex Sceptics". Hopes that with introduction of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (1994) there will be a crackdown on hoaxing by police this year.

At last a major breakthrough with the publication of Dr. Levengood's paper "Anatomical Anomalies in Crop Formation Plants" in the scientific journal "Physiologia Plantarum" (1994). Jim Lyons (CCCS Scientific Research Officer) also establishing a two-year programme of recording and testing formations. Sample-collection programme for Dr. Levengood also being arranged by Nancy Talbot.

Is research and management safe for future? Only worry is that CCCS might fall into hands of someone more concerned with own self-promotion, which would lead to destruction of organisation. Drew parallel with SPR (Society for Psychical Research), which has "trodden water" for 70 years, merely collecting data and not attempting to build any theoretical framework. Totally against CCCS becoming a cult or belief-system and believes that if we continue to test and examine, we will eventually be able to prove which formations are genuine: we are an investigative organisation and with perseverance will carry the thinking public with us.

(4) Secretary's Report - Pat Palgrave-Moore

Membership has gone down slightly from 570 last year to current 550, but make-up has changed: increase in UK numbers, but decline in overseas, especially USA. Trend for new members, but also return of lapsed members after a couple of years, indicating renewed faith in both phenomenon and CCCS as main source of information.

Continues to receive many letters from people interested in circles generally. Is also now focaliser for Non-human Anomalous Effects. Too early to report

yet, but hopes to deliver full report next year. Good deal of information coming in.

Paid tribute to John Sayer as example of sort of role that Council members take on, and commitment it takes. JS responsible for minutes of meetings, internal mailings and distribution of sales material. Might sound simple, but taking minutes, for example, involves 15-20 hours of work per meeting; distribution of "Circular" involves 15-30 hours combined work. Mentioning this to illustrate commitment on part of Council members, who, of course, receive no pay.

Overview of future of CCCS: feels we are in strong position. Talking to John Martineau recently about reports of pictograms as well as circles from about "30 BDD (before Doug and Dave)". Feels we now have key members within organisation in the right places; also more likely to have greater international co-operation this year as well as international publicity. CCCS should now be seen as a good, working, international organisation.

(5) Financial Report - Richard Smith

(Copies of Accounts distributed.) Three main differences in '94 as compared to '93:

1. Withdrew from our arrangement with SKS and brought in-house membership and "Circular" distribution, saving about £1,000 per year.
2. More emphasis on fund-raising (postcards and calendars). Expenditures reflected in last year's accounts, benefits coming in this year. Lucy Pringle and Michael Glickman produced a good calendar which sold out. Profit will show this year.
3. Aviation: previously relied on people letting us know of formations; in '94, more co-ordinated, and success reflected in Datalists produced by Barbara Davies.

Generally, CCCS has tried to become more pro-active in raising membership and driving financial aspect of organisation more positively.

Questions on Finance:

Balances produced over last year; "stocks of goods for resale at cost" - are these goods saleable and has outlay on calendar been recouped? RS - Yes. Costs of calendar have been recouped since end of financial year and money now coming in. (PPM - deficit has now been turned into surplus.) Why no aviation costs showing in '93? RS - previous (SKS) accounting didn't show it separately; concluded that it came under "Research" column. (Pointed out also that credit card payments are processed through "The Inner Bookshop" in Oxford and that our banking

arrangements are such that we are only charged per deposit, not per cheque, giving substantial savings.) Fall in American membership? RS - due largely to "Circular" previously being sent (under SKS) by surface mail; now going airmail. Improvement in service thanks to Norfolk Branch. American members expressing approval of new smooth running of organisation.

Motion to adopt Accounts/Financial Report passed.

(6) "The Circular"/Hotline - Barbara Davies

As already mentioned, unable to cover all work herself. From 1st. May Michael Green will be running Hotline. Some non-members will not be aware of change, but self and MG will be faxing each other with information. John Sayer will be helping with Database. (Paul Vigay merging disks from Branches.) JS also going through Archives to check that everything is on Database, "keeping pot boiling". Has brought reports up to '92 with her for him. Special thanks to all those who provided reports and photos in '94. Has produced list of O.S. numbers for MG and JS, along with list of formations with photos and/or reports. What we are short of is good surveys. Appealed to visitors to formations to take measurements.

"The Circular" - combination of Hotline/Datalist/"Circular" works well because they feed into one another, and information can go into "Circular" quickly. Confident that self, MG and JS can work together well. JS also now to be Assistant Editor, responsible for Notices, Council & Convenor Addresses, some "pages for fun" and Branches' Report.

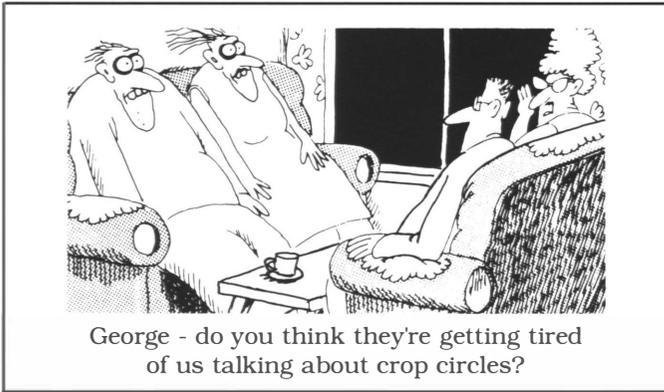
Datalist: rarely puts in judgement on authenticity of formations, just information which might be of use - in response to request from last year. Thanks expressed to those who write to her (not able to reply to everyone) - very encouraging.

(7) Branch Liaison - Richard Smith

Branch Convenors' meetings held three times a year. Aviation co-ordinated in first meeting after taking over from Pat Palgrave-Moore in this role. Shares Branch Liaison work with John Sayer, who produces Branches Newsletter. Organisation functions very much at Branch level and sees self as focal point for those who need access to Council. Considers Branch network to be flourishing, with good work coming through from "active" Branches such as Sussex.

(8) Scientific Co-ordination - Jim Lyons

Has contacted all Branch Convenors and has received a lot of feedback on projected two-year research programme. "Quality management" - would rather have good, simple data, rather than a lot we



don't know what to do with. Would like to build upon and extend, for example, work done over the years by Richard Andrews on earth energies.

Idea this year to establish co-ordination between Branches as per sampling done last year. Suggestion is to analyse a dozen formations, from all over the country. Now arriving (not just in crop circles) at point where "scientific" and "metaphysical" worlds meet. Convenors asked to identify formations they like (preferably fairly simple ones); dowse for energy lines; aerial photography to include higher-altitude shots, taking in surroundings; crop sampling (checking seeds); name of game to identify "life force". We're not separate from what's happening in physics. Need to bring together good quality data. This year devoted to building on work of Branches and establishing "hit teams". Details to be gone over at Convenors' meeting tomorrow. Thanks for support.

(9) Election of Chairman - John Haddington/Alan Rayner

Result: Michael Green re-elected.

Some doubts expressed about ballot papers having to be signed. Query on family membership where two people used one ballot paper: AR not able to check, as he didn't have a membership list. Pat Palgrave-Moore explained inclusion of space for signature: security measure (no-one but Returning Officer would see papers anyway).

Motion that in future ballot papers would not need to be signed passed.

(10) Council Elections - Pat Palgrave-Moore

Rotation every three years whereby four Council members stand down, with the option to stand for re-election. This year Michael Glickman is standing down after one year, Michael Green and Richard Andrews had to stand down (MG stood for re-election but RA didn't). Only nominations received this year were for *Ron Jones* and *Michael Green*: uncontested, therefore both elected.

(11) Questions

Andy Thomas - Since people can subscribe separately to "The Circular", what is the benefit of joining the CCCS? Pat Palgrave-Moore - members have access to Hotline and are entitled to discounts on CCCS publications. John Sayer - members entitled to discounts at meetings (e.g. this afternoon's talks); also a way of donating to research. David Warfield - Is the information on the Hotline only available to Convenors/CCCS members and is it possible to have someone in Wiltshire manning the Hotline? Barbara Davies - Hotline not just for Convenors, but except for Wilts. and Hants., where it's a "free-for-all", has been referring callers to Convenors for further details on their local formations. Michael Glickman - wanted clarification of exactly who Hotline is available to. Barbara Davies - verified over Hotline which formations were visible from road in Wilts./Hants. Not desirable to give out exact locations of circles not visible from road in case this causes trouble with farmers. Alan Rayner - Will there be a new number for the Hotline and how will it be publicised? Barbara Davies - New number will be in "Circular". Michael Green - Number will be separate to his home number. John Haddington - Is it desirable to have database on Internet (World Wide Web)? Alan Rayner - Would computer access not compromise our relationship with farmers and breach confidentiality? Karen Douglas - Anyone can put anything on Internet and anyone can access it. Paul Vigay - Various groups, such as CSICOP and the Wessex Sceptics are posting bulletins; he and Chad Deetken have done their best to counter the debunkers. Leonie Starr - Should members of Council not acquire what is going on the Internet? Sonia Porter - Can Convenors keep more in touch with members during season? Pat Palgrave-Moore - Branches with large membership have problems with this because of cost of contacting members; better for members to contact Convenors. Tony Caldicott - Sends his members photocopies of the Datalist as it arrives and has "telephone-tree" system in operation. John Sayer - When BD compiles Datalist, he sends it out to all Convenors; Branches don't all have funds to cover cost of mailings to all members; if system is breaking down it's because members aren't contacting Convenors; pointed out that all convenors are sent copies of Datalist within 48 hours of it being received by him in Norfolk. Richard Andrews - Explained reasons for not standing for re-election to Council: keen to see new blood. Pleased at Jim Lyons' input. Praised Terence Meaden's meticulous recording work. Thanked John Haddington and Michael Green for their support of CCCS, without whom our endeavours wouldn't have been so rich. Also to be mentioned: Busty Taylor, who has a lot of information, which Jim Lyons is now netting. Explained that he has been diagnosed as having a brain tumour, which "causes problems", but he will continue to be "there in the background, if not in the foreground" and thanked those who have been supportive.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Steve Jones

The time is right for us to pause and reflect on what happens next: do we delve deeper into the scientific pool or delve deeper into our inner selves?

As I said to John Sayer during a telephone conversation recently, this has been a sabbatical year for me. The frenzied rushing round Wiltshire was laid to one side, so I might have the time and space to reassess the past few years, and especially the past months.

I, like many others, would normally have spent as many days as possible checking out new formations as the season unfolded. However this year has been different for many reasons...some good, some slightly disturbing. I feel I must speak out on these reasons, go public and face the certain wrath of other members.

To say our lives have been enlightened by the experiences of the past years would be an understatement...

We are being gathered together, from all walks of life, to guide others onto the path of truth and understanding.

Christmas 1994 was a turning point for me. During the seasonal break I wrote a booklet expressing my views and ideas in relation to Crop Circles. Some of the contents are factual - bearing in mind my limited scientific knowledge - while others are pure speculation. Together they form a very personal insight into the bewildering phenomenon appearing before us every summer. I stated in Chapter Seven that there would be a decline in the number of formations during 1995, but that those that did appear would be more intricate. I believe my words have been justified by the results. (Note: John has a copy of the booklet on disk. A Berkshire member has the only hard copy, he has had it since February 1995.)

Around this period I also underwent a spiritual awakening. Lucy will bear this out as I felt the need to confide in someone with a little more knowledge in these matters, therefore I contacted her. The culmination of this awakening has been the ceaseless production of poems. Before anyone jumps the gun, I haven't gone all arty-farty, nor have I shaved my head and started walking round ringing a little bell.

What I have done is sat back and reconsidered where I go from here. Also, I have taken a long hard look at CCCS and its aims. The first thing I noticed was the continued search for a scientific explanation to the formations. Laudable work is being done by Jim and

his team. At last, due to results, the whole issue is being taken seriously. No longer are we considered a bunch of half-baked flakes prancing round fields. Due to the sterling and painstaking research being undertaken, an air of professionalism surrounds CCCS.

Yet, this also disturbed me, for in the search for conclusive proof of what makes the formations, many have forgotten the equally serious question - Why?

