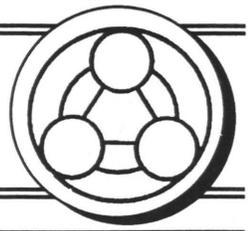


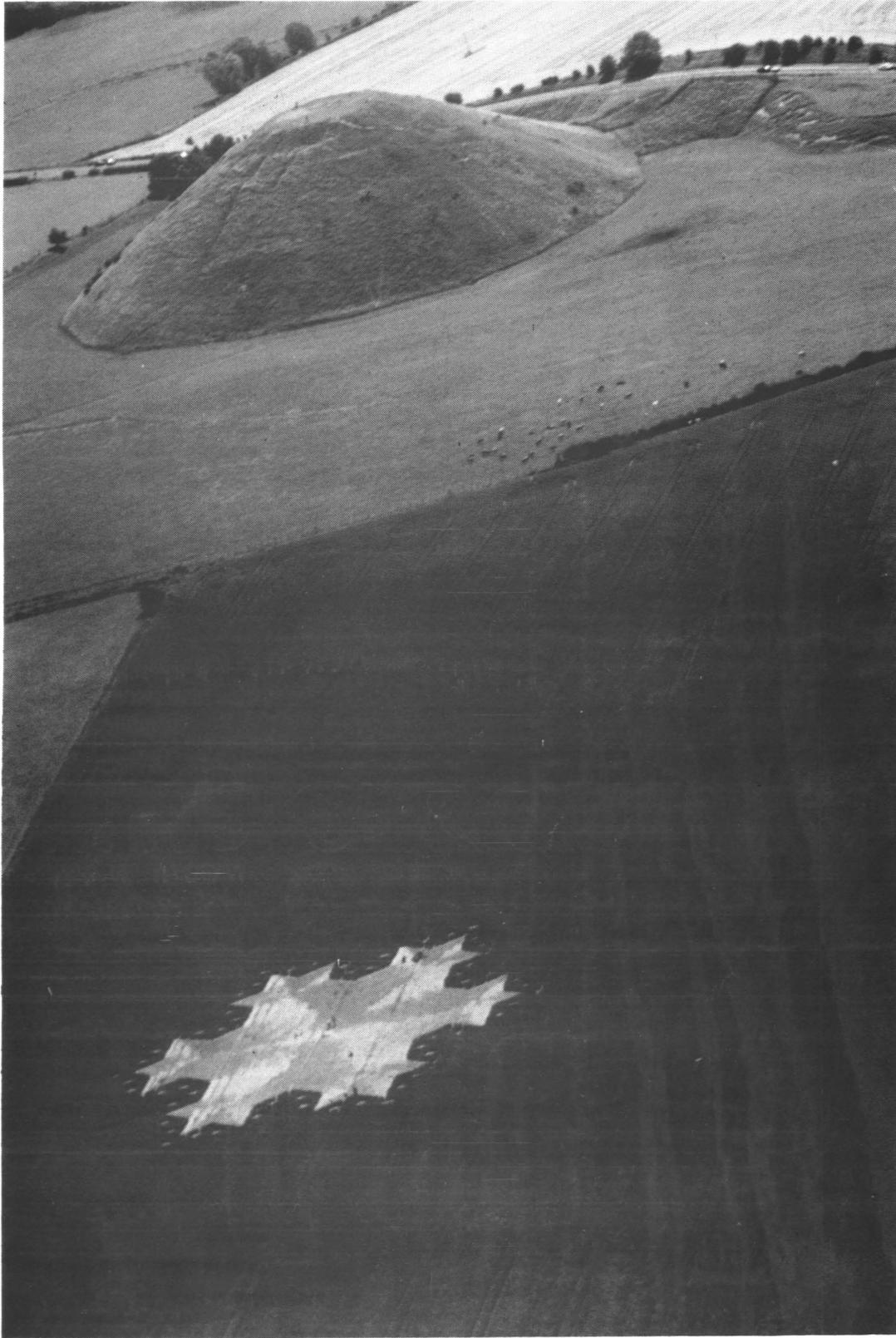
# THE CIRCULAR



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

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## THE CIRCULAR

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# EDITORIAL

After the recent AGM, one of the audience was heard to complain about the fact that it was all boring stuff and there was no entertainment! Well, of course that is the nature of an AGM: unfortunately most of our recent AGMs have been characterised by a great deal of argument and heated debate about issues that would have been better sorted out beforehand. The AGM is an opportunity for the membership to hear about the boring background work that Councillors have to involve themselves in every day of the year. It is the time that all the officers make a report on their activities over the last twelve months and that time of the year when the accounts are presented to the membership for them to see just where we spent your hard earned money. It is the time of year when we 'take the temperature' of the organisation to see just how viable we are as well as that time of year when the membership gets a chance to select those officers they want to carry out the often onerous tasks that keep the organisational wheels moving and copies of this magazine falling onto your door mats. A time and opportunity for willing volunteers to put themselves forward to have some input into the way we will behave in the year ahead. Only two members put themselves forward for re-election, so after some discussion a vote was taken and all of the old council agreed to put themselves up for another term of office. All were re-elected unanimously, but this is not an ideal selection method. If any of you out there would like to get more closely involved in the day-to-day running of our organisation, then get in touch and let us know.

There are a multitude of jobs that we could do with some help with and more hands will make the task much less onerous. Not that most of us don't enjoy the work, but a little occasional assistance would enable us to tackle those tasks that are just not getting looked at.

## DATA-BASE

Please keep us informed of all circles in your area, or any that you might visit. Photographs and reports should be sent in ASAP. Don't leave it to someone else - they are leaving it to you! Report it to our Hot-Line by phone or fax [the number is on page 2] or write to me with the details and I will see that it gets into the Data-Base and Archive. Photographs, aerial or otherwise, are always welcome and we will always try to get dates and details correctly ascribed and the photograph credited to the copyright holder. It doesn't always work, but we are getting better at it!

New report forms are being organised and convenors will have a copy as soon as possible to copy out for circle researchers. This conformity will allow researchers in the future to access information much more readily than is possible with a system that looks more like the back of cigarette packets and old envelopes. Ray Cox has agreed to take over as Branch Liaison Officer from Barry Reynolds and hopefully he will be able to revitalise this department whilst at the same time introducing the new forms that Peter Henden has been working on.

Recently a 'friend' (?) lent me a copy of the *Circlevision* television programme shown on satellite TV. It was the first time I had seen it and my earlier thoughts that I would not acquire a copy seemed to be vindicated. A lot of familiar faces were strung out to dry and the whole phenomenon was 'exposed' as an elaborate hoax. The hoaxers were given great exposure without criticism whilst many of the 'genuine' researchers were treated as foolish and deluded people whose opinions were chopped off before they had a chance to redeem themselves. I wonder how well the so-called 'hoaxers' would stand up to such intensive

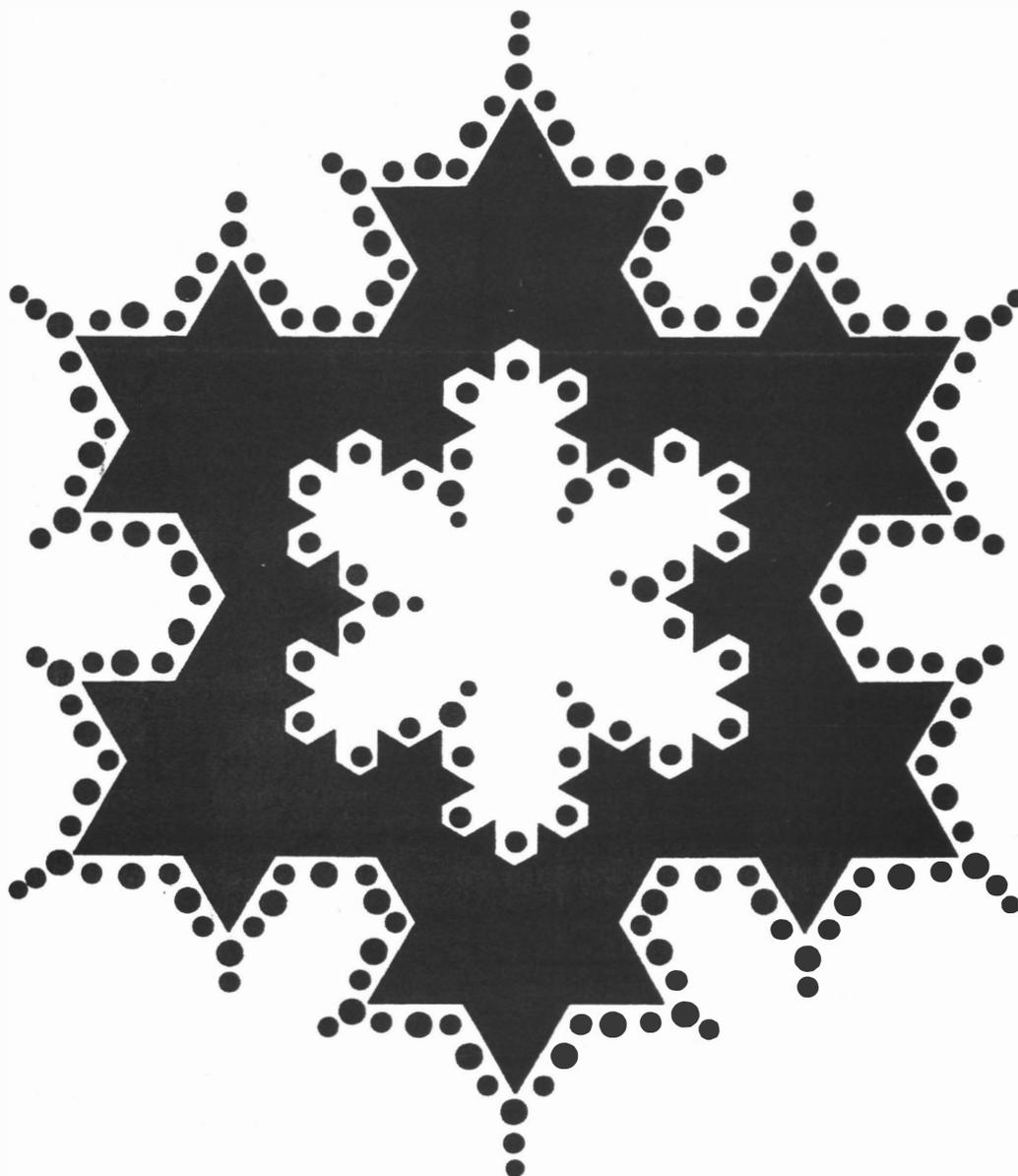
investigations? I would have to admit to a bias towards a 'genuine phenomenon' and was particularly disturbed by the 'helium balloons trick' since I have been involved in some research into BOLs in my own region. There is no way that any of the photographs I have taken, some in daylight, could ever be mistaken for helium balloons, although some people have even suggested that just off camera, somebody is blowing soap bubbles across the shot. Well, some people will go to extraordinary lengths to defend their point of view. Personally I think that Doug & Dave were the best thing that ever happened to cropcircle researchers. It made all of us vocalise the thoughts that we had tended to keep to ourselves. We were much more ready to express our dislike of circles that seemed to 'exceed our expectations'. I think many of us were much more prepared to look at many factors in a new light. We were prepared to question many of the accepted theories of the so-called experts and oddly enough, many of the investigators like Terence Meaden found some of their theories vindicated, even if it was too late in the day. The cropcircle competition proved that many of the so-called 'litmus features' were indeed possible in hoax formations and the whole phenomenon found itself back in the melting pot.