Just why are these formations appearing and why are people being drawn to them in ever increasing numbers? Despite all the research that has been undertaken, these serious questions still remain unanswered...and are likely to be so for a few more years yet.

Whilst there is room, in discussion and "The Circular", for hard facts, there is still the need for speculation. The last thing we want is for "The Circular" to turn into a dusty tome filled with scientific fact. Of course, we all want to know the results as they become known, but we also want material that stretches the imagination. One of the joys of receiving "The Circular" was the knowledge that there would be something controversial, something out of the ordinary. Mind-food and wild imagination made the journal unpredictable and readable. Knowing John and his sense of humour, I believe he will do a fine job as Editor, but I hope he doesn't get bogged down by solid fact. There is room for both within the covers.

The circles appear every year and 1996 is set to be a good year. I have sensed this for some time. Those of us not involved with the science of the formations should try turning our attention to the personal aspects of them. We have to look inward and learn how they are changing us...for that is what they are doing to us all, whether consciously or unconsciously. None of us can truthfully say that our lives are as they were before we entered the twilight world. Many have seen the light and moved onto a new plane of understanding.

To say our lives have been enlightened by the experiences of the past years would be something of an

understatement. I throw down a challenge to all serious members to state on oath that they have not re-examined books on many diverse subjects. Also that they have not delved into matters that had lain undiscovered and were thought to be outside the range of their interests.

Most of us have experienced a change in our lives, a deeper understanding, a new level of tolerance and a more relaxed outlook on life in general. I can only speak from personal experience when I say I now see the futility of modern life with its competitive aspect, I am more at peace with the world and myself. My temper is controlled and I try to help others to gain a similar lifestyle. I have banished stress to a great extent and accept my lot as another lesson to

be learnt, before I can claim to be a complete member of the human tribe.

If this the extent of my involvement with crop formations, that I am to witness a reawakening of humanity, then I am well satisfied. I will not sit back and wait any longer, my destiny now lies in trying to prepare others for what will happen soon. As my education continues, so will my efforts to pass on this information, for my course lies in teaching others how they can attain a balanced view of their place in the Universe.

We are being gathered together, from all walks of life, to guide others onto the path of truth and understanding.

CROP CIRCLES AS ART

Will Russell

To many, art may be a landscape by Monet, a still life by Velasquez or even a sculpture by Michaelangelo.

"I don't know about crop circles as art," I recently heard a researcher say. This opinion is probably held by many cippiers, as well as Joe Public. After all, how can an unbuyable act of vandalism be "art"? The key to realising the answer lies in the definition of what "art" is. This, unfortunately, is not easy to formulate and, indeed, many art theoreticians and historians have tried.

It is important to take into consideration the artist's intention. When our insectoid- and four-legged-pseudonymed hoaxing friends venture into the fields wielding their tools of destruction/creativity, what is their intent? If they are just out to make "pretty patterns", are they justified in calling themselves "artists"? Yes - as they are appealing to the aesthetic side of the art arena. However, if they are intent on creating a "pretty pattern" and are engaging the viewer in the thought process of, for example, "What is responsible for the creation of this shape?", they are appealing to the conceptual side of the art arena with perhaps a theme of deception.

The perpetrators are artists, if they wish to be so called, and their work is art.

The work itself is unbuyable, due to its perishable nature. However, the *documentation* of the work is buyable, in the form of, for example, photography, sketches and media publication. I'm sure regular readers are by now aware of the land artists Richard Long and Andy Goldsworthy. They are perhaps the artists whose work is most likely associated with crop circles - only their work seems to be held very much within its own boundaries. Since Long and Goldsworthy started making art almost twenty years ago, they have progressed very little. Maybe the work of other artists is just as appropriate when applied to the crop circle. In many ways crop circles can be paralleled to the perishable works of Helen Chadwick with her circular meat and flower arrangements, as well as to Damian Hurst and his "A Thousand Years", where a cow's head is devoured

by maggots which evolve into flies and explode upon impact with an electric "Insectocutor". Both these examples show cycles and developments of nature.

At this point you may be able to appreciate how the artist would feel if the fruit of his/her labour were being sold, without some sort of commission, especially if the sellers were making a tidy sum out of them. Unfortunately (?!), artists without permission are trespassing and are powerless to reap any benefit from farmers/owners when the latter make a profit by charging visitors for entry into their fields.

The hoaxers' role as artists begins to wear a bit thin when they see themselves as jokers, ridiculing researchers. The researcher falls into the category of interpreter and can be seen to fill the role of art critic. What hoaxers/artists have to realise is that when placing themselves in the art arena as artists, their work will be viewed by the public (and crop circles definitely fall into this category) and as a consequence is open to criticism and interpretation. When artists cease to accept public opinion and instead set about ridiculing anyone connected with an interpretation, they must stop making works in the public view or abandon the role of artist and assume the position of comedian.

Where does this leave the phenomenon? If circles, as they have been doing, continue to grow in complexity and size, it will leave the "circle scene" with a number of options:

- (1) Crop circles will be impossible for a human to create (although some believe this already). If so, what is making them?
- (2) Crop circles will reach a peak in size and complexity and eventually all possible combinations will have been executed. Will this mean a regression to simple, uncomplicated circle designs?
- (3) Mankind will decode the designs, interpret the message and we will be able to communicate, and perhaps as a result, crop circles will stop altogether.

POPULAR CULTURE & CROP CIRCLES

Carol Pedersen

Popular culture includes what is commonly accepted by people at a particular time, such as their shared values, beliefs and definition of reality. These shared attitudes affect people as well as mirror society. Individuals can be influenced to such an extent by popular attitudes that independent thought is all but extinguished. For instance, it is popular at the present time for mainstream culture to reject serious recognition of the paranormal.

All speculation on the origin of crop circle formations comes down to considering them either genuine or man-made. Genuine formations come into existence through an unknown energy source. In other words, they occur without scientific explanation and therefore are defined as paranormal. Man-made formations are made by people with the aid of some mechanical device and/or their feet. I believe there are several ways the culture has conditioned people to accept the attitude that all crop circles are man-made.

For fifteen years independent reports and studies have been made of these crop circle formations that appear mysteriously in fields around the world. No one has been caught or prosecuted for illegally entering a field to make a formation, yet in 1994 there were over two hundred of them in England alone. In these formations, the grain is flattened to the ground and swirled into patterns overnight, and found the next morning by farmers. Science has no answer for how or why these formations occur.

The culture has valued scientific reductionist methodology as a basis for understanding our universe for over 300 years. A thing must be proved by linear thinking and experiment to merit interest. If something, like crop circles, falls outside of this arena, it is disregarded. The existence of crop circles does fall outside the way science has ordered the universe. Gary Zukav explains in *The Dancing Wu Li Masters*, "Classical physics is based on the *assumption* that our reality, independent of us, runs its course in space and time according to strict causal laws." A certain amount of fear and resistance is evident because scientists have a vested interest in the old ways of thinking. So, a culture indoctrinated and backed with scientific appraisal can easily dismiss the unusual crop circle formations as man-made foolishness. It would appear that new forms of energy distribution are not being investigated by the establishment because of an assumption physics has about reality.

The popular culture intimidates professionals who might want to study areas of interest that defy tra-

ditional scientific method. Peer rejection and loss of reputation occur when individuals defy the establishment. Social bias labels anyone seriously interested in the paranormal as a member of the lunatic fringe. Individuals risk being ridiculed, ignored, and threatened economically by the fear of low pay and loss of jobs, grant money, promotions and status. This keeps highly qualified people from investigating crop circles.

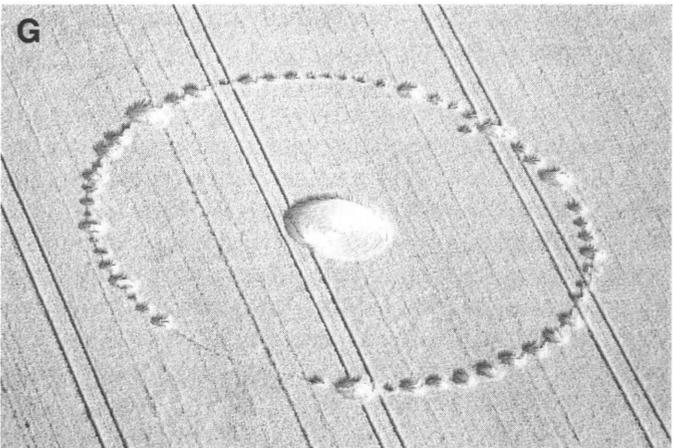
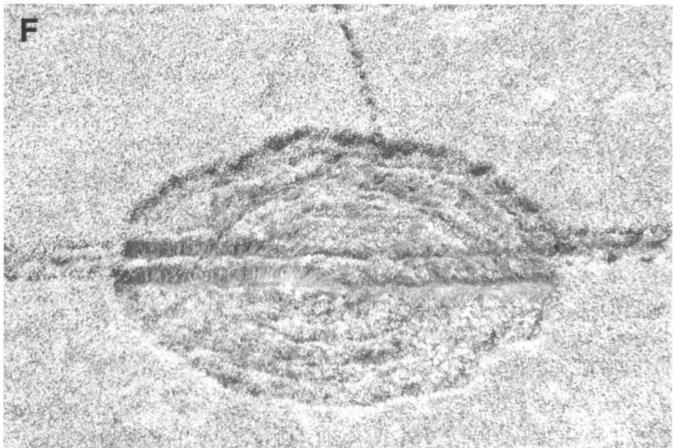
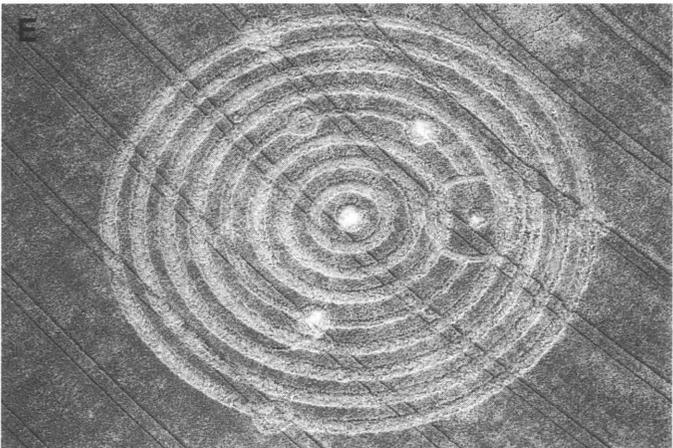
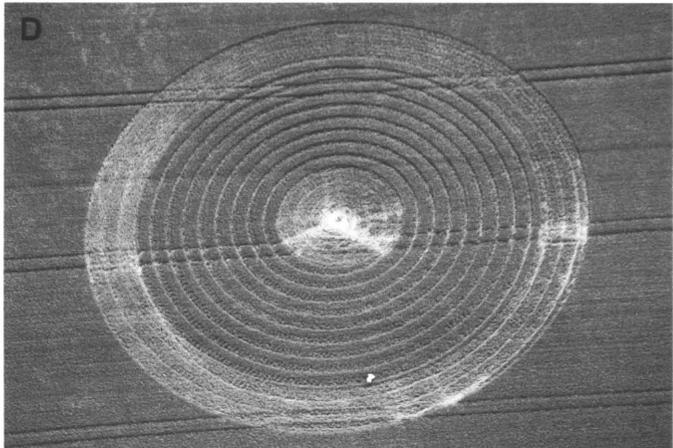
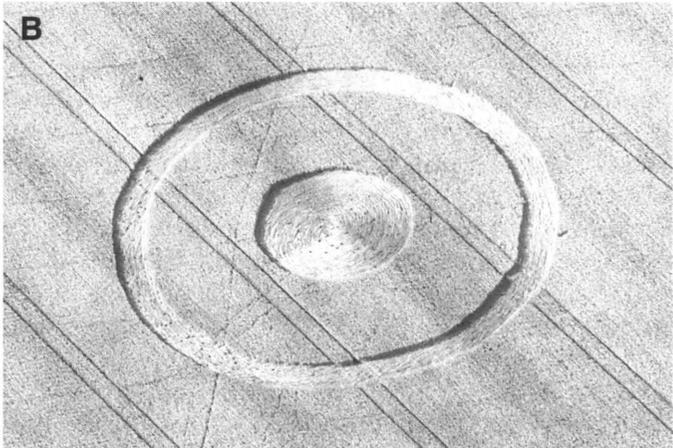
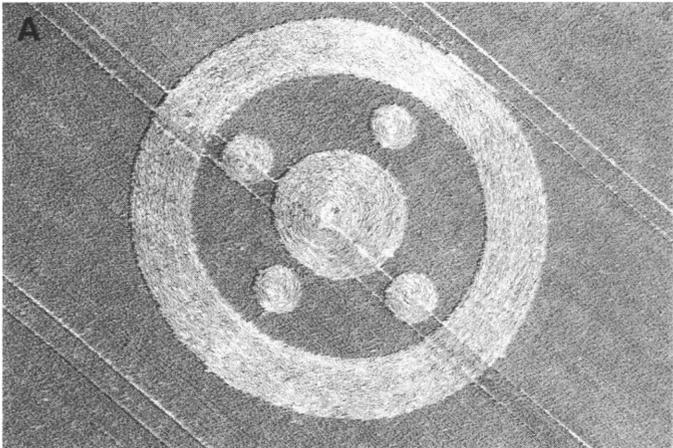
Looking into the paranormal is discouraged in favour of technology and industry. However, certain people have bucked the system and contributed clues to what the energy is that creates crop circles. Dr. Gerald Hawkins, astronomer, has explored the relation between crop circles, the musical scale ratios and geometry, and found similarities. Dr. W. C. Levegood, bio-physicist, has discovered the energy in crop circles' creation might well have a microwave-heating origin: the internal cell structure of the plants and germination rates are changed; there are splits, cracks, charring, bends and expansion of the nodes in formations' plants that do not appear in control samples. But these studies are done outside the mainstream scientific community with personal funds. Last year, the first article by Dr. Levegood on his work was accepted and printed by an international science journal.

Money is another thing to consider in negative cultural conditioning. The culture today values working to make money as the most important part of a person's lifetime experience, as long as it is done in a traditional occupation. There is no money to be made in crop circle work. The government and industry will not support paranormal research because of this fact. Researchers have to work with limited resources and can expect little income. This does not mean that advertisers have not exploited the phenomenon to make money for themselves by using the paranormal to sell products. For instance, a recent ad. on television spotlighted a lawnmower by showing it had just successfully cut out a crop circle pattern in the grass.

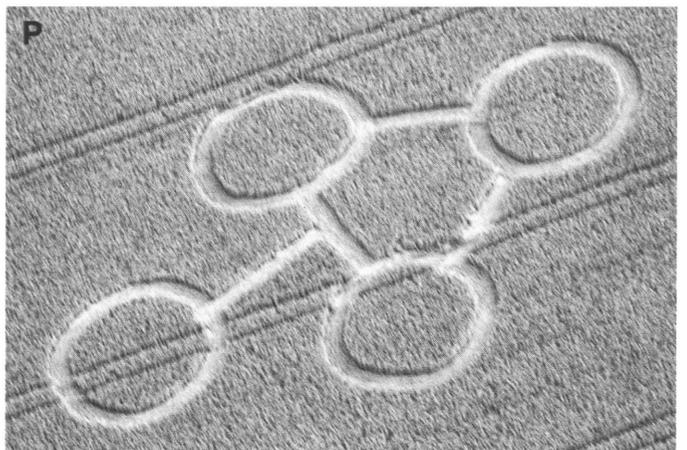
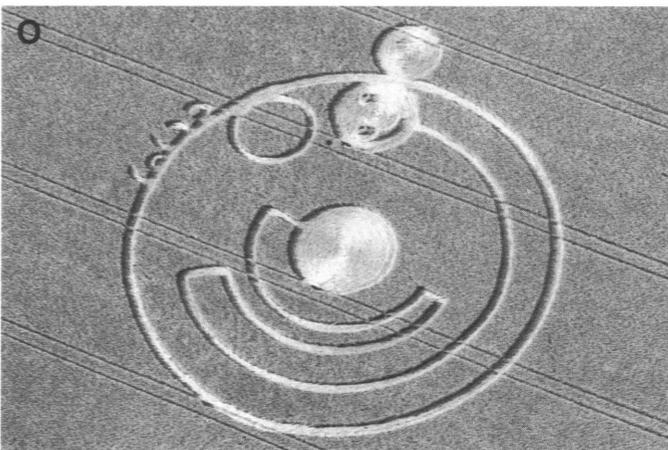
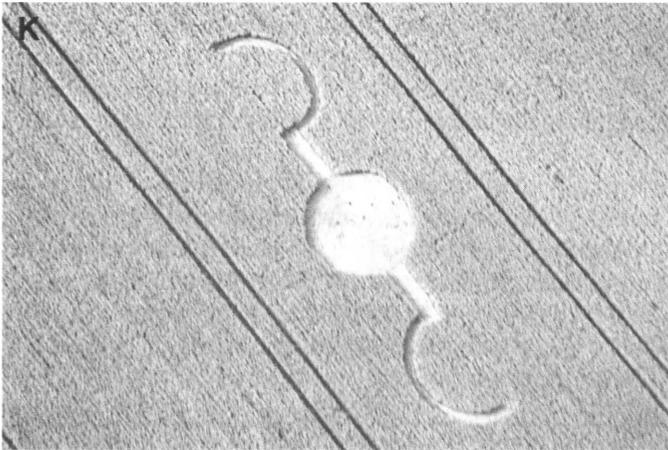
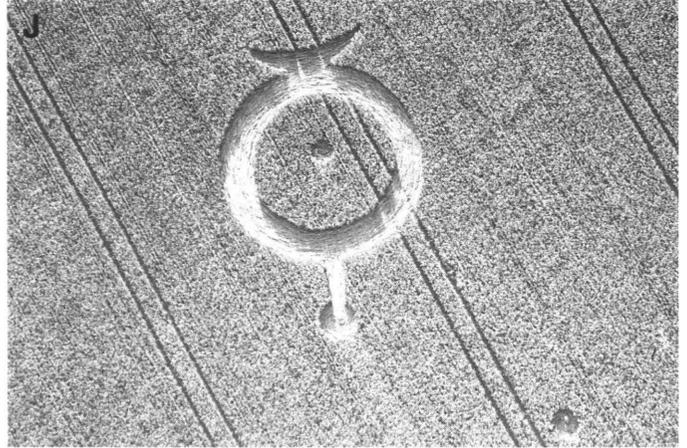
The media sensationalise anything they present to the public rather than present a clear picture. Image is the thing. This causes a breakdown in the ability people have to distinguish illusion from reality. On the rare occasions when crop circles are reported, the focus is to boost ratings or circulation by presenting a good "story". This results in further misrepresentation and a superficial view. The sensational headlines read, "Aliens land in farmer's wheat field" or "Men Who Conned The World". The

(continued on p. 18)

Photo Gallery



1995 - Part Three



latter headline refers to Doug and Dave, two retired Englishmen who claimed in 1991 to have made every crop circle in England. Hundreds of circles have formed since then, yet still today the general public concludes that all formations are man-made, based largely on this particular story.

Religious beliefs of a culture also have quite an impact on the way paranormal phenomena are treated. Popular culture today generally promotes fundamentalism where security lies in the authority of a church leader who delivers an accepted doctrine. Authoritative doctrines, therefore, support scientific attitudes against the existence of genuine crop circles. The formations are condemned as Satanism, witchcraft or evil because they challenge the doctrine the church uses to control lives. I observed several visitors to the Sunset circle in Aloha, Oregon, in 1994 carrying bibles and crosses to protect themselves just in case the formation was evil.

In contrast, ancient nature-based cultures were more likely to embrace the unknown as part of the great mystery of life. 90% of the world's crop formations occur in England near the ancient sites of Stonehenge, Avebury and Silbury Hill. Among others, Terence Meaden in "Goddess of the Stones", proposes that these ancient sites were crop circle formations that were marked with wood and then larger stones to preserve them as sacred places.

Today, people value what is safe, and avoid risk-taking. In addition to reliance on purely scientific fact and religious form, there is an emphasis on job security, pension plans, insurance, IRAs, buying grave sites, acquiring material possessions and continuing to deplete the earth's natural resources. Safety lies in believing crop circles to be man-made. It would be too risky to seriously think that an unknown energy force we didn't control, an intelligence from another dimension, authentic aliens, or environmental pollution might be involved. It is also too risky to go against the mainstream, to think and voice opinions too original for the establishment to consider. Dismissing the paranormal as a hoax or joking about spaceships and little green men is an easy solution.

Society reacts to the formations consistent with a popular common mindset based on fear of the unknown, fundamentalist religious training, and media sensationalism. But, is it really wise to ridicule something because of an ASSUMED view of reality?

Perhaps crop circles originate from an unknown source within our planetary system or from an unknown source beyond it. But, the prospect that new forms of energy distribution are affecting the world's major food source presents us with a first-rate 20th. Century mystery to solve. But only a few people want to investigate the clues.

IF SOMEBODY MADE THE CIRCLE, WHO FLEW THE SAUCER?

Ray Cox

Many individuals in the crop circle community also have a deep interest in the UFO scene. In many cases the latter interest came first - crop circles being a more recent phenomenon. It is not surprising, then, that there has been a desire to link the two. Coincidental UFOs and crop circles do not quite happen, but seem to come close, even though UFOs - if only in the form of anomalous lightforms - have been on the increase in circles-prone areas.

Sceptics who maintain a completely human-made answer to crop circles, such as the super-sceptical "Magonia" magazine (positing a psycho-social answer) and others who might link circles and UFOs to the Meaden plasma vortex theory and the still rather deficient "earthlights"-manifestation theory (where the human mind has some manipulation), could not be expected to join the two together - i.e. by accepting a causative UFO for the crop circle as an objective intention.

One notable and well known link made between the two was probably the "beam of light" visitation near Silbury Hill in 1988 and the subsequent discovery of circles in a nearby field the next day. But even

that was some hours apart and any credible connection it was not, of course, possible to make.

It was, therefore, a potential breakthrough to read of the Romanian report in a recent issue of Flying Saucer Review (reprinted in "The Cerealologist" *13 under the heading "UFO with two bearded occupants seen making crop circle in Romania"). This was in June 1994. There were five witnesses: "The circles in the field were only produced just as it began to rise." Not only was an object seen, but also occupants - and bearded!...Old hands at work, perhaps, caught in the act for the first time! It seems that the investigators were satisfied with the veracity of the observers. The circles themselves were two in number: a small central roundel 6m. wide within a larger ring 42m. across. The width of the actual band of this ring was mainly 4m. wide and 6m. wide over a 70° section. The anticlockwise crop was heavily pressed down, and in the outer areas the stems of the corn were interwoven or plaited with each other in a whirlwind fashion.

So is this really a coup? Should this report have come from Alton Barnes it would no doubt have pro-

duced considerable scepticism. If the report from Romania was indeed a hammer-blow to the sceptics and human circle-makers and debunkers, then it has certainly been missed.

Has history come to one's aid, however? Whilst browsing through my thirty five years' volumes of "Flying Saucer Review" for a completely different purpose than looking for crop circle reports, I made some revealing discoveries - one of those incidental congruities often found whilst not consciously seeking for it. A report from Saskatchewan, Canada of saucer-shaped objects hovering about a foot over a slough near a rapeseed field concerned a local farmer, who noticed depressions in the foot-high grass, about 1 ft. across, where the objects had been. The farmer claimed he "moved to within 15ft. of the objects. I noticed the grass was moving near this thing...There were another four to the left of me, all revolving. They took off after 15 minutes, straight up. There was a grey vapour coming from underneath them and a strong wind. It knocked the rape down." The objects left circular depressions. The year was 1974!

Another report, also from Canada (Quebec province), comes from 1981, and about the same date as Pat Delgado first heard of the Cheesefoot Head circles of that year. Although not showing clearly defined rings, the evidence here was of whirlpool patterns in oats over a large distance, about 2000ft. The person who provided the report said that the disc responsible for this was seen following his vehicle at the time, apparently travelling only a few feet above the ground.