So where are we now? Have we missed the entire point of cropcircles? Have we misinterpreted the message? Indeed is there a message at all? Are 'hoaxers' actually in control of their actions as they believe? Is it just graffiti and vandalism?

Well, I think we all know the answers to the basic question: Yes there is a basic phenomenon, perhaps buried in all the garbage that surrounds it. Yes there are 'real' circles and even if you accepted that ALL circles were the hoaxer's work, imitating what they have seen others do, you are still left with the question: Where did the first one come from? Doug & Dave? Never! As you will see in this issue, circles were around long before their nocturnal meandering. Is it a natural phenomenon? Possibly, and in that case time will tell. With so many new researchers casting their critical eye over the landscape, we are bound to see a natural phenomenon at work one day. As a witness to some strange phenomena, I know only too well how subjective such sightings can be and how difficult it would be to gain 'scientific' acceptance of these anomalous episodes. Perhaps our only 'proof' will only be found in our own minds and hearts. Those who have been privileged to visit a genuine circle will know of that strange feeling that hits your solar-plexus on such occasions. Akin to dowsing perhaps, or maybe an added facet to our human abilities that allows us to 'feel' the so-called para-normal.

You could argue that all circles are genuine: there can be no argument about their existence, it is only the engine of their construction that is in debate. Whatever the truth, there is an enormous phenomenon out there to be investigated and a vast number of routes that need mapping. Whether your route is scientific or inspirational, whether your experiences are mundane or esoteric, subjective or shared, each step may well be one more clue towards solving the greatest riddle of the Twentieth Century.

For me, nothing can take away the excitement of that first view of a crop formation nor the anticipation of the hunt for a rumoured formation, nor the excited approach to a new crop circle. 1997 began with a burst of formations that ought to soften the hardest sceptic's heart and yet we are already embroiled in arguments for and against. Scientific studies seem to be swaying towards a genuine phenomenon. Memberships are being renewed after a period of disbelief and disappointment in the wilderness. It looks like another wonderful season for us all. As we go to print, it was another beautiful and exciting year.



## KOCH SNOWFLAKE II

Appeared August 8th, below Milk Hill at Alton Barnes, 200 $\pm$  feet, in wheat  
Very similar to the earlier Silbury formation, except this one is slightly smaller,  
and it's interior has standing crop with a lovely fractal pattern.

It has a record 144 straight edges and a record 198 circles!

Discovered by Nick Riley, on his way to work at 6:AM

Koch was the mathematician who formulated fractal triangle geometry.

© 1997 Peter R. Sørensen

# LETTERS

Dear Sir

Congratulations on the new Jumbo-sized Circular. Your stop press insert showing the Winterbourne Bassett formation still further reinforced my feeling, started by the Mandelbrot formation and deepened by the Julia and Triple Julia Sets, that the Circle makers, if human, are using computer graphics to design these patterns which are then somehow transferred into the crops. If, of course, they are not human, that puts the whole thing into another dimension which I shall consider later.

However, even if designed by humans, that would not necessarily make them hoaxes. The definition of a hoax as opposed to a 'genuine' formation is surely that a hoax is perpetrated by one or more persons physically flattening the crop with ropes, planks or other equipment. The 'genuine' formation, on the other hand, seems to be the product of some energy or force field which, even if manipulated by human agency, can be made to act remotely and in some incredibly short timespan, perhaps a minute or less. Such a force field also seems to be dowsable for some time after the event and to affect both the crop itself and the subsequent germination of its seeds.

As for the theories of Oriole Parker-Rhodes, her quotation of Alice A. Bailey's statement, "Devas must develop by being controlled" suggests a solution to one of the mysteries of crop circles: their apparent development from simple beginnings to the more complex formations of today.

It would also explain something which was noticed some time ago: that whenever Dr. Meaden propounded some theory or made some categorical statement (e.g. that rings are always swept alternately clockwise and counter-clockwise), it was almost immediately contradicted by some new formation. Eventually, his theories were made to look silly and his professional reputation was damaged. Then Professors Joshua Vurman, Jerry Straka and Dr. Erik Rasmussen of the University of Oklahoma discovered that tornadoes contained rotating winds in the form of concentric rings. Also that the heart of the tornado was not simply a giant vacuum cleaner, but contained a powerful down draught: in Professor Vurman's words, "...the big thumb of air to come down from a cloud...".

Of course, this is not proof that crop circles and rings are caused by tornado-like vortices; merely that Dr Meaden's original theory was perhaps not as wide of the mark as his critics made out. Now, however, the discoveries of the BLT team suggest that forces other than meteorological ones are involved.

As to a connection between crop formations and UFOs, it seems unlikely that two of the greatest mysteries of our age are not somehow related. On the other hand, if crop formations are created by aliens, what are they trying to tell us? If they are clever enough to fly here, why haven't they learned English from the BBC so they can communicate properly? This is not to scoff at the idea of UFOs and aliens. Enough evidence of strange goings on has been gathered from hundreds of highly reliable and experienced people - airline pilots and the like - to convince all but the most die-hard sceptics. Probably aliens regard us as much as we regard ants: clever little creatures but motivated more by instinct than reason.

In which case, perhaps crop formations are just a sort of MENSA test to see what we make of them and so judge whether we are bright enough to be useful. Now there's a thought...!

Yours faithfully,

**Richard Shaw**

Dunstable  
Bedfordshire

*Thanks Richard, but if your last paragraph is pertinent, have we passed or failed? To take up another point: can you suggest a mechanism that we could use to communicate with ants? If aliens are insectoid as many believe, just how are we to*

*communicate with them? It can't be any more difficult than talking to an ant! We also have to ask whether the circle is dowsable, or the expectation of dowsability is fogging the issue at its most basic level. Dr Meaden has indeed been vindicated in many of his assertions, but his prominence made him an ideal target for those intent upon mischief.*

***Our post-bag has been rustling overtime recently and many telephone callers have expressed their appreciation of our larger format magazine, but (and there is always a but isn't there?) at the same time they have combined this with comments on various aspects of our phenomenon. Oh well - back to business.***

Dear Sir

The article in the Spring issue of *The Circular*, 'The Snowflake Fiasco' by Busty Taylor, I found interesting and worthy of some follow up work, more, I hope, in the role of an armchair detective than an armchair critic.

Firstly, to consider the point raised about sunshine, and the angle from which the sun should have been shining. The video was reputedly taken at 5am on August 11<sup>th</sup> 1996. I will have to assume that the time of 5am was British Summer Time, as I think that most (people) would have got around to adjusting their watches to BST by August, and generally people do not use GMT or UTC the year round. Sunrise for that day would have been at 5.38am BST (that is for a technical horizon line, with the sun rising at a point 62 degrees East of North) well over half an hour later than the reported time of the video. Also Busty, and others, have reported that the weather was poor that morning. The daily weather chart for that day showed an area of low pressure centred over southern England, so all in all, it very strongly suggests that there was no sun shining at the time the video was taken.

If there was no sunshine, then what accounts for the brightness evident inside the circles as they appeared? Two answers come to mind. Either a second picture, taken at another time was superimposed on a background view which had no formation, or, taking the view that the video was actually recording a real time event, some ethereal light actually did appear during the generation of this formation.

When I viewed the video last autumn, I set up my camera to photograph a number of 'freeze-frames' so that they could be studied at leisure. Of course the quality of the resulting pictures is poor, the act of freeze-framing a video shows in detail electronic 'noise' which the eye cannot normally see, and there is the patterning effects from the TV lines and colour dot structure of the television tube face, let alone any defects arising from the quality of the reportedly third generation copy video. Nevertheless, the results are useful. I scanned the area of interest from two photographs, taken early and late in the sequence of events, into a computer, these are shown in figs 1 and 2, and then performed the trick of stretching the pictures vertically until they gave the impression of an overhead aerial view. Figs 3 and 4 are the stretched central portions of figs 1 and 2.

Of course no new hidden information is actually revealed doing this, but it certainly makes it easier to discuss certain points, despite the granularity and patterning of the images.

Firstly examine how the gradual visual appearance of the formation takes place. Using normal techniques of merging two videos, one would expect to see in the first video (assuming this to be of the pristine field) either the highlights of the second video beginning to appear, or else the dark areas, or both equally, according to the video combining method chosen. If figs. 3 and 4 are compared, the bright part is already present in both. The other remaining dark areas only appear later in fig 4 without any increase in intensity of the other features. This unequal insertion of the second video would require a considerable degree of sophistication, requiring the use of unusual electronic technology.

Now study the light area within the central circle. If this was derived from a previously sunlit view, it is evident that the sun was at a low angle, because the length of the shadow cast by the standing crop at the edge of the circle extends about halfway into the circle. The adjacent satellite circles are less than half the diameter of the central circle, therefore it would be impossible for the sun, at that angle, to shine into the flattened area of these satellites. Nevertheless, it clearly does so for just one of the satellites, and at the maximum brightness. This could perhaps be explained by a significant irregularity of the crop at the edge of this smaller circle, but this does not appear to be evident in the aerial photographs taken later.

I conclude that I cannot find support for the hoax theory by using this particular method of examining the notorious video, but along with everyone else, I have to await the grand exposé.

Yours sincerely

**Rodney Hale**

St Albans  
Hertfordshire.