The most extensively documented similar event, though, was from 1967, and was known as the Wippingham Ground Effects. It was a cloudless

morning in July on the Isle of Wight when two boys from the Wippingham Primary School saw a hovering "milky-white, cloud-like disc". It was seen at 8.45 and again at 10.30, when the boys were out in the playground. On his way home that evening, from the top of a bus, one of the witnesses saw marks in the barley field which adjoins the school playground. Investigations revealed almost completely circular large areas of flattened stalks, up to six yards wide. The damage had a mechanical appearance in a vortex pattern, sometimes clockwise, sometimes 'anti-clockwise. The centres of some of the vortices had tufts with broken stalks, while others had nothing - the roots and stalks had disappeared completely.

Any dismissal of the actuality of crop disturbances combined with a causal UFO would have to answer the eventuality of the coincidence of crop damage plus non-causal UFO, given, of course, the truthfulness of the witnesses. The sceptics propounding the human circle-makers' early attempts at practice would have to do likewise. Plasma vorticians might fare best, but they would have to find an answer to sightings being at both 8.45 and 10.30.

How far back can the crop circle phenomenon really be dated, not only with simple circles (of which there is evidence going back decades), but also a phenomenon with possible UFO connections and with straight features of circles, which turned dramatically into the more recent "pictograms"?

In early times "circle" is often described as "damage". Maybe there was a combination of both, the neater events coming with "practice". (Morphic resonance?) Maybe we should see both today by studying, say, areas of lodging rather more thoroughly?

1996
C.C.C.S. CALENDAR
&
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(Also 1993 and 1994)

For further details, contact:

Ray Cox
4, Lulworth Close
Halesowen B63 2UJ
England
(01384 - 566383)

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MESSAGES IN THE CROP CIRCLES OF 1994

Molly Harper

The 1994 season brought forth crop circles of great beauty and mystery. There has been much research and speculation as to how the circles are made and who or what the circle makers are, all of which is extremely intriguing. However, for me a primary interest is, what do they mean, what are the circle makers trying to tell us and how can we learn to communicate with them?

The crop circles convey a variety of messages in the form of diagrams, sacred geometry and art. The communications involve information and spiritual messages. One senses an urgency, an attempt to get through to humanity and awaken us to a higher awareness of how we relate to Mother Earth, the universe and life in other dimensions.

It is my hope that the following interpretations of some of the major formations will help deepen our understanding of the messages. These are only one set of possibilities - the field is wide open! It would be my joy to dialogue and collaborate on further investigations.

"EYE"

I perceive the "Eye" as asking us to expand our perceptions, our vision, to see beyond ordinary appearances. This seems to be indicated in several ways:

a) The thin line around the iris looks like a square, but with edges curving outward. If any geometric shape represents 3rd. dimensional physical reality, it would be the square. The sides curving outward are telling us to go beyond 3rd. dimension and appearances and to expand towards 4th. dimension.

b) As the 4th. dimension figure expands, it would eventually become a full circle. The outer thin line is a full circle, which could represent the 5th. dimension. This circle goes beyond the physical eye shape or the *vesica piscis*, which is a sacred geometry figure, so we know there is a spiritual message here.

c) So the progression of movement implied in these lines is as follows:



d) The CBS media network has an *eye* for its logo. We certainly need to look beyond what the media are telling us!

e) The standing wheat on each side of the "Eye" creates two crescents. Crescents represent the beginning phase of the moon, the beginning of expression.

(A playful look at the formation: is this a Cat's Cradle, and could one pull the strings and make this a 3-dimensional figure? I tried this, but no conclusion yet.)

"INFINITY" (or FIGURE-EIGHT)

A curious part of the figure is one thin line and one thick. Does this perhaps represent a "moebius" strip? The messages might be: Look at the other side, see all possibilities. The figure eight, or infinity symbol, indicates that things go on forever...There is no beginning or end.

"SCORPION"

To start with, the name "Scorpion" seems misleading, as there could be many other interpretations as well. One widely held theory, that it portrayed the coming Jupiter Comet crash, is certainly a possibility. As the comet fragments hit Jupiter, the impact would have been felt throughout the planet, creating a pressure or movement towards the other side of the planet. The circles on the far side could be indicating that effect. But I wonder why the circle makers didn't show 21 fragments, instead of the lesser number.

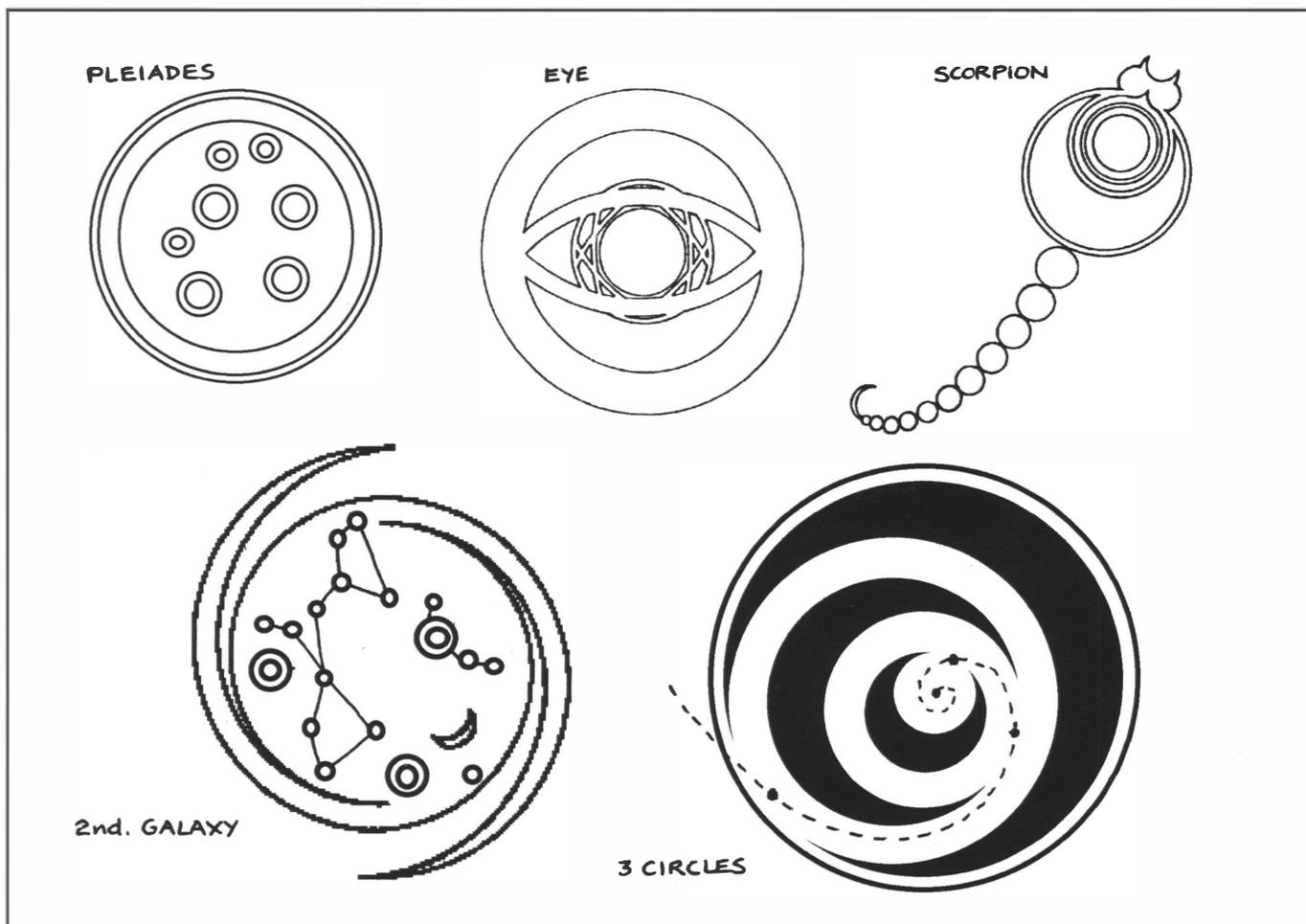
In one of my presentations on crop circles, I asked those in the audience for ideas or inspirations on the meaning of the various formations. A 10-year old girl, who is a very advanced soul, came up with a great interpretation of the "Scorpion". In looking at the bubbles of increasing size as you approach the main figure, she said, "Time is getting closer." I asked her if she meant closer to an event, and she said, "Yes." In 1994 the number of bubbles in the various "scorpion" formations was between 11 and 13, according to a radio report by Linda Howe. This year, an early scorpion figure appeared (in April, I assume) which only had 5 bubbles. Do the bubbles represent the number of months to an important event? Last year's figures would then have pointed to the summer of '95. But the April figure with 5 bubbles would point to a revised date of Sept. '95. Let's watch and see!

"3 CIRCLES (or TORCS)"

This is an exquisitely beautiful formation. One friend said she could almost hear music when she viewed the photograph. It does seem to have a profound feeling of harmony.

In playing with the formation, I decided to see what would happen if I made it 3-dimensional instead of flat, as in the field. I drew the figure on paper then cut out all the crescent shapes, leaving just the circles. Then holding the small ball in the centre, I lifted the diagram in the air, to create a kind of spiral. No conclusion, until I came upon some startling diagrams in Bob Frissell's book "Nothing in This Book is True, But it's Exactly How Things Are". On page 78 he shows the tube torus, which is the primal shape of life and the universe. The spiral of the Tube Torus is very similar to the figure I got. And the asymmetrical diagram just above that (in the book) has just the same feel as the three torcs.

This discussion warrants further research. I am just opening the door here and I would welcome dialogue.



I also see a Golden Mean spiral in the formation, if my drawing is accurate, having translated the figure as it would appear from directly overhead. Placing a dot between the points of the three crescents, adding a dot at the centre of the central ball, and connecting these dots, the curve looks very much like a Golden Mean spiral, which doesn't really surprise me, as all things tie together in sacred geometry.

"PLEIADES (or 7 SISTERS)"

This formation corresponds roughly to the actual constellation, but not exactly. In comparing 2 photos taken from different angles I see that this changes somewhat the angles and relationships of the stars to each other. So perhaps this partly explains the lack of perfect correspondence. Another possibility: perhaps the circle makers are portraying the constellation from a different part of the sky, either indicating where they come from, or where our solar system is headed.

One star, the small single star, is definitely misplaced. I feel there must be a message here, not just a random placement. Perhaps someone else can follow this thought and come up with a theory.

"2nd. GALAXY"

This exquisitely beautiful formation can be enjoyed solely as a work of art. However, I feel sure this is not just a random placement of stars and planets, and that there is a message here. The 3 larger circles I assume portray planets, and the smaller circles stars, plus the moon. Since planets and moon travel along the elliptic, or zodiac, I first

of all assumed that the stars would be one of the 12 constellations of the zodiac. These stars form a fairly good likeness of Sagittarius, plus perhaps the end of Scorpio's tail. (The lone one star near the moon could represent the constellation just below Sagittarius.)

The message here might be of an important event to take place when 3 planets and the moon are in Sagittarius. Or is it 2 planets in Sagittarius and 1 in Scorpio? In checking through my astrological ephemeris from July '95 to June '96, I found no exact correspondence, although there will be 4 planets and moon in Sagittarius around November 22-24, 1995...If we look for 2 planets and moon in Sagittarius and 1 planet in Scorpio, this occurs around October 26-28, 1995...This information is based on the widely used tropical system of astrology, in which the constellations are symbolic only, as the precession of the equinoxes has changed the positions since ancient times. Perhaps one needs to look in an astronomer's ephemeris, which shows the actual position of planets in constellations as they appear in the sky. Perhaps someone with this data could follow up on the idea presented here.

Conclusion

The Crop Circles are not just a phenomenon. They are urgent messages from highly evolved, intelligent, caring beings. In order to understand these messages, we have to stretch our imaginations and intuition to places we've never been before. This is a totally new experience, and an opportunity to raise our consciousness to new levels.

5072, St. Andrews Road, *36, Mariposa, CA, 95338
USA. Tel: (209) 966-7694

READERS' LETTERS

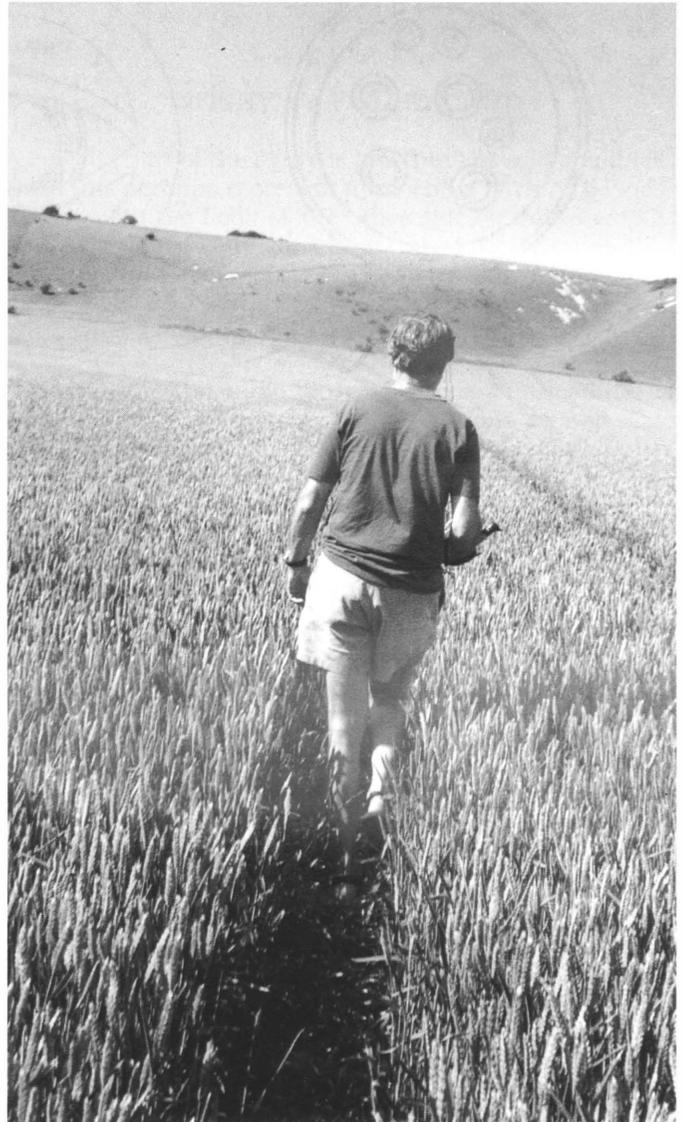
First of all, thank you for your efforts in publishing "The Circular" so quickly and interestingly. We appreciate all your efforts and are grateful for any information about the crop circles. My husband and I have been interested for many years and had the good fortune to spend two weeks in Wales and England this summer. We stayed in Avebury for a week, the last week in June, and met Colin Jackson, who shared some of his photos with us. We were also lucky enough to see eight crop circles and actually be in three of them.

One of the circles we were in on 1st. July was the one on Telegraph Hill on your cover (*Issue *21*). We noticed no unusual items in the centre, however! Another circle we were in for a long time was the beauty at Longwood Warren (also on 1st. July). The third circle, and the first one for us to be actually inside, we spotted from a hill over Alton Barnes, which I think is Milk Hill. The circle was in a field near West Stowell Farm or actually in a field of the farm.

It was going to this circle that I took the photo of my husband. The developer in the photograph shop said that the colouration did not take place as a result of developing, but rather, due to light in my camera. Since no other photo in the twelve rolls I took had this "light" filtering in, I thought that it was unusual.

I experienced many sensations in the circles on Telegraph Hill and Longwood Warren, but was so excited at West Stowell that I noticed none. I have an e-mail address as lynlark 39 @ aol.com if anyone would care to communicate with me, and of course I am happy to write from my home address. Thank you again for a fine publication. We "folks across the pond" have a great interest also.

Linda Wirer
705, Ridgewood Road
Bel Air, Maryland 21014 USA



*A response to Michael Green's "Notice To Members" in "The Circular" * 22, concerning the meeting at Alton Barnes on 15th. October 1995.*

Michael Green's "notice" contains several errors of fact and interpretation:

Lucy Pringle was by no means the only person responsible for the meeting. Francine Blake insists that she did invite Richard Smith (Treasurer) to the meeting. Changes to "The Circular" were discussed, including a suggestion for linking up local newsletters (there was in fact little support for a purely newsletter-driven magazine). With respect to the name of the organisation, it was thought by many that the present name might be inappropriate under a different (less centralised) structure. The Yorkshire proposal is designed, *inter alia*, to involve in the wider crop circle movement the many people who currently only join local groups/branches but not the CCCS itself; each of the branches or participating local groups would have a democratic basis (the question of members of the CCCS living outside branch areas would have to be discussed). Michael Green also failed to mention that it was always the intention that any proposed new structure be put to

the membership for ratification at the 1996 AGM.

This was an *informal* meeting, catalysed by Lucy Pringle (Vice-Chairman, ex-Hants. convenor), but also coordinated by Barbara Davies (Council, CCCG convenor) and Francine Blake (Wilts. convenor). John Haddington (CCCS Patron), six members of Council and convenors (or stand-ins) from 7 branches were present. Nearly everyone attending considered themselves CCCS members (though a few turned out not to have renewed their subscriptions).

The purpose of the meeting was to see if there was enough support for an EGM involving *all* members. Most of the 21 people present supported a call for an EGM to reform the CCCS - the majority view being that the existing Council needed to be suspended and replaced temporarily by a committee of branch convenors, who would draw up a new structure using the Yorkshire proposal as a basis for discussion. This new structure would then be put to the full membership before the 1996 AGM. As the Yorkshire branch proposed a federal structure there was some discussion about changing the organisation's name, as it had never, in fact, been a "centre"; ideas were also thrown around about how "The Circular" might reflect a new di-

rection in the CCCS. Anthony Cheke (Oxon. convenor), who had been asked to chair the morning session, agreed to draft motions for the proposed EGM. Over the next few days 46 signatures (35 paid-up) for an EGM were obtained.

Cheke (Oxon.), Barbara Davies (CCCG), John Holman (Yorks.), Steve Jones (Berks.), Michael Newark (W. Midlands - standing in for Ray Cox), Anne Shepherdson (Yorks. co-convenor).

Anne Appelmelk (Glos.), Francine Blake (Wilts.), Anthony

[Present at the Alton Barnes meeting, 15th. October 1995.]

Enclosed is a photo I took at Devizes this year on 26th. July. This was my first trip to England and my first crop circle. (*Roundway Hill, under the power lines - Ed.*) I took a six-part "panorama" shot of these circles and when I got blow-ups I discovered this UFO! The photo lab was astonished as well - this shot was *6 of the panorama; shot *5 has the same area in it but no object in the sky. The day I

discovered it I received the latest "Circular", with Jilaen Sherwood's picture of a *very* similar object on the cover. I can't believe I got this magic trinity all in one shot: a UFO, a crop circle and ilyes, our US Co-ordinator!

Kris Weber
Santa Monica



"SCORPIO II" - AN ANALYSIS

Doug Rogers

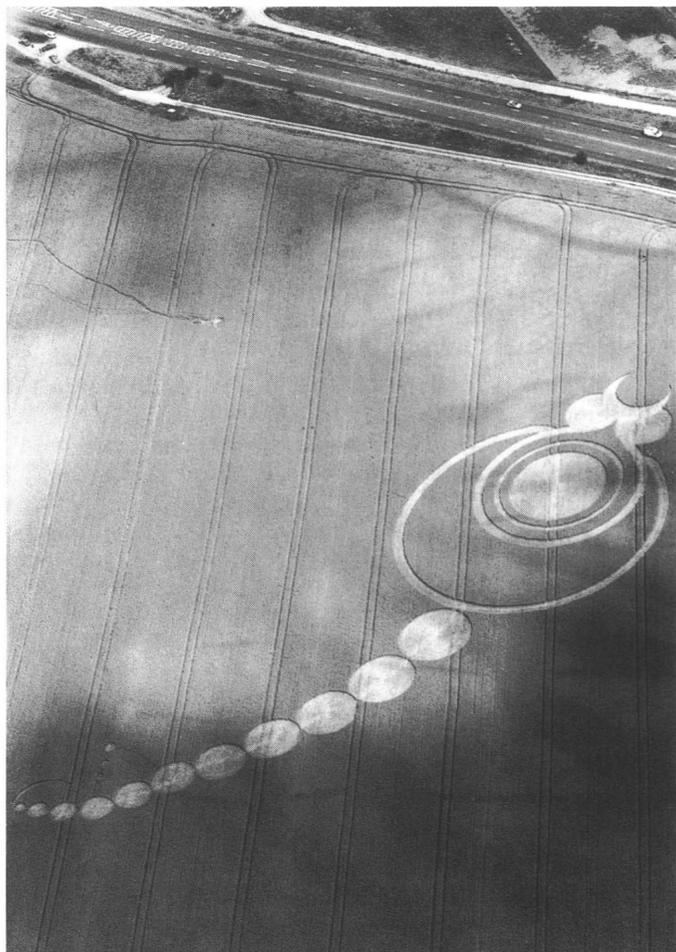
Among crop circle researchers there may be general agreement that many of the designs of 1994 were unique. Several shapes and patterns appeared this past season in the cornfields of the Salisbury Plain which had not appeared in quantity before, and were distinctly new. If the grain growing season of 1991 has been designated the golden year for crop circles, 1994 produced diamonds. This past season might also in future be referred to as the first season in which crop designs were formed to signal coming or recent events. At least three designs were formed between May and July which appeared to describe in detail the total eclipse of our sun, or its partial eclipse (see Note 2).

Stepping back for a moment from present activities, it may be useful to briefly review our current situation. The crop circles have been widely accepted as an attempt at communication. To date, mathematical values have been clearly detected in the formations - Euclidian geometry and the ratios of the diatonic scale. A basis for "language" to permit two-way conversation, or the exchange of information, however, has yet to be perfected. The intelligence

that understands our gravity and uses it to advantage, or the intellect that can reduce our light-year to mere seconds (or less) certainly may use a different basis for language from ours. One short step at a time towards "language" may be our only route toward communication. In addition to the very clever use of universally understood mathematical values, another element of understanding - the short step - may have been detected this past growing season, and it is this idea that drives us toward our following analysis.

In this paper I would like to present the case for the design of 14th./15th. July 1994 as a predicting device, drawn to alert us to the upcoming total eclipse of our Sun seen on 3rd. November 1994 by viewers located across South America. I will call this design "Scorpio II" and refer you to the photo (fig. 1), an aerial taken on 20th. July 1994 by Richard Racicot of Candia, New Hampshire, USA.

Located on Roundway Hill, on the north side of the four-lane A361, some two miles north-east of Devizes, Scorpio II could be seen from car window



(Fig. 1)

level along the roadway. Crop designs located near highways in the past have been looked upon as possibly less than genuine. This huge 500-foot-long spectacular likeness of a scorpion, however, would have had to have been drawn in full view of day or night travellers along the busy A361, making fakery nearly impossible.

If sheer numbers of individual arguments will sway the jury, let me present one by one the several features of Scorpio II which I think may bolster my contention that this design was intended to convey information.

1. Grain farmers have troubles enough with their crops without the added problems brought on by uninvited sightseers. As if anticipating the forthcoming change in legislation which would raise the serious nature of grainfield trespass from misdemeanor to criminal offence, our visiting crop circle designers appear to have taken precautions with the placement of Scorpio II on the rising ground of Roundway Hill, allowing viewers to avoid the necessity for trespass: to enjoy the full impact of Scorpio II there was no need to enter the field.

2. The design appeared to have conveyed its message, not with the exacting detail of a scorpion, but by implication. The full design looked like a scor-

pion more than anything else, but when compared to the real thing, some imagination was needed to complete the association. But it was good enough to do the job, and given the nature of our business we looked to the constellation Scorpius for activity of some kind. The question in late July: What future event was to take place in the heavens which would fall into view with Scorpius somewhere in the background? An answer was offered by the Astronomical Ephemeris, which stated that a total eclipse of the Sun would occur some three months hence. If this was what Scorpio II was all about - if this was the "information" to be broadcast - we might find on closer inspection that there was much more detail to this design to confirm its credibility.