*Thanks for a thought provoking new angle on this video. I think we need to point out that the astronomical data would apply to an ideal, horizontal location only and this site may well have a different sunrise time due to a 'retrograde' slope, even if we were certain of the time that the video was actually recorded. Variations in ground level might also be a factor and these could only be ascribed with any certainty by recording events on the same day this year. Any volunteers?. Work might also be productive on comparing light intensity on adjacent frames. Single frames may well exhibit 'reflections' from 'floor patterns' right at the start of the sequence and of course this would be physically impossible (Ooops! I know I shouldn't have said that) in a 'real time' video.*

***I think we could really call this issue a 'keep the faith' issue as writers seem to focus on discussions about validity without actually calling into question their own individual faith in the reality of the crop circles, but let's read on...***

Dear George

For the last two years now, the spider's webs of concentric and radial earth energy patterns from genuine crop circles are wiped clean from the planet on May 16-17<sup>th</sup>: these natural patterns stay at the precise centre of every genuine crop circle formed the previous summer. Formations with many circles all have the pattern in each circle, and every one with a different dowsing signature: large crop circles show large active areas of natural earth energy.

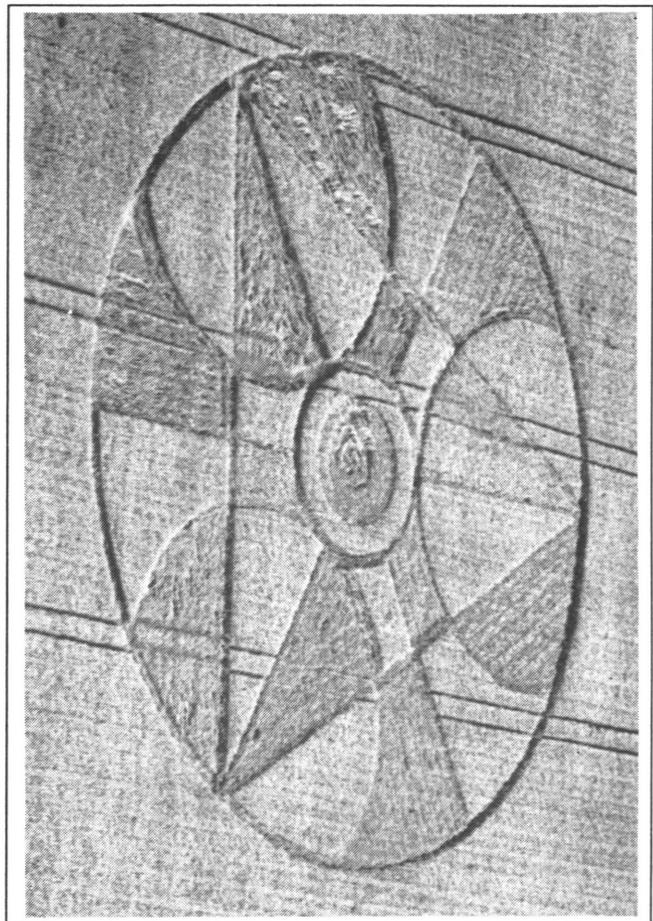
With this knowledge, I went to Oliver's Castle near Devizes on May 11<sup>th</sup> to check the fields for the natural earth energy forces I would expect to find where the 'Snowflake' formed. Standing on the Castle walls, I dowsed nothing coming from the field, where this crop circle was filmed forming in the early morning last year. West of the fort the fields showed no signs of natural earth energy forces, only Mother Anthony's Well can be picked up: a crop circle of the 'Snowflake' size would have painted the fields with natural energy. Without any earth forces, where the crop circles were shown forming on the video, I must assume both the crop circle and video were hoaxed. While I was there, I looked at the dumbbell which formed above Roundway, and the two small crop circles which formed just east of Roundway, (near a large hoaxed formation), and all of those displayed the natural earth energy patterns still.

I don't like the Barbury Castle 'Flower', but from the pictures I like the 'Tree of Life' crop formation, (it took 214 seconds to form), and both the Essex formations, (304, and 160 seconds for the smaller one, to form) they all show good dowsing response of being genuine from the pictures. The new Winterbourne Bassett crop circle I don't like from the picture, but I shall visit as many formations as I can, to dowse them on the ground. It's a good start, we have carried on where we left off last summer, with

some exciting crop circles in the fields to marvel over. Drive out into the country near your home, and look for the places where a crop circle would look right, spend a few minutes thinking what it would look like there. Who knows, the Circle Maker might hear you and put one right where you want it, its been done before, friends. This May 16-17<sup>th</sup> all the earth forces at the Lutterworth and Cattothorpe crop circles sites were removed from last summer, and the ancient sites seem to be regaining their power a little from last year, which must be a good sign.

All the very best

**Michael Newark**  
Coventry.



Winterbourne Bassett, June 1997

© Lucy Pringle

Dear George

In the observations on the Stonehenge 'Julia Set', (*The Circular* Issue 28), Terry Wilson coherently and logically outlines the main features of the basic problem we have with crop formations, a fascinating dichotomy we all should recognise. It is the either/or problem, either man-made or genuine, ('something else'), illuminated by the recognition that, whichever way it is, the phenomenon conforms to an evolutionary structure, within which, as Terry describes, groupings become evident. Features are often maintained, for example proximity to ancient sites often, off centre centres, not quite circular circles. Again, whichever way it is, yes, it has a 'memory', and a propensity for these and other features to be maintained in other parts of the country as well as the south. All this apart from the astonishing geometric ratios which have been revealed often. There are, of course, always exceptions, and we must not forget the simple, lone circles which still become manifest each year.

All these features do not help us to decide on any particular formation's origin, or upon the phenomenon in general. We are often necessarily on the fence, as it were. We look one way and one half of the brain says they just have to be of human origin, never mind the reasons and practicalities: we look the other way

and the other half says they cannot possibly be man-made, and find quite valid reasons why. We turn round and see the fence behind, no turning back upon it to prove anything about past circles; and look forward to the same fence going on into the distance.

All this has led me to try to envisage a third possibility, which recognises the phenomenon as a 'borderland' manifestation, and a way of formulating it which would release us from the duality which always confronts us - at least confronts all who have an interest and knowledge of the subject's history. Without it we have a problem compounded. If one accepts a percentage - it doesn't matter what it is - of man-made and other/genuine circles, i.e. a mixture (and, remarkably Michael Newark has sometimes found both within a particular group, e.g. the 1994 "Scorpions" series, where he found some man made, and some genuine, through dowsing), then the features and characteristics general and actual, which we see revealed, have to be applied to both sides! This would mean that some link, whatever it is, between the two is inevitable.

Yours sincerely

**Ray Cox**

West Midlands

*Is it just me, or are we all going through a phase of reassessment at this time? Many people are going through the agony of belief/disbelief as conflicting evidence and statements treat us like tennis balls at Wimbledon, battering us from one extreme to the other. That is only natural and can generally be easily cured by a visit to a nearby crop formation where you will ingest a great dollop of faith in the viability of the phenomenon. One good thing that comes out of this roller-coaster ride, your strength of belief will be tempered and tested and able to withstand much more than the media can throw at you. Belief comes from within, not from without!*

Dear Mr Bishop

Thank you for printing my letter in *The Circular*. I have further ideas which I am putting forward.

In recent years, a number of attempts to communicate with the circle makers have been made. Some were of a practical nature, some were spiritual/paranormal. A certain amount of success has been claimed, but the attempts have been made on an ad hoc basis, with (apparently) little or no follow up. It seems to me that the obvious way of making an attempt to communicate is via the medium the circle makers have chosen - crops.

Am I right in thinking that farmers frequently grow crops with the express purpose of ploughing them in? If so, then it would seem reasonable to ask to be allowed to make formations in such crops with the hope of stimulating communication. If each branch obtained the use of a field of crops and designed their own symbol/messages, the results could be co-ordinated and progress reports printed in *The Circular*. Any success would indicate the way to proceed, total failure would suggest abandoning the project and attempting another method.

Attempts at communication would be successful only if the circle makers wished to communicate or, indeed, were capable of it. Communication is an earthly activity. Perhaps it is not in the circle makers repertoire. I am assuming that they are extra-terrestrial and not from this Earth.

In considering WHO is making the crop formations, we should perhaps stop thinking in human terms. No doubt many people think of ETs as being of similar size to us and travelling in space craft more advanced than ours.

The facts are these: Reports have been made of effects felt by human beings when entering circles, e.g. visual and audible effects, headaches, nausea, euphoria and others. Cameras have jammed. Short lived radio-isotopes of a kind not occurring naturally have been found> All this suggests a residual force or energy field which has not yet been identified. There have been at least two reports of observers arriving when newly formed circles were still "twitching into place" but no circle makers were seen. In fact, the number of sightings (Balls of light etc..) have

been remarkably few in comparison with the very large number of crop formations which have been made. All this suggests that whoever, or whatever, is making the circle positions are relative to Earthly energy lines or fields. This suggests that whoever/whatever is making them has a recognition of, or an affinity for, these energy lines.

Without accepting paranormal or spiritual theories, I have a suggestion which, so far as I know has not yet been put forward: Gravity, electricity and magnetism are invisible. So is sound. Radiant heat is invisible, so is convected heat which is carried by air, which is also invisible. Many gases are invisible. Radio and TV waves are invisible and carry intelligent information. So - we believe in invisibility.

Suppose ETs are made of invisible gases? Or to go a step further, suppose intelligence developed in an energy or force field in outer space. We think of intelligence as being associated with life. But does it have to be?

An intelligent force field could exist in a vacuum (outer space), it could travel at very high speeds (up to the speed of light) without the need for a space craft. Such a field could reach the Earth's surface without being seen and make the circles.

Of course, there is also the possibility that the force is coming, not from space, but from inside the Earth.

Perhaps ETs, existing as a force field, do not understand, or need, communication. If they do not exist like us, or die like us, very likely they do not think like us.

Many readers will, no doubt consider me a crank. My ideas are certainly revolutionary, but they do give a possible explanation about WHO is making the circles. Does anyone have any better ideas?