3. A total eclipse obviously requires participation on the part of Sun, Moon and Earth. From a specific point located long the roadway on Earth, an alignment could be viewed in Scorpio II which placed the "head" of the design in line with the central circle within the ringed portion of the pictogram. If the crescent at the head was to be accepted as a pictorial presentation of a new moon, the placement of our Moon was perfect, allowing an observer to "block" the image of the central circle - the Sun - for the full effect of an eclipse. In keeping with the premise that the entire pictogram had been carefully placed in the Roundway Hill grainfield, note that the diameters of the "Moon" and "Sun" were selected with care so that their importance in the design could be appreciated from the shoulder of the A361 (fig. 2).

4. There is more to the design. Located on either side of the Moon at the head of Scorpio II were two circles which were too prominent to be ignored and must have had meaning. A further review of the Ephemeris revealed that both Jupiter and Venus were in near alignment with the Sun in early November, but were too close to be viewed in the glare. These two planets were joined by a third in near-alignment, bringing Pluto into the design.

5. Our visiting artist had to draw our attention to the general area of the constellation Scorpius. To do that, any and all details of the eclipse had to become available for use in the pictogram design to direct our attention. What better device might have been used than rings in the grain to both flesh out the body of a scorpion and describe the orbits of the three participating planets beyond Earth? If we allow ourselves to carry this interpretation of Scorpio II to this point, we may surely allow the largest ring to represent the orbit of Pluto, with Jupiter and Venus closer to the Sun.

6. The eleven circles which formed the tail of Scorpio II certainly had meaning, and they certainly played a role in directing our attention to the constellation Scorpius. Their meaning, however, remains in some question.

Among several thoughts brought forward, one concept above the rest has intriguing possibilities: each of the eleven circles may account for a day (the appearance of the Sun) between one event and another. The significance of the eleven becomes apparent when it is noted that our Sun moved out of the sign of Libra and into the sign of Scorpio on 23rd. October. On the eleventh day of travel into Scorpio, 3rd. November, the alignment occurred which produced the total eclipse. (For a further clarification of the heavenly location of this event, please see Note 1.)

And so, we have a possible explanation for the multi-featured pictogram of 14th./15th. July, known in some quarters as Scorpio II. The design may be saying to us, "From the side of the roadway, look upon our forecast of a heavenly event. Eleven days following your Sun's entry into the sign of Scorpio you will witness a total eclipse of your Sun, and a spectacular conjunction with your planets Venus and Jupiter.."

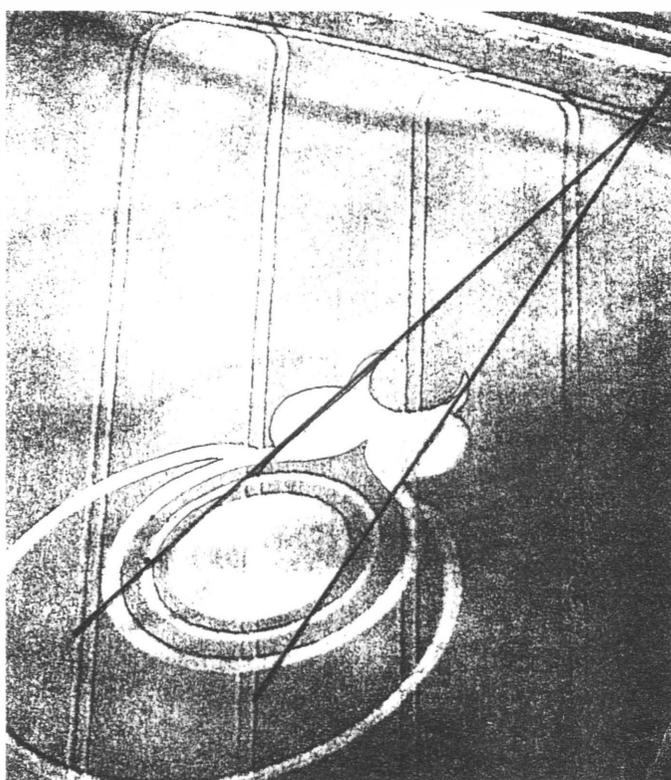
If you who accept the premise that this design was indeed intended to predict an event care to ponder one more possibility, you might consider this thought: our visitors apparently see, recognise and understand our activities. Recall that many crop circle researchers have experienced meaningful coincidences involving formations which seem to have appeared as the result of telepathic response. The lesson, or message, of Scorpio II might therefore be this declaration: "I (visiting artist) know what you know about the coming eclipse of your Sun. But more importantly, I want you to know that I know that

you know...about..."

Much credit is due to Donald F. Keys of Mount Shasta, California for his contributions of ideas and enthusiasm, and to Dr. Gerald S. Hawkins of Culpeper, Virginia for mathematical assistance. We invite those who have read this analysis to review the several "bubble" designs of 1994. Perhaps other heavenly events have occurred which may have inspired the creation of a crop design incorporating the "bubble-per-day" concept. If other designs appear to use this concept, an understanding of this type of "code" may be of very great importance.

Note 1. With the naming of the twelve signs of the Zodiac some two thousand years ago, the Sun and Earth might have co-operated by allowing the Sun to pass through the same constellation (or the same section of the Zodiac) each year at the time of either equinox. But the Sun doesn't do that - or, more accurately, the Earth doesn't allow the ideal regularity. Precession comes into play and the Earth creeps eastward along our equator one degree every seventy-two years. The Sun's path across the equator at equinox therefore moves westward, and now two thousand years of creep has shifted the Sun's area of activity into the next sign of the Zodiac. On 3rd. November 1994 the alignment of the elements which caused the total eclipse of our Sun fell opposite the heavenly constellation Libra. For astrologers, however, the rigid schedule established two millenia ago continues in use today, placing the November 1994 eclipse in the house of Scorpio.

Note 2. This note has to do with the annular eclipse of May 1994. We suggest it be read last, following a reading of the full analysis. For purposes of early identification, the pictogram formed 22nd./23rd. May 1994 near the West Kennet Long Barrow had been named "Scorpio I". Some of the features in this design were found two months later in Scorpio II at Roundway Hill. The design, however, might now more appropriately be named "Taurus I", if we are to be consistent with the reasons for choosing pictogram names. The message of Taurus I may have been a confirmation of the date of the annular eclipse of the Sun which had been observed earlier on 10th. May. The Sun at the time of this conjunction with the Moon was well into the sign of Taurus, with eleven days remaining before entry into Gemini on 21st. May. And again, there were eleven "bubbles" displayed as major features of Taurus I, along with a central circle - the Sun - consistent with the design of Scorpio II. The crescent at the head of Taurus I - the eclipse?...horns? The four circles on the ring - legs/feet of the bull? A study of the formation dates of all those designs which incorporated a crescent at the head of the design may be useful. Was the overall design improved with each formation throughout the summer, resulting in the clever revelation at Roundway Hill?



(Fig. 2)

CIRCLE SICKNESS or WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD?

Simon Burton

There seems to be growing doubt in the collective consciousness of cereologists as to whether crop circles are always safe places to be. This may just be a backlash against an initial euphoria or it may be wisdom born of maturity.

Reports of negative effects have ranged from the psychological feeling of panic, oppressiveness, general unease, through to the physiological - aches, pains, headaches, nausea etc. My own reaction to a "bad" circle is usually a lingering ache in one leg, although I have twice now had the alarming experience of waking up "the morning after" to find a square grid of clearly defined circular welts caused by broken blood vessels on my back. Fortunately such physical symptoms seem to be rare. Most physical effects seem to be limited to equipment malfunctions, "gremlins" etc.

There is a well-documented precedent for many anomalous ill-effects similar to "circle sickness" to be found in the records of the "Oranur Experiment" of Dr. Wilhelm Reich in the early 1950s. They are well worth reading, and have the benefit of being entirely consistent with the "Orgone Hypothesis" of circle formation.

The disastrous Oranur Experiments - so named because they set Orgone Radiation (OR) Against Nuclear Radiation (NR), were conducted at Reich's ranch in Orgonon, Maine with the stated aim of proving whether a degree of immunity against nuclear radiation in living creatures could be achieved by prior exposure to concentrated orgone energy. However, before beginning the experiment proper, Reich decided to run a preliminary experiment to explore the effects of orgone energy on radioactive material itself.

On January 5th 1951 Reich began the fateful experiment by placing just one milligram of radium, in lead shielding, inside a powerful twenty-fold orgone accumulator. He intended to see if the accumulator could neutralize the effects of the radium as compared to a control sample. In fact something entirely opposite happened.

After five hours the gauges on the laboratory's Geiger-Muller counter persistently jammed when brought near to the accumulator, showing that the radiation count in the room was more than the meter could measure, and an oppressive feeling of heaviness

with symptoms of headaches and nausea built up in the laboratory to such an extent that all work had to cease.

Reich (who lest one forget was a qualified medical doctor by training), listed some of the typical symptoms of the "Oranur Sickness" experienced by himself and colleagues as malaise; pressure in head, chest etc.; cramps and twitching of muscles and other organs; hot and cold shivers; fatigue; return of old or latent disease symptoms; inflammation of conjunctivae; dryness of throat; severe thirst. More severe symptoms included chronic fatigue and fainting spells. *Typically each person was attacked at their point of greatest weakness.* However, Reich was not psychologically suited to giving up easily, and unwisely persisted with the experiment for a further six days. By this time the atmosphere in the laboratory had become clouded with a purple haze and many of Reich's staff and family were in states of seriously distressed health. Finally, sick to the pit of his stomach and dizzy, Reich gave up and buried the orgone-charged radium in a field half a mile from

the laboratory. Reich had all the accumulators on the site dismantled and banned all radioactive materials, even down to luminous watch dials, from the vicinity.

Some, perhaps all, of the symptoms of Oranur sickness seem similar to "Circle Sickness"

It was not enough. By March 1952 Orgonon was evacuated. Ludicrously high GM counts persisted and trees in the area were reported to be bending over "like rubber hoses" and covered with strange blackish deposits which came to be known as "melanor". During this period the laboratories were frequently overflowed by what we would now call "Unknown Aerial Phenomena", but what were then called "flying saucers", and plagued by equipment gremlins.

Much of the above has a familiar ring to it. Some, perhaps all, of the symptoms of Oranur sickness seem similar to "Circle Sickness". The description of trees bending over like rubber hoses must also strike a chord of familiarity. Indeed Wilhelm Reich's son Peter, in his autobiographical "Book of Dreams", describes once finding on his father's ranch "a big place in the grass we hadn't mowed where it was all matted down". When giving the explanation that that must be where a deer had been sleeping, his companion comments, "She must have been a pretty big one." Sounds familiar? (Incidentally, I once tried to draw Peter Reich on the similarity of what he saw to

modern-day circles, but received only a completely non-committal reply -perhaps the persecution of his father by the authorities has made him understandably wary.)

As to the "melanor" - Peter Sorenson described finding something remarkably similar in the Cherhill pictogram in August 1993. Analysis by Dr. Levengood describes it as being an "extremely unusual" glaze of partially fused magnetic spheres, each a fraction of a millimetre across, of iron and oxygen.

So, should we avoid crop circles? I think we should at least treat them respectfully as potentially harmful to health. Reich came to believe that in an atmosphere of concentrated orgone radiation, which is basically the "stuff of life", even minuscule amounts of nuclear radiation have the effect of causing the orgone in living systems to turn against itself. It is not the nuclear radiation that destroys, but the effect is has of turning healthy orgone into DOR, deadly orgone, *attacking each living system at its point of greatest weakness*, that does the damage. Hence "Circle Sickness" may not necessarily

manifest in the same way in two different people, or in the same person at different times.

Andy Collins proposed that circles may in effect be "flat plan" accumulators. If this theory is true, or if for any other reason we are dealing with concentrations of orgone in circle formations, then Reich's experience teaches that we should be very careful about what we take into them, even down to ourselves. Hopefully nobody is going to deliberately take radioactive materials into the fields, but Reich came to ban even luminous watches, and who knows the effect that the electrical circuits in all our modern cameras may be having?