Yours sincerely

**Eric Jenner**

*Once again Eric appears to put a metaphorical cat amongst the invisible pigeons. I think most seasoned observers will find little radical or innovative in Eric's ideas, but his letter perhaps condenses them into one place. Some of his questions may seem a little naïve to the jaded, but it is this kind of basic reassessment that we all need from time to time to refocus our attention onto the often overlooked and obvious. Eric falls into his own trap here, because he is assuming the Radio and TV waves are invisible. They may be to him, but they may not be to ET! We all spend far too long gazing into the TV screen without thinking that to ET, it will be a fizzing screen of bright lights that seem totally incoherent. The TV is set to our rate of visionary frequency, and gives an optical illusion that our brains decipher as a picture. ET may well see the TV set as a radiation generator that bathes us in a dangerous fountain of light and colours that makes no sense at all. ET will wonder at our addiction to this monster in the corner of our living space.*

*Eric also suggests that his amorphous alien can move at speeds up to the speed of light. Why should ET be bound by any of those factors that limit our interpretations of 3D space? Why should he 'move' at all? Couldn't he simply 'be' there? Then there is the question of whether ET understands 'communication' in the sense of the way we would use it. If our ET doesn't think, see, hear or comprehend in any way that we recognise - can we ever understand the signals it is sending us. Farmers do indeed occasionally grow crops as 'green manure' but it is a relatively uncommon practice and probably never uses cereal crops. You would have to use a crop field and a friendly farmer who would probably, and quite rightly, demand compensation for his losses. Finally, 'invisibility' is not in the eye of the 'beholder', there is nothing that can be considered really invisible except an abstract concept, at least as far as we know! As one of those fortunate enough to have been in a crop circle whilst it was still 'twitching into place' and subsequently experiencing some sensory experiences in that same circle, I am aware that no circle makers were seen at that time, but that a roll of film exposed at the time only contained one clear shot and that one contained a ball of light. Many further manifestations of BOLs took place at this particular circle and subsequently*

became the focus of an extremely fruitful campaign to capture more on film.

No, Eric, at this time I don't have any better ideas. let's see what our readers make of yours.

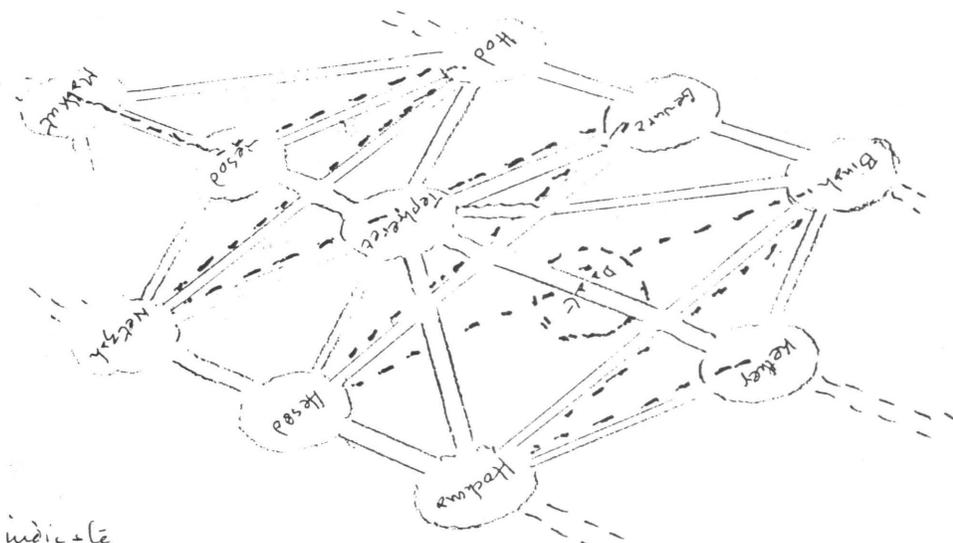
Dear Circular

As a circle watcher who is undecided on the circles' origins several thoughts struck me on a recent trip to the Wilts area.

a) In the early days of single circles, the fields were considerably smaller in the Wilts area. The advent of modern farming techniques has both increased the size of and number of fields. This may account for the popularity of the Wessex, Midlands and South East areas and the comparatively few numbers of circles in other parts of the country. These new 'prairies' have extended the scope of the Circle-makers and hence the number of larger images.

b) The huge industry that now surrounds these larger images.

This is the way this pattern is printed in the Spring issue of *The Circular* - Turn it up the other way and you have a foreshortened 'Tree of Life' as if it were on a hillside - it doesn't affect the Tree because all the Sephiroth are present. The dotted circle is where Daat (Knowledge) will be (See letter below)



Dotted lines indicate the tractor tramlines

This is the top end for an accurate, but foreshortened, Tree of Life

jewellery, books, magazines, postcards and conferences promising visits to circles. These large new artistic images would appear necessary to perpetuate the above industry.

c) In this continuing wet summer the small number of circles is noticeable and these appear to coincide with the warm dry spells in between.

Please comment!

Waiting for the summer

**K Constant**  
Bedfordshire

Well firstly, bigger fields surely means less fields, not more? The advent of intervention prices and subsidies on Barley has probably contributed most to the increase in cereal crop fields.. You also forget that since the advent of mechanised farming, there has been the introduction of 'tram-lines' and it is quite possible that these were the trigger. No doubt one of our farming members might like to comment on this and let us know when they became a regular adjunct of arable farming. If making fields bigger was the main factor, then the Southwest and Wales would be the main target area, since their fields have probably increased by a greater percentage than any other region. Maybe the size of a field is a factor? No, in the Southwest, crop circles appear regularly in five and six acre fields. we even had a formation in a 3 acre field in Somerset earlier this year

Good Hunting.

Dear Editors.

Please would you supply me with the details of the situation of the Tree of Life formation at Burdrop Down, near Barbury Castle, i.e. whether it is on a slope, and what other ancient sites may be near it? The reason for my asking is that I have heard some queries as to its possible genuineness, but these are prompted initially by the fact that the photos of it are printed the wrong way up, in both *The Circular* and in *SC*. If you turn it up the other way, you will find that it is an accurate Tree of Life fore-shortened. This fore-shortening does not affect or invalidate its function since this Sephira is always indicated as a dotted circle in diagrams of the Tree.

I enclose a diagram showing all this, and trust that it will be of interest.

(See sketch above)

Incidentally, the front cover picture and that on page 27 (Issue 28) of the early Barbury Castle pattern has been dated 1996, even though John Sayer's diagram on page 42 is correctly dated! But I am sure you have heard about this already!!!

Yours sincerely

**Peggy Bunt**  
Sussex.

Yes, Peggy, one or two people have remarked on it, now you mention it!!!

Thank you for the sketch, hopefully one of our eagle-eyed members will be able to help you with the lie of the land details and will communicate them to you via us. The decision upon which way to print the photograph is usually dictated by the angle chosen by the photographer or pilot. On the rare (!) occasions when we print one upside down, the howls of protest can be heard all the way to Alpha Centauri! Indeed they do not look very 'real' in upside down mode..

Dear George

Re OCV - A Few More Facts

After all the debate about the 'Oliver's Castle Video', I decided to pull the weather data for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August 1996, and also travelled to the site after viewing the video to get the exact location of the camera.

As I said in my earlier bulletins, the formation was due West from the point of the camera and this has turned out to be true. Peter Sorenson and myself checked this out with a compass and it was exactly 270° from North.

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August, the wind was 240°, coming from the South-west (fig. 1) - and on the Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August, it was 310° from the North-west (fig. 2). The wind change was due to a low-pressure area that moved across the Midlands during the night, thus giving us very bad weather on the Sunday. The weather report was updated at 1500hrs on the Saturday due to the low-pressure moving much faster. For those who read my Internet postings, I said 'crap weather' persisted all day on Sunday.

If we look at the first few seconds of the video showing fields in the distance, we will see a piece of grass in the foreground moving across the lens from left to right. This indicates that the wind was from the South-west when the shot was taken. (Incidentally, the grass on this hill is very short due to sheep grazing, therefore the camera must have been on the ground when the footage was taken. No wonder the dew warning light came on!)

I have already pointed out that the shadows are on the top right hand corner of the circles, which means the light is coming from the North-west, therefore the shot was taken in the late evening time. We know that the wind was also coming from the South-west on the evening of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August. These two factors indicate very strongly, therefore, that the footage was not taken on the morning of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August, but on the evening of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August, thus giving anybody plenty of time to computerise the 'lights' that we see on the video and create the illusion of the formation appearing.

Further analysis of the video shows a very dark shape in the '7 o'clock' circle. (To me, and to quite a few people I've pointed this out to, it appears to be a person actually in the circle, for it seems to move up and down - either measuring or flattening the crop out?) I suggest to anyone who has the video to play with their contrast and/or brightness controls to enhance this 'shape'.

So let's look at this in perspective: 'John Weyleigh' stated that he videoed this 'event' on 11<sup>th</sup> August at 5am, and turned up at the Barge Inn, Honeystreet (Alton Barnes) at 10pm, the same day trying to contact Colin Andrews, but, on failing to find him, talked to Peter Sorenson and showed him and a few others the video. Peter later went with 'John' to a video studio in Swindon to have a better look at the footage. For those, unlike myself, who have not been to this studio, it needs to be mentioned that it is stacked from floor to ceiling with dozens of video recorders. 'John', nevertheless, went straight to the correct machine without even having to ask which one to use, indicating that he had prior knowledge of the set-up there.

In this studio the computer equipment is capable of zooming in to any portion of a video and enhancing the image and would be quite able to 'manufacture' the 'lights' that we see in the Oliver's Castle Video. (Incidentally, this studio is only twenty-five minutes drive from Oliver's Castle, thus giving someone plenty of time to produce the tape.)

'John Weyleigh' said it was 5am on Sunday - I suggest it was about 7.30pm on Saturday. He knew where to go in the studio - the shadows are all wrong for the claimed time of day. The wind is wrong for the claimed time and date. There appears to be someone in the formation, in a circle which, unlike all the others, is incomplete in shape.

Since there are provable and obvious discrepancies concerning the meteorological conditions at the alleged time of filming, for those who claim this footage as genuine, I suggest you start to look at the evidence and not at the 'balls of light'!

Regards

**Busty Taylor**

Hampshire.

*I refer all readers to Peter Sorenson's article elsewhere in this issue. Busty has consistently refuted the authenticity of this video and whilst I support that view, I take exception to some of his assertions. There is **no** proof that **any** video facility in Swindon was involved in the production of this video. 'John's' familiarity with a video facility is not challenged, he may well be an expert in this field. (I've never driven a Trabant, but I reckon I would recognise the ignition key and steering wheel and I certainly wouldn't go looking for them under the boot lid. If I drove this vehicle, would I be open to charges of collusion with the manufacturers?) The movement of the grass needs far more research on the ground, video footage of the time shows that there was considerable long grass in the area. Maps allied with astrological data would provide more useful information here. Perhaps one of our members could send us a copy of the relevant section of the 1:25000 map for the area? (Indicating the actual field would be even better!) I also hear that Lee Winterton has 'found' John Weyleigh and will be making a statement on the affair soon. I think Busty tends to fall into the same trap all of the 'anti' brigade fall into. His partiality makes him ignore any other possibility. I'm sure he is right, but you must be much more objective about 'apparent' evidence to the contrary if you want to argue constructively.*

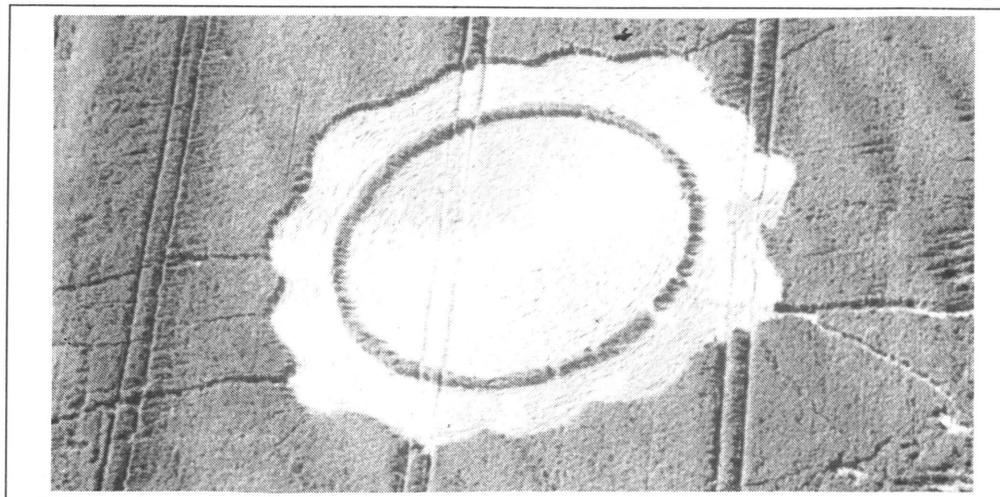
Dear George

I have been meaning to write this letter to you for some time now, but every time I start - something comes up. Crop circles are coming thick and fast now, and they are all shapes and sizes, and each one with a story to tell I am sure, but I don't know if I like them all. Some of the pictures I have seen don't dowse 'genuine', in fact most of them dowse as man-made to me, I'm afraid. I need to check these all out in the fields to be absolutely sure.



Morestead, Hants 21<sup>st</sup> July

© Lucy Pringle



Cosford Warwickshire July 1997

© Lucy Pringle

levels. (Tree of Life/Rockley Downs) and I have noticed the ancient sites have regained their earth energy levels again from last year. I can dowse Avebury from my home again. that has not been possible for some time now. the power levels seem to be changing again, they did last May 16/17. The levels of power in the ancient sites is not the same as those in local crop circle patterns, somehow there is a difference, two distinct levels of earth energy.

We have had one large formation near my home, just about 10 miles away, near Rugby in Warwickshire (June 21<sup>st</sup>). I have worked on that one a lot, and I have some interesting results from the research. The farmer allowed me to examine and record most of the details from the formation, but then he closed the field to the public, so other CCCS members never got the chance to walk in the crop circle.

It was so full of earth power, very strong and active. I did expect another formation to come near the first one two weeks, but nothing else came. I watched the field around the two week period, hoping for something else to form here, it was that sort of place, but it all remained quiet.

I took many seed and soil samples from the laid area and standing crop, and the dowsing aura showed some very high readings, much higher than the Stonehenge crop circle in fact. The farmer would not allow me to remove a large amount of samples, so I could not provide BLT in the US with any. To obtain dowsing aura figures from the seed or soil, you need to clear your mind/body of any influence, then ask for the aura range/power, and walk back till you get a response. It's like setting the depth of water, you need to walk out at right angles from the source, till you hit the echo of the water line, that point is the depth of the water underground. Every single thing has its own aura figure, so when you take samples from crop circles you can compare them after they have been zapped with earth energy, to see what levels of power have been absorbed in the samples compared with control samples. The stronger the aura, the higher the absorbed power. If you find the highest figure of soil and seed, you can determine the time it took to form, and the power levels of the crop circle during formation. This same high aura can be found inside ancient sites, the power from sites is absorbed in the grass and soil, even over many years, the levels remain very high. Since the grass and soil are exposed to the natural earth energy patterns inside the ancient sites every minute of the day, they never leak away the high absorbed levels of aura. The crop circle at Rugby gave me the chance to try new things out. I found peaks of earth energy outside the laid area of the crop circle, very narrow bands of high aura. The field sloped both west and East by about 6 feet, sloped South to North by about 2 feet in the area of the crop circle. I found very narrow peaks outside the crop circle wall on the West side at 27, 40 and 60 feet, and on the east side of from the wall at 31, 48 and 63 feet, so the falling ground affected the three peak distances outside the circle. Nancy Talbott of BLT found one peak outside the Stonehenge formation, just one ring outside: I now have to see what effect I find in other genuine crop circles, and count the peaks outside the circle wall.

This first crop circle was very strong, two others I have looked at down in Wiltshire don't have anything like the same earth energy

The Rugby crop circle was very clean and neat when I first walked in it, the formation was a ringed circle, with half circles round the outside wall, eight on one side and four on the other. It came in wheat, and was 134.8 feet West to East, and 127 feet South to North, the half circles on the wall edge made it hard to measure alone. It contained many leys and two geological stress fault lines, and some Yin (female) lines, it had 98 concentric earth energy lines and 83 radial earth energy lines in its spiders web of earth energy. The inner circle was swept anti-clockwise in a spiral manner, and the outer ring was clockwise, very neat and tidy, with some gap seeking near the tram lines. The standing ring was 4.8 feet wide - very neat and tidy. Inside the circles some stems were standing upright, these occurred where small stones were just in front of the stems, and had deflected the earth energy ROUND the standing stems at ground level, leaving them upright.

The middle of the circle had swept twisted stems, they come up from the ground to stand upright at the very centre, very nice and neat. The ridged spiral effect of the laid crop in the centre circle looked special, with here and there the odd standing stems upright. I never saw any bent stems at 50cm. (Magic bends).

At the wall edges the small half circles were cut into the wall, very clean and precise, eight small half circles East/North/West, with four half circles on the East/South/West side, it looked strange from the ground, not balanced. I took video and pictures of the formation, no light phenomenon came in any pictures, but it was a special crop circle, dowsing very strong and genuine.

I have sent you details of the aura dowsing, and some of the soil samples, the farmer is allowing me back when the field is cut to take more VERY deep soil samples, I think these will be of great interest to us. I dowsed the crop circle and found a time of 36 seconds for it to form.

A UFO report was made the same time when the circle formed by a lady who lives just a couple of miles away. She reported strange lights in the sky and no sound from the craft.

From the first seed and soil samples I have checked, I should say the power used in forming the crop circle was about 650 micro wave watts for 36 seconds at ground level. The deep soil samples now show greater aura the deeper you go, so the amount of micro-wave energy must be much stronger under the crop circle, which suggests the power comes up from below like a torch beam. The standing ring inside the formation dowsed the same aura figure all the way around the circle, while the laid crop varied in aura absorption depending on where the sample was taken from. The North/East side of the crop circle showed higher readings within the formation, with deep soil samples showing very high absorbed aura. Even just outside the standing wall of the crop circle the aura was high, showing a spill-over effect, but this extends only for 12 - 18 inches outside the circle wall.

Dowsing crop circles and drawings and photos has shown it is possible for crop circles to appear by one of three methods. The first one is the genuine formation composed and structured on a complex pattern of earth energies by the Circle Maker/Nature/God. The next method is the man made hoax, which is just an impression in the crops, a mark in the field, without any power or influence. Now I know of another sort, it's a crop circle made by devic means other than the Supreme Devic Force (Circle Maker), it's one which has been influenced by lesser devic spirits. This crop circle comes with a different signature than the others, and it has no earth energy pattern of concentric or radial spider's web, and contains no high aura figures. Some of these you can dowse a question and answer with the devic force, while others you cannot: the devic force is not evil. I have already visited one of these crop circles near Sutton Coldfield this summer, it allowed a question and answer, and came from a devic spirit who lived as a man before in Jerusalem 1556 years ago. His name was Feccgel Gecid, he made the crop circle to promote peace between Arab and Jew, and for both people to follow the 'ONE GOD'. He hopes the formation will make people aware of the after life, and follow the right path while living at this level of existence. I asked a number of questions, and I got answers to all of them. The area of Japan will be hit with a huge earthquake in March of 2113, and thousands will die. The wall of water from the quake will strike the coasts of US and cause vast damage, all of the Pacific basin will be affected. I have more predictions from the question and answer (sessions) with the devic spirit, but I assume you find it hard to believe. I have no way of knowing if the answers are correct until March 2113.

Three formations from last year proved to be of devic influence, while none of the 1995 formations in the UK showed the same signature and devic origin.

I have looked at a large crop circle which appeared near Stratford just last week, but this one was hoaxed, it shows no earth energy patterns or earth force in the formation. It's not of devic influence and responds to 'man-made' while dowsing, which is a pity. (The farmer's wife saw four people in the formation at 6.30am on the Wednesday morning, and took the car number.) Soon as another genuine crop circle comes along I shall check it for earth energy echo outside the standing wall of the formation, to see if others contain this echo. Many large crop circles have now been reported all over the country. George, including some 'Dragon's Feet' formations near Lockeridge, it's starting to happen for us.