Of particular interest must be the health experiences of those who have regularly entered formations over long periods of time, particularly the dowers who of necessity are "tuning-in" to an unknown energy that may not always be compatible with good health. Perhaps I am just getting cautious as I get older, but personally I have made the decision for the moment not to foolishly rush in "where Angels fear to tread".

CROP CIRCLES IN ADVERTISING

John Sayer/Ute Weyer

Back in the early eighties a new phenomenon arrived on the streets of Frankfurt, Germany: one by one, a series of spray-painted abstract "doodles", expertly executed, and obviously by the same artist, adorned many buildings in the city centre. Civic pride ensured that none of them lasted very long, but their mysterious overnight appearance and anonymity provoked much interest and discussion in the pubs and cafés of Frankfurt that summer.

About a year later a book was published containing artistic photographs of the mysterious doodles, along with academic-sounding text about the phenomenon. It soon became "obvious" to the cynical that the whole purpose of the paintings in the first place was to create interest in them and subsequently sell a book. None of them was in any doubt that the photographer and author of the book had created the doodles themselves.

This sparked off a new debate - on the ethics of the whole exercise. Some argued that the phenomenon *had* existed, whatever its source, and that the authors were justified in presenting a record - an artistic one at that - for the benefit of posterity. Others argued that the whole thing was a scam and a fraud from start to finish - an immoral exercise in creating an artificial interest in something in order to make money out of it from an unsuspecting public.

The key theme here, of course, is commercialism,

and the burning question is, *To what extent is it morally acceptable to exploit a "phenomenon" for personal monetary gain?* While the title of this article is "Crop Circles in Advertising", it is also the practice of "self-advertising" as well as the general concept of the exploitation of the crop circles phenomenon that we wish to discuss here.

Perhaps the most well-known early advertisement to feature crop circles was the poster of the cover of the Led Zeppelin "greatest hits" boxed set, which showed an aerial shot of the Alton Barnes pictogram of 1990. No accusation of exploitation here - Led Zeppelin hardly need crop circles to sell their product! Then we had the Guinness TV advert. Here, the defence is relevance and context, since the commercial's theme was that of "strangeness": a crop circle was one of several in a series of surreal images and besides, the "circle" was clearly part of an artificial studio set, with no risk of researchers wasting their time investigating it.

The use of crop circles in advertising reveals the belief among advertisers that the phenomenon is recognised by the public (and even helps to establish it), but the problem then arises of what view is being reinforced: the ad which shows two eyes (small circles with wide rings) and eyebrows (crescents) in a field of cereal crop, with the slogan "Today's solution for hayfever eyes", indicates a rather tongue-in-cheek attitude. Conversely, it could be said that the

Rover ad which features a car in the middle of an oilseed rape circle and the slogan "How do they do it?" suggests a more serious attitude to the mystery of the origin of crop circles. For those who worry about the general public's perception of the phenomenon, this issue is important. Given the rather feeble coverage by the established mass media, it matters a great deal what image is being portrayed. In the past couple of years at least, the public have been treated mainly to documentation of *man-made* circles - e.g. the "Arthur C. Clarke Show"-commissioned formation, or Doug Bower strutting his stuff and Robin Allen demonstrating the use of the stalk-stomper for the cameras on so-called "paranormal" TV programmes.

The Soil Association, which encourages organic farming, commissioned a formation of its own logo this year at Bishopstone for an advert, in a field without tramlines. This presented a challenge to the makers. They did it successfully, so we've learned something new. (But they didn't have to contend with nasty chemicals!) The advert (featuring a photograph by Steve Patterson) is also available for sale as an A3 poster. On the one hand, the idea of an "environmentally-friendly" organisation using crop circles in its advertising seems in keeping with "planetary consciousness", but why *commission* a formation instead of simply photographing one that's already there, and why offer the advert for general sale? Conspiracy/disinformation-theorists should have a field day with this one!

It can be argued that the various circles paraphernalia - greetings cards, jewellery, t-shirts etc. - is

not really exploitation of the phenomenon, since the market for such products is "sincere croppies" and it's all done on a cottage-industry basis anyway. So where does that leave the CCCS, with its postcards, calendars and magazine?

Herein lies a big, and important, difference. The postcards and calendars are sold in order to raise funds for surveillance/photography, analysis work (such as that carried out by ADAS this year), conference fees and all the various administration costs needed in order to co-ordinate research and information-dissemination. (Not so the postcards produced by individuals, the profit from which goes back to themselves.) "The Circular" is the in-house journal of the organisation's members. Money made is ploughed back into the CCCS. We are not a commercial concern. It is partly members' subscriptions which pay for the work we do, and that is returned in the form of the journal, lectures and conferences, where the work being done is shared with those who invest in it.

So it all boils down, perhaps, to a question of sincerity. There are those who have clearly jumped on the crop circle bandwagon in order to advertise themselves or the particular belief-system they adhere to, or to make money out of the subject. On the other hand, there are individuals and organisations whose motivation is simply that of recording and reporting on the phenomenon, because they believe it is important - for everyone.

In a question of ethics, of course, we all have to decide on our own "litmus-test" of sincerity.

SOME WEST MIDLANDS NEWS

Ray Cox

We have had success again this year with our "Circlecast" experiment, where members are invited to predict (perhaps following meditation, dreams etc.) a pattern which would appear in the fields in the coming season. These are drawn and put in sealed envelopes and opened at the first meeting after the end of the season (see Issue *18, page 29 and *19, page 4).

Pat Harding again came very close and Jacqui Eldridge also again. She won this year with a fairly accurate prediction of the West Overton May rapeseed formation, Pat Harding with one of the Sussex formations.

(Jacqui has had previous effects whilst in crop circles, e.g. tingling in wrists and arms in the Alton Barnes "Snail", which went after leaving formation and came back when entering more circles half a mile away.)

Michael Newark has interviewed a coach driver who saw a circle forming "within a few seconds in a whirling of crop in a wind" at Fenny Compton, near the Burton Dassett Hills. The circle was reported in a local paper with a good photograph but they evidently did not know about the coach driver's sighting. At least one other passenger also saw it.

The circle was plain, but very neat, probably the epitome of the Meaden vortex circle, for plasma vorticians. (Colin Andrews claims about 70 eye-witness sightings worldwide historically, to date.)

Next meeting of the West Midlands Branch:

Saturday, 3rd. February, 2.00 pm., at Dr. Johnson House, Bull Street, Birmingham city centre. Price: £3.00, including tea/coffee. Guest Speaker: Ed Sherwood - "Crop Circles, Their Causes, Effects and Meaning".

LANCASHIRE CROP CIRCLE REPORT FOR 1995

Chris Kenworthy

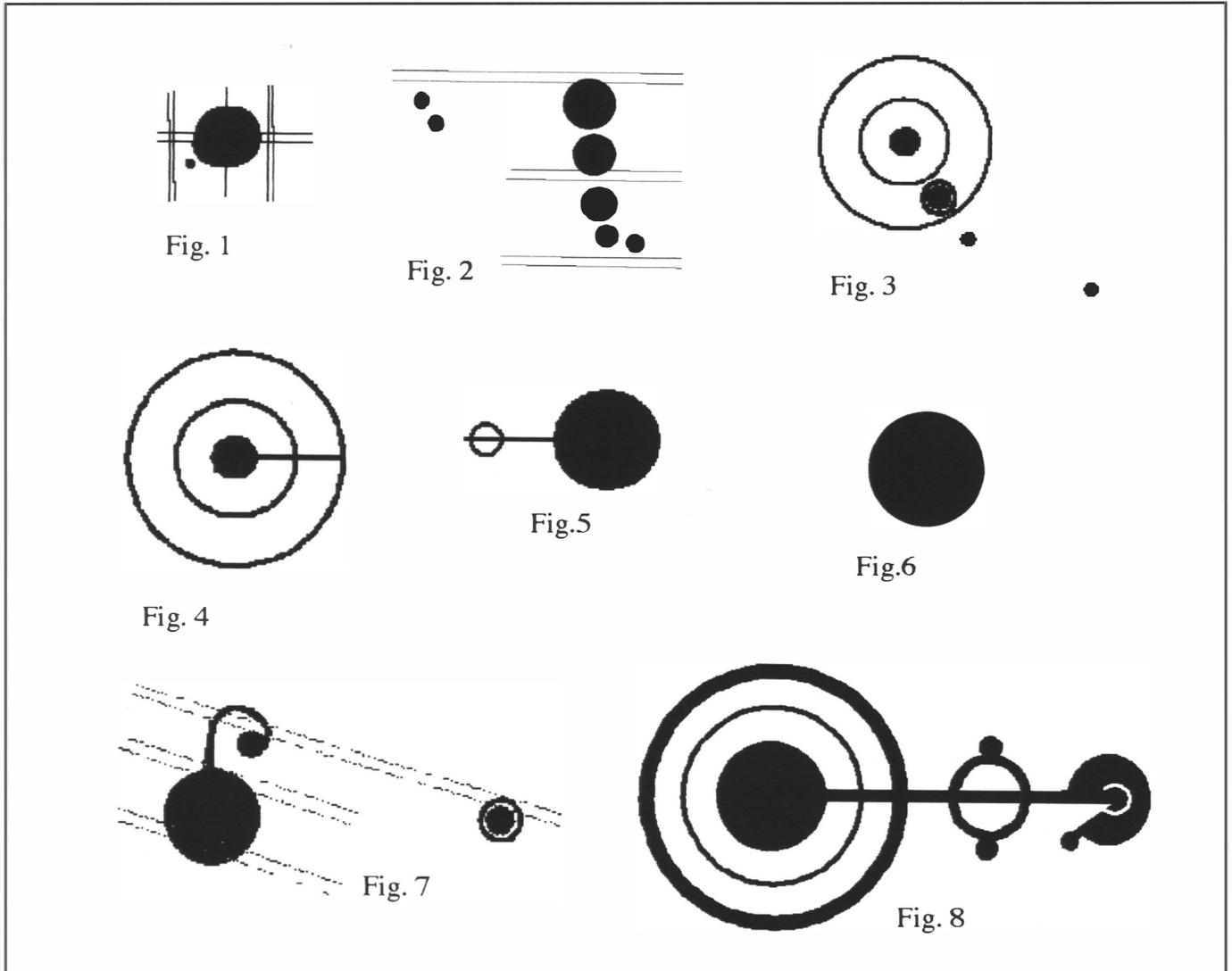


Fig. 1 Oilseed rape. Ground examination revealed poorly laid stems, many broken and scraped, indicating poor hoaxes. Location: close to the M6, near Charnock Richard.

Fig. 2 Oilseed rape. More recent than Fig. 1, but again appeared to be manufactured. Location: across the road from above, closer to the motorway.

Fig. 3 Found: 25/7/95. Barley. Approx. 100ft. Old, rings quite messy with age, otherwise good; gap-seeking from outer ring. Location: below Harrack Hill, near Parbold, Lancs.

Fig. 4 Found: 25/7/95. Barley. Approx. 90ft. Field harvested, so difficult to tell much. Grapeshot seen some distance away. Location: Mawdsley, Lancs.

Fig. 5 Found: 25/7/95. Barley. Approx. 50ft. Quite old, but still well flattened. Location: In the corner of a field close to the main road running out of Mawdsley.

Fig. 6 Found: 25/7/95. Wheat. Approx. 35ft. Clockwise swirl, centre slightly offset. Not an exact circle, but smoothly laid within the last few days. Single grapeshot 200ft. away. Location: In a field below the main road, opposite the Warner Bros. Cinema, Capital Centre, Preston. A large circle appeared here in July 1993, following grape-

shot seeding.

Fig. 7 Found: 25/7/95. Wheat. Main formation approx. 120ft. Smaller circle approx. 16ft. All anticlockwise. Well laid, within the last few days, some standing stems. This field was seeded with grapeshot (in rape) in early 1994. Location: Off Doyles Lane, near Bretherton, Lancs. Unlikely to have been made by people, as car headlights scan over the exact location all night.