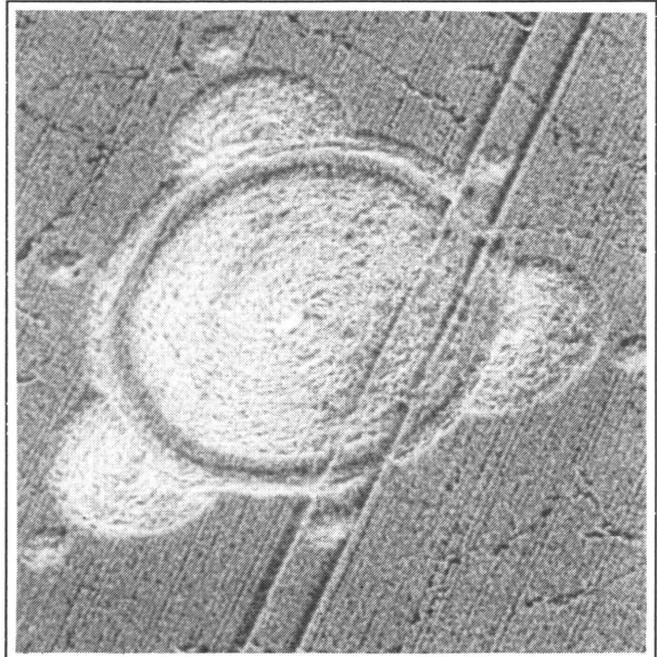
I had a crop watch with Christine Saltmarsh at Sibson Airfield on the 26<sup>th</sup> July, just in case any formation appeared that night, but nothing came. I did watch a light above our heads flash four times off and on, it was not an aircraft or anything, just a light flashing, all very strange. Near Shrewsbury, along the A5 road, two neat circles have come which dowse nice, I saw them when I was looking for another crop circle which had UFO activity with it. I never found the UFO circle, but I should imagine it to be genuine if they were in the same area.. Video was taken of the alien craft I believe above the formation. Bayston Hill never had any crop circles when I passed the area, but driving South along the A49 the leys and earth forces in that part of the country is very high. I have just been sent a picture of the formation which came near the M1 at junction 37 near Barnsley, and it dowses genuine George. (taking 34 seconds to form.) I can feel the natural power of the crop circle. I shall double check this by going to the formation when I can, or have seed samples sent to me by friends who visit for confirmation, that's good news about this one. If you wish to pick parts of this letter for an article, George, please feel free to do so, I leave it to you.

Very best wishes

**Michael Newark**

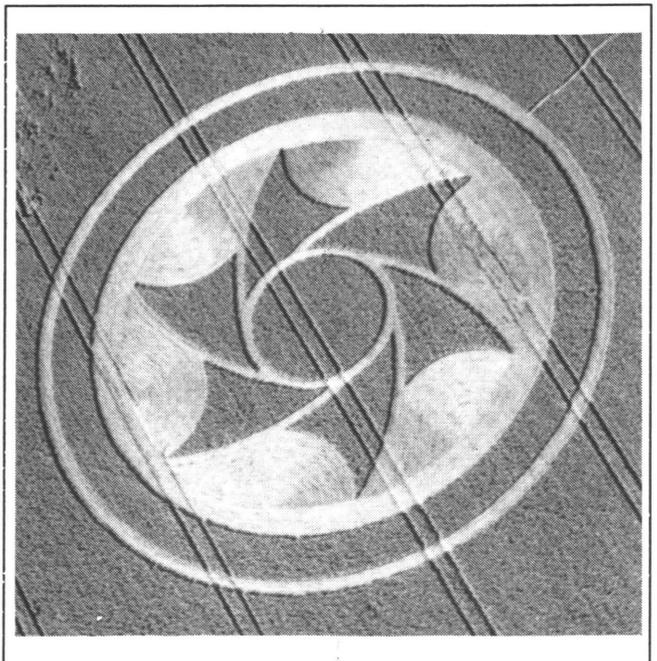
*Under the circumstances, and because it would take them out of context, I have used the whole of Michael's letter, rather than excerpts, and used his pictures and illustrations also. Michael*

*represents a large number of our members in his research and many of you have taken an interest in his findings in the past. He is trying to bring together many representations and characteristics of our phenomenon, weaving together disparate findings into a whole that may well encompass a solution to multitudinous aspects of the genuine crop circle. Let us hope that he is wrong about the Japanese earthquake, no doubt that is an aspect he will follow up in the future. I think we would all take a vicarious interest in the rest of his 'predictions', perhaps he will explore this on paper for us in a future issue .*

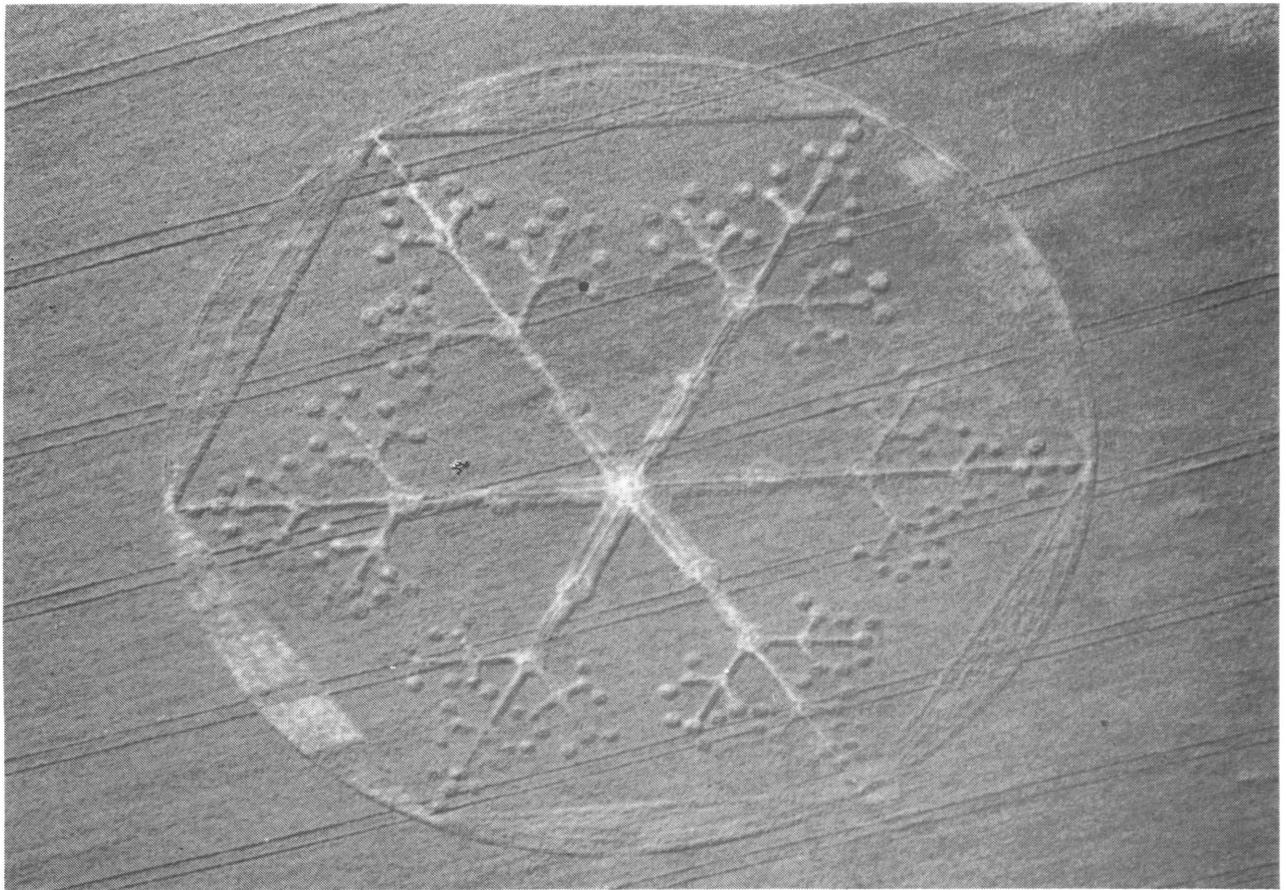


**Danebury, Hampshire 18/19 June 1997**

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**Etchilhampton, Wiltshire 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1997** © Lucy Pringle



Stonehenge 'Snowflake' 9<sup>th</sup> June 1997

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Kilmeston, Hants. 29<sup>th</sup> June 1997

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# Glastonbury Symposium 1997

Investigating Crop Circles and The signs of Our Times

by Ray Cox

For the seventh successive year the resilience of the crop circle phenomenon was epitomised again at Glastonbury. The symposium has now become the peak international forum, taking place at the height of the crop season in mystical Glastonbury, and as such has become its own *raison d'être*. It is amazingly free from nostalgia. The fact that Colin Andrews had chosen not to be present this year without causing any open disappointment emphasised this.

Three elements can perhaps be defined within the largely unifying theme of crop circles: the pure attention given to the phenomenon; the tendency for linking in with New Age thought; (which is where the sub-title 'Sign of Our Times', comes in); and the entertainment value.

The best example of the first is no doubt Karen Douglas's outline of Steve Alexander's slides of the numerous, high quality crop formations which have been manifest again this year. This subject is foremost a visual one and it is pictures which are going to lead to all other aspects of the subject in the first instance.

From the angle of geometry, Wolfgang Schindler's 80 slides of his work with mathematical ratios, in a very similar way to John Martineau's previous work, were of equal fascination.

Varied though the second group was, and much the largest, possible links to crop circles were obviously somewhat strained, and the only way was to link in crop circles in a brief and subtle manner, but it was the quality of presentations, not the subject matter which was important, the latter being the more subjective, and appreciated or otherwise according to one's own disposition to the topic in question. Joachim Koch with Hans-Jurgen Kyborg related events with their experiences at Alton Barnes and Preshute Down in 1991, their attempts to 'communicate' with the creators of crop circles by making their own formation, and the subsequent crop events they considered to be the answer, together with the correlation with stars in Orion. Take it or leave it, perhaps. As with Geoff Boltwood's talk on his contacts with ET's and information allegedly given to him about human evolution etc.

Veterans Stanley Messenger and Michael Glickman provided the excursions into esotericism and crop circle geometry respectively. The former, in suggesting that a seven-year 'probation' period was over, considered that a new step in our experience of them would be forthcoming. The circles are one doorway into a renewal of the Mysteries, taking them beyond matter into a multi-dimensional form: whilst the latter claimed to have found rare seven-fold geometry in two circles, Oliver's Castle (1996) and previously, Bythorn - both controversial formations. (Michael Glickman, of course, reveals as usual, all three categories.)

In a well-composed talk Palden Jenkins, using the pivotal word 'nothing' at the beginning and the end, to describe the space a circle makes, explained how the transience and relativity of research means that the phenomenon, something far larger than it seems or can be measured, exemplifies the gap which exists between it and our normal daily lives.

Turin Rifat held one's attention with his subject of remote viewing, which he maintains we are all going to hear much more about shortly. Perhaps the time will come when this will become a method to determine the provenance of crop circles.

Two slide presentations were most welcome, one by Cheryl Straffon, (editor of the Cornish journal 'Meyr Mamvro',) about ancient and sacred sites in Cornwall, together with her partner Caeia March showing how ancient sites reflected the Goddess in the land: magic windows and thresholds to other realities at such places: and an outline of the Celtic year.

The other was a clear and stimulating presentation by Simon Peter Fuller, a metaphysical teacher and founder of Holistic World Visions. With him one could share his own spiritual journey and understand how the circles are a spiritual awakening trigger. He outlined the positions of the seven planetary chakras and talked about the twelve gates of the planetary New Jerusalem and other matters including Joseph of Arimathea's journey to England and to this place now Glastonbury.

On the face of it one would put Andy Thomas's hour in the entertainment group. It was funny, yet astute and with a profound undercurrent of good sense. He revealed a major problem, the gap between science and metaphysics as it relates to the crop circles subject. On the one hand we have not allowed those such as Terence Meaden the respect to develop their theories, for example, and on the other there's the less than honest relevance of anti-science concepts amongst crossovers who have gone too far down the New Age road. The human mind interacts with this phenomenon also, and, again, science misses out the ability of consciousness to affect things. I am sure this is on the right track.

I was not there on the Friday when there was the usual coach tour to see crop formations in Wiltshire whilst speakers at Glastonbury included Jim Lyons, Ron Russell, David Strange and Chet Snow. Saturday included the now traditional performance of folk songs by the local Avalonian Free State Choir. On Sunday there were also channeller Paul Bura and an extra curricular event with Adrian Gilbert and also Anne Cleaton playing the classical guitar.

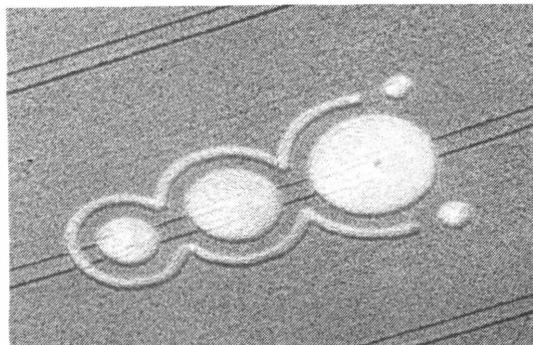
Was there a down side? Well, nothing is ever perfect. There were the heat and lack of air and less than comfortable chairs - all unavoidable in the Assembly Rooms, also a tendency with some speakers again to exceed their allotted time, which meant hurried and insufficient time for lunch and tea. Time for questions and perhaps a forum would also have been welcomed I think by many. Yet any gripes are always outweighed by the warm ambience of this gathering, maintained as ever by the genial sincerity of its inaugurator Roland Pargeter.

The Glastonbury Symposium remains, too, the gathering place, a harvest home, if you like, for crossovers of all types, at the peak, or just past the peak of the season when many crop circles have mostly all arrived, though there is still a few weeks to go to the very end.

Substitute England for Canaan and the reaper band for the crossovers in this verse and there maybe you have it:

"Fair waved the golden corn  
In Canaan's pleasant land,  
When full of joy some shining morn  
Went forth the reaper band."

(J Hampden Gurney).



'Gaia' formation, U'pham, Wilts 15 June 1997

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## BOOK & VIDEO REVIEWS

Would all contributors please note that book or video reviews are carried out on *actual* material, if you submit a ready written article or 'advertorial', it is an **ADVERT** not a review. For details of our advertising rates see inside front cover.

I have had some promotional material sent to me recently, both video and book reviews, already written. Whilst they are obviously very supportive of the contents, which may well be an accurate summary of those contents, I could not present them as if written by a third party, which is the reader's obvious interpretation of the material. If you want a free advert for your material, then simply submit a copy for an unbiased review in the next available issue. If we think it's got merit we are more than happy to say so. And you will be very proud to know that your material will find a place in the CCCS archive afterwards. I have had some considerable experience of writing 'advertorials' and reviewed a number of books and videos over the past dozen years or so for another magazine in a quite unrelated field.

### **CROP CIRCLES DECIPHERED**

By Neil Olsen

Crop Circles Deciphered is written by a man who obviously enjoys his writing and the subject he is writing about. Humour sprinkles a well illustrated and scholarly treatise on his ideas and interpretations. A sheepskin slipper salesman and crop circle researcher residing in Robert's Creek, British Columbia, Canada, this is Neil's first foray into print

Basically the book is about the correlation between the events in our crop fields and events recorded in the scriptures. Accepting that they are from an intelligent source not of this world, Neil sets out to interpret the messages and to decipher the meaning that he sees encrypted within them. Whilst his background tends towards a biblical solution, this book will appeal to even those of a less religious bent who will enjoy a nostalgic stroll through some old friends in the field. Neil's scholarly interpretations and good humoured style belie the strength of his message: "The Signs Are Here!"

The obvious connotations between cereals and the biblical stories, that often drew their allegorical references from a largely agricultural community, of necessity tend to be liberally sprinkled with cereal references. Neil had no problems in that department, rather it is in the winnowing out of the wheat from the chaff. (Cereal puns abound, but I will try to control myself!) As Neil notes in his interpretation, this particular reference is mentioned 11 times in the Bible.

Profusely illustrated with diagrams and sketches, it provides a compendium of biblical references as well as a comprehensive overview of the major formations of the last few years. Indeed, the readers imagination will leap to encompass some of the later 1997 formations that would have found a place within the text if it had been still in the writing. No prizes for spotting the odd grammatical or spelling mistakes.

Humorous, well written, entertaining and an easy read regardless of your religious persuasion, this book will find a comfortable place on most cropies bookshelves and Neil, who asked me to go easy on his first attempt at authorship, can be justly proud of his effort. The cover illustration by Irena Yardley, brings together a number of objects that sit oddly with the title or subject, but will certainly entice you to open the cover. I've never noticed how cuddly a cross between a fly and a squirrel could be. An easy read with some thought provoking ideas, that might just be a possible solution.....ummm.....I wonder, what if.....!

## NOTICES

**The Haslemere Lecture  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 1997**

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Lucy Pringle  
"The Sky is not the Limit"**

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Judging by the material Neil sent me since, it does not look like it would take long for him to come up with an annual update... How about it Neil?