Fig. 8 Found: 25/7/95. Wheat. Approx. 200ft. (See cover of Issue *22.) Brand new; believed to have come down on the night of 23rd./24th. July, when locals saw anomalous lights over Harrack Hill. These strobed fiercely, and although the hill was several miles away, the effect was strong enough to light up fields around this formation. It was perfectly laid, with a neat swirl. The pictogram wasn't easily visible from the (remote) road, unless you already knew where to look for it, and received few visitors. In some places the flow reversed under the top layer of crop for a few feet, terminating in standing stalks. The perimeters of all features were extremely sharp, with the crop flowing out against the well-defined standing walls. The pictogram formed within one mile of a 1994 circle-and-stem, which appeared in fields close to those seeded with grapeshot earlier that year. Location: Close to the River Douglas, near Sollum, Lancs.

SOME SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON CROP CIRCLES AND RELATED PHENOMENA

Please note - this list is by no means complete (or necessarily up to date). Please send in any information you think could be added, including details of Branch Newsletters, magazines and forthcoming lectures or conferences.

Books:

Bartholomew, A. (ed.) - *Crop Circles: Harbingers of World Change* - Gateway Books 1991
Collins, A. - *The Circlemakers* - ABC Books 1992
Davis, Beth (ed.) - *Ciphers in the Crops* - Gateway Books 1992
Delgado, P. & Andrews, C. - *Circular Evidence* - Bloomsbury 1989
Delgado, P. & Andrews, C. - *Crop Circles: The Latest Evidence* - Bloomsbury 1990
Delgado P. - *Crop Circles: Conclusive Evidence?* - Bloomsbury 1992
Good, T. (ed.) - *The UFO Report 1990* - Sidgwick & Jackson 1989
Good, T. (ed.) - *The UFO Report 1991* - Sidgwick & Jackson 1990
Good, T. (ed.) - *The UFO Report 1992* - Sidgwick & Jackson 1991
Hesemann, M. - *The Cosmic Connection: Worldwide Crop Formations and ET Contacts* - Gateway Books 1995
Keen, M. - *1991: Scientific Evidence for the Crop Circle Phenomenon* - Elvery Dowers 1992
Krönig, J. - *Spuren im Korn* - Zweitausendeins 1992
Krönig, J. - *Und Wieder Kornkreise* - Zweitausendeins 1993
Meaden, G. T. - *The Circles Effect and its Mysteries* - Artetech 1990
Meaden, G. T. - *Circles from the Sky* - Souvenir Press 1990
Noyes, R. (ed.) - *The Crop Circle Enigma* - Gateway Books 1991
Palgrave-Moore, P. - *Crop Circle Classification* - Elvery Dowers 1991
Randles, J. & Fuller, P. - *Crop Circles: A Mystery Solved* - Robert Hale 1990
Taylor, B. - *Crop Circles of 1991* (photos) - Beckhampton Books 1992

(A "good stock of Crop Circle books" is held by Spacelink Books, 115, Hollybush Lane, HAMPTON TW12 2QY)

Journals:

The Circular - Editor: John Sayer, "Hillview", Abbots Ann, Andover SP11 7BA
The Cerealogist - Editor: George Wingfield, Hearne House, North Wooton, Shepton Mallet BA4 4HW
Circles Phenomenon Research Newsletter - Editor: Colin Andrews, 39, Leigh Road, Andover SP10 2AT
Circular Review - Editor: Karen Douglas, 62, New Terrace, Upper Pleasely, Mansfield NG19 7PY
Circular Times - Editor: Colette Dowell, 168, Birch Creek, Estates Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711 USA
FGK Report - Editor: Harald Hoos, Hauptstrasse 145, 76829 LD-Godramstein, Germany

Articles on crop circles also sometimes appear in:

Kindred Spirit - Editors: R. Beaumont & P. Yates, Foxhole, Darlington, Devon TQ9 6EB
Magazin 2000 - Editors: Michael Hesemann & Ingrid Schlotterbeck, Gather Druck & Verlag, Lupinenstr. 103, 41466 Neuss, Germany
MUFON Journal - Editor: D. Stacy, 103, Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155-4099 USA (Crop circle articles may possibly be obtainable separately.)
Nexus - Editor: Duncan M. Roads, (UK) 55, Queens Road, E. Grinstead, W. Sussex RH19 1BG; (USA) P.O. Box 177, Kempton, IL 609460177, USA; (Europe) P.O. Box 372, 8250 AJ Dronten, The Netherlands

Videos:

UFOs, Crop Circles & the Paranormal - Television House, 32, East Street, Andover SP10 1ES
Crop Circle Communiqué - Circlevision, P. O. Box 36, Ludlow SY8 3ZZ
Undeniable Evidence - c/o CPR, 39, Leigh Road, Andover SP10 3ST
Circular Sussex - 14, Bishops Drive, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1HA
The Terrestrial Connection - BC Videos, New York
Cosmic Code or Natural Force? - Circle Films, 1991
The Mystery of the Crop Circles - Clip Film/Magazin 2000, Lupinenstr. 103, 41466 Neuss, Germany

CCCS Postcards ('93, '94 and '95) and 1996 Calendar:

Order from: Ray Cox, 4, Lulworth Close, Halesowen B63 2UJ

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Paul Vigay (Computer Database) 104, Manners Road, Southsea, PORTSMOUTH PO4 0BG (01705 - 871530) BBS: 871531 (ANSI,8NI)
George Wingfield Hearne House, North Wooton, SHEPTON MALLET BA4 4HW (Tel./Fax: 01749 - 890257)

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BERKSHIRE: Steve Jones, 5, High Fields, The Rise, SUNNINGDALE SL5 OBA (01344 - 27755)
CAMBRIDGESHIRE: Christine Saltmarsh, 13, West Close, Alconbury Weston, HUNTINGDON PE17 5JT (01480 - 890619)
CORNWALL: Simon Lackford, 8, Woodland Close, LANIVET PL30 5JF (01208 - 831700)
(Cornwall Crop Circle Group) Barbara Davies (as above)
DEVON: Jane Allison, 2, Colleton Crescent, EXETER EX2 4DG (01392 - 71611)
DORSET: David Kingston, 4, Monkton Cottages, Winterbourne Monkton, DORCHESTER DT2 9PT (01305 - 266832)
EAST MIDLANDS: Tony Caldicott, 514, Moor Road, Bestwood Village, NOTTINGHAM NG6 8UN (0115 - 979 - 5333)
ESSEX: Peter Henden, 13, Birch Drive, Brantham, MANNINGTREE CO11 1TE (01206 - 395760)
GLOUCESTERSHIRE: Ann Appelmek, 1, Strathmore Cottages, Walkley Wood, NAILSWORTH GL6 OR2 (01453 - 833513)
HAMPSHIRE: Leonie Starr, Thorncroft, Merryfield Road, Ropley, ALRESFORD SO24 0HE (01962 - 772275) &
Richard Andrews, 7, Arbour Court, Romsey Road, WINCHESTER SO22 5BZ (01962 - 862707)
HEREFORDSHIRE: Andrew Waddington, 1, Belle Bank House, Holmer, HEREFORD HR4 9RM (01432 - 277140)
HERTFORDSHIRE: Mike Rogers, Drumnessie, Ivy House Lane, BERKHAMSTED HP4 2PP (01442 - 864127)
KENT: Joyce Galley, Underhill Farm, CUDHAM TN14 7QH (01959 - 573433)
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OXFORDSHIRE: Anthony Cheke, 139, Hurst Street, OXFORD OX4 1HE (01865 - 248344)
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WILTSHIRE: Francine Blake, Broomsgrove Lodge, Broomsgrove, PEWSEY SN9 5LE (01672 - 810515) (Fax: 516110)
YORKSHIRE: John Holman (as above) & Ann Shepherdson, 5, Bowyers Close, Copmanthorpe, YORK YO2 3XW (01904 - 709864)
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HOLLAND: Herman J. Hegge, de Zaan 51, 8251 WC DRONTEN, Netherlands
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SASKATCHEWAN: Daniel Clairmont, Box 1702, Esterhazy, SASKATCHEWAN S0A 0X0, Canada (Tel: 306 - 745 - 2483)
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ONTARIO: Peter Miller, 291, Pallnall Street, London, ONTARIO, Canada N6B 2G8 (Tel: 519 - 433 - 4201) (Fax: - 5267)
UNITED STATES: (Co-ordinator) Ilyes, P.O. Box 1732, PORT ANGELES, WA. 98362 U.S.A. (Tel: 360 - 452 - 9673) (Fax: - 0849)
OREGON: Carol Pedersen, 20075, SW Imperial Street, ALOHA, OR. 97006 U.S.A. (503 - 642 - 1203)
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VIRGINIA: Larry Newnam, P.O. Box 552, ARLINGTON, VA. 22216 U.S.A. (703 - 532 - 2438) e-mail: lnewnam @ capaccess.org
CALIFORNIA: Marge Krstien, 24663, Moon Avenue, LOMITA, CA. 90717 U.S.A. (310 - 539 - 2765)

Photo Gallery Key, Pages 16 - 17:

(a) West Stowell, (b) Play Hatch, nr. Reading, (c) King's Sombourne, (d) Beckhampton, (e) Westbury
(Busty Taylor) / (f) Alton Priors (Andrew King) / (g) nr. Andover, (h) Whitchurch, (i) Old Pound, nr. Andover, (j)
Stone Avenue *1, (k) Market Lavington, (l) Cowdown, nr. Andover *1, (m) Winterbourne Bassett,
(n) Southease (Steve Alexander) / (o) Appleshaw, (p) Stone Avenue *2 (?).

Front cover photo: Winterbourne Stoke - Steve Alexander

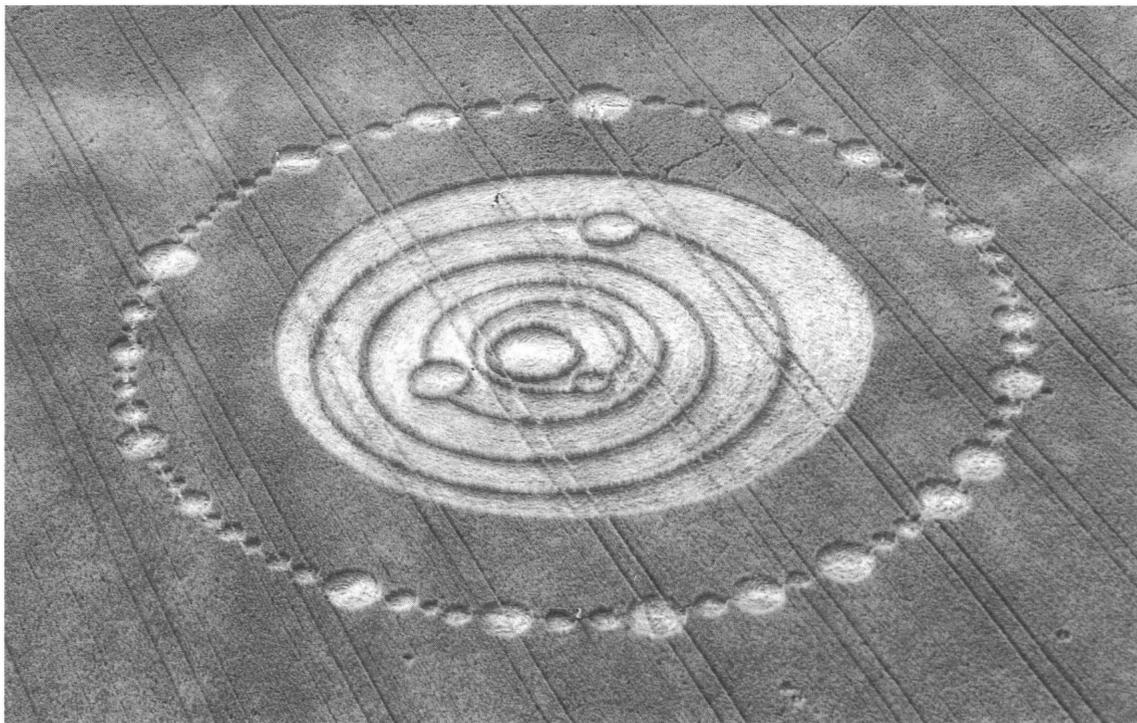


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