### **CROP CIRCLES DECIPHERED**

by Neil Olsen

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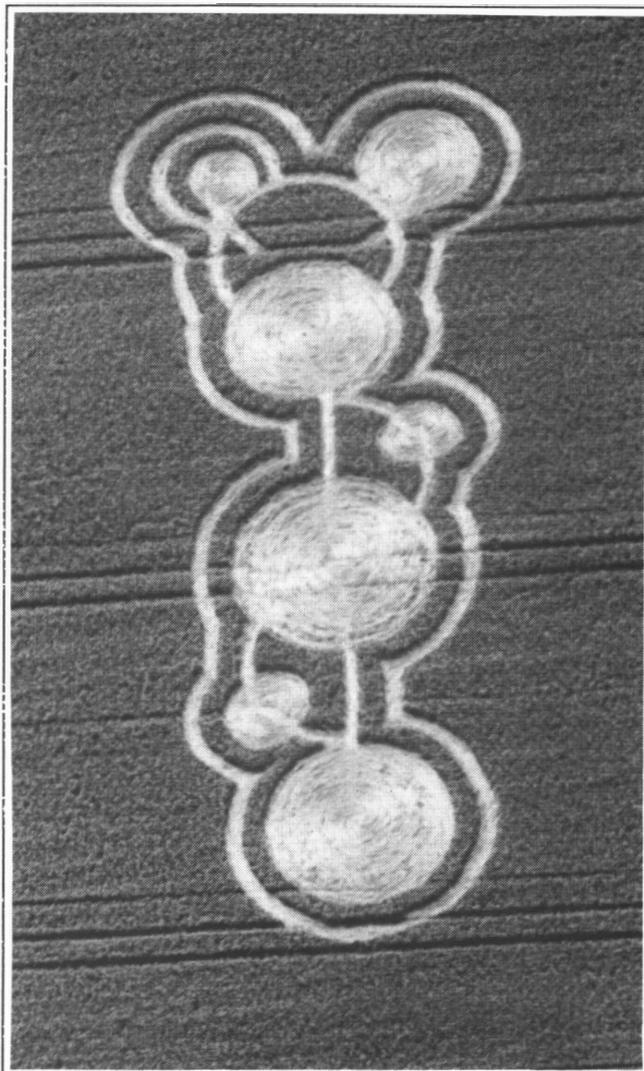
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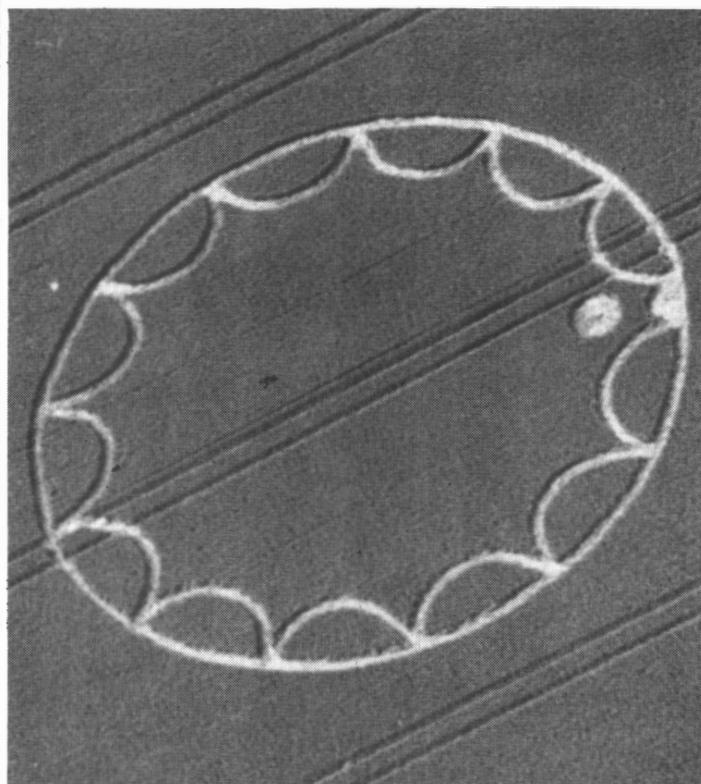
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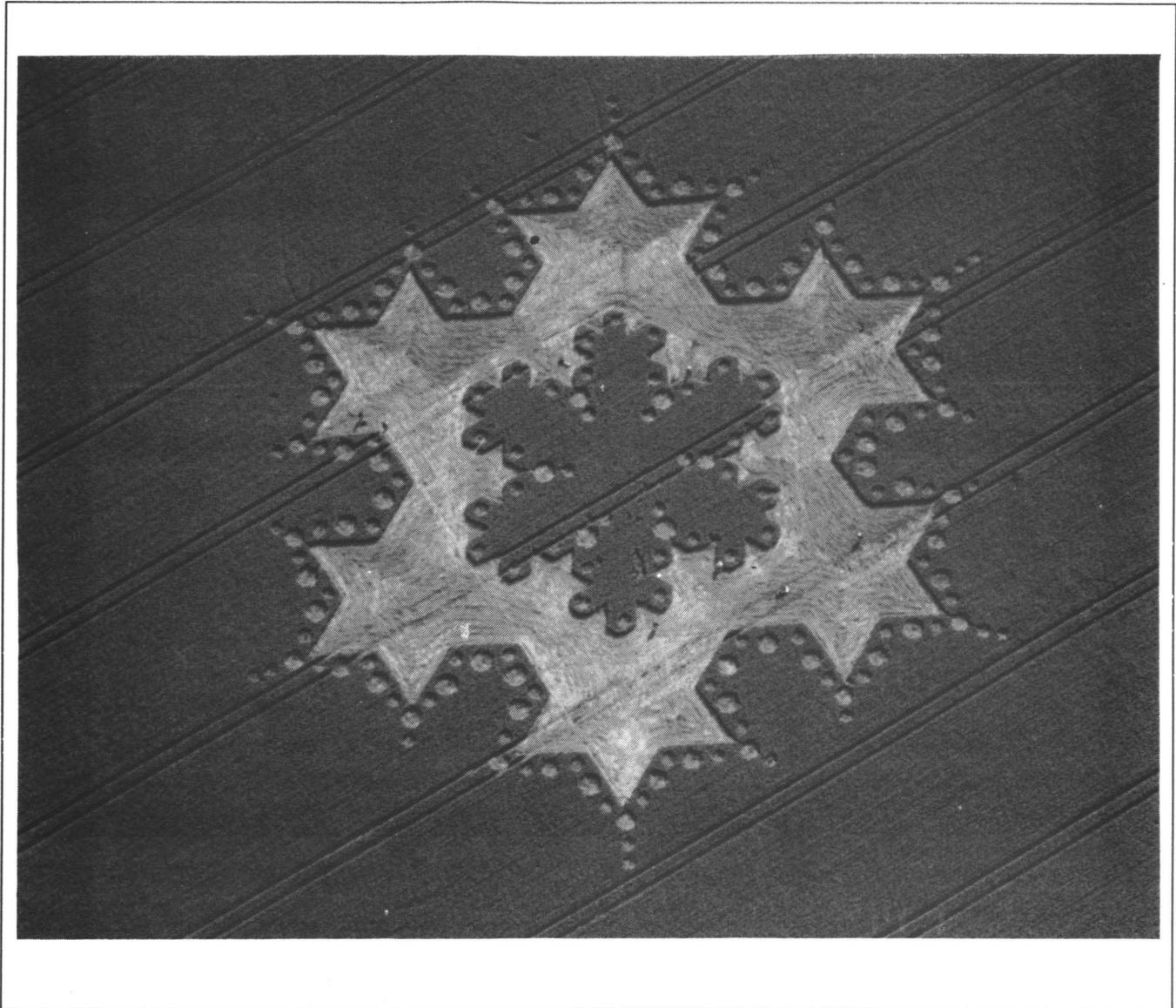
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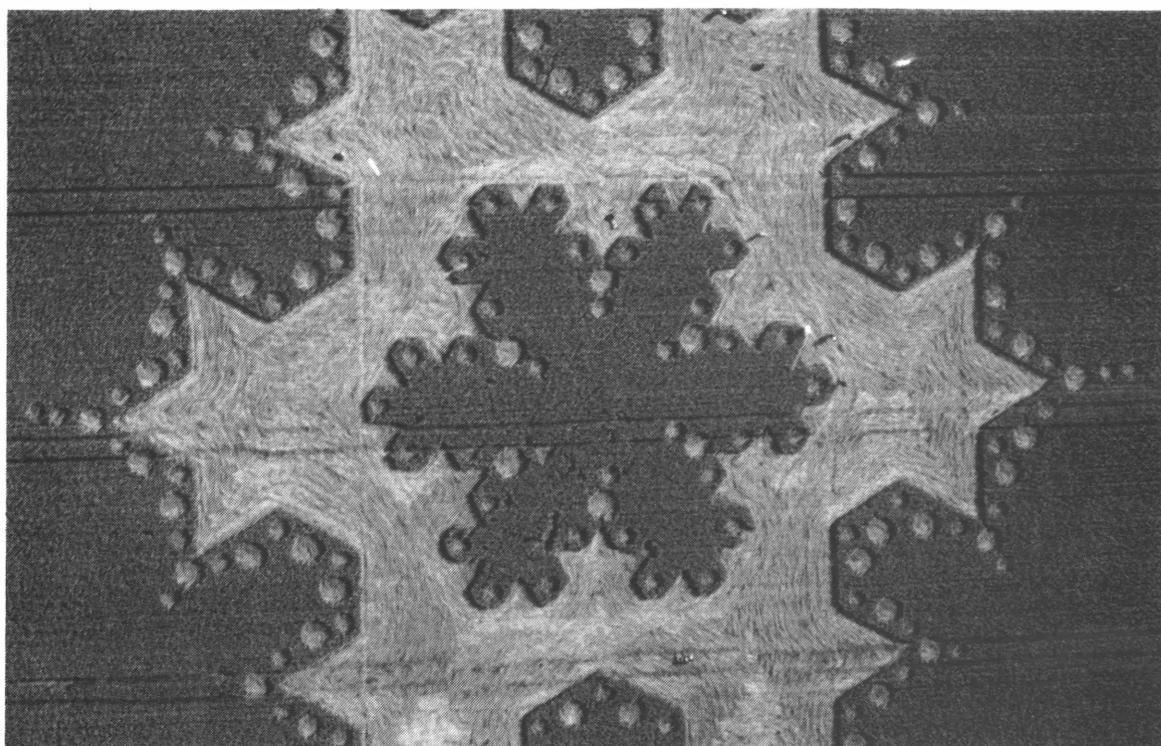
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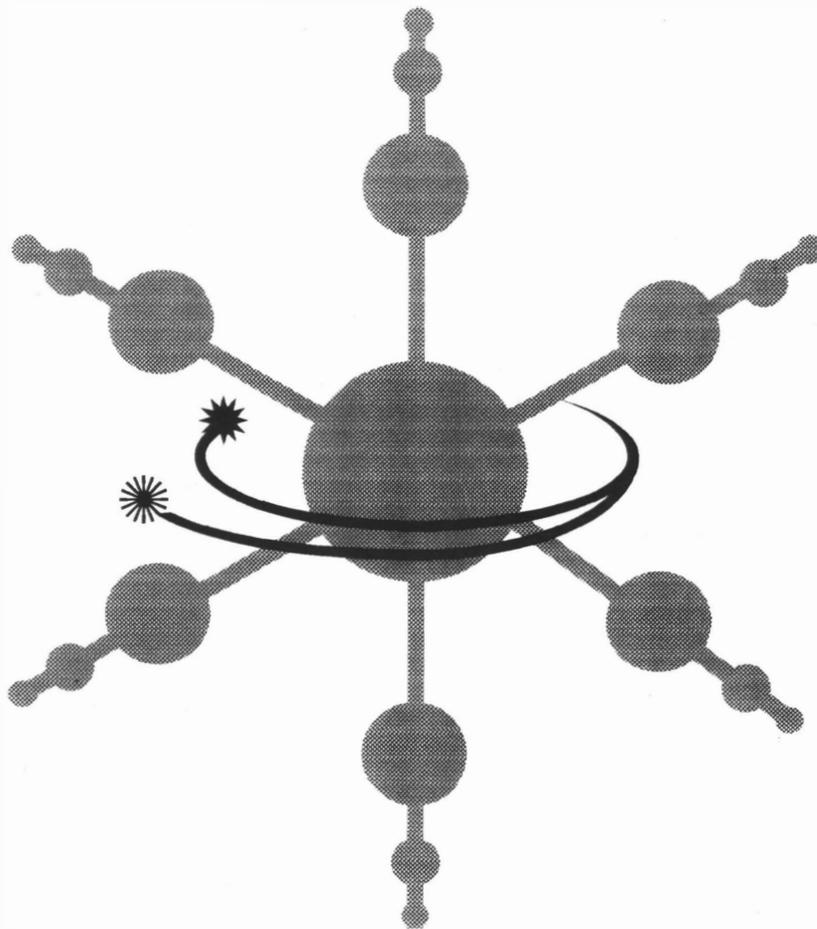


Koch Snowflake II August 8 1997 Milk Hill, Alton Barnes, Wilts

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# *The Case of the Disappearing Cameraman*



**Hammering the final nail into the coffin of the 'Oliver's Castle' video**

## **A First-Hand Report**

© August 16 1997 Peter R Sørensen

*(The first-hand bit will begin shortly, but first, a fantasy prologue in the style of a detective novel, for the purposes of speculating on the motives of the perpetrators. Any similarities to persons living or dead is in the eye of the beholder.)*

## Prologue:

Who'd-a-thought it.

Through the dark, rain splattered windscreen, the young man cautiously piloted his small car furtively along the unfamiliar Wiltshire roads, until just as the carefully pencilled map portrayed it, the obscure country pub emerged from the miserable night. Way off the beaten track, it was almost never visited by anyone except the locals and occasional small groups of shady characters wearing dark clothing.

The warm interior of the old pub was a welcome change from the storm, but the young man was even more relieved to find there was only one customer in the taproom at this late hour. With the sound of the opening door, a thin man in a black jacket and black denim trousers looked up from his Guinness, and immediately identified the young man by his apprehensive manner. With a crooked smile, his most sincere effort, he gestured to the newcomer to join him, and asked what he'd have to drink.

"Just a shandy please," the young man replied, warily eyeing the black magic brew his host savoured. Then he brightened. "Your map was perfect. I hadn't a single problem getting here from Bristol."

"Care in planning the details is the key to my survival." The thin man replied matter-of-factly "I know a lot more about you than you think I do, for instance." In response to the surprised expression on the other's face, he hastily added, "All of which I approve of. You're perfect for the job."

With the momentary tension relieved, he leaned closer. "You have the skills, but above all, the anonymity, that our project requires. As I said on the phone, anybody could take the shots we need, but we must have a cameraman with your acting ability, and who can utterly disappear after seeds have been planted. Our targets are going to be after you like angry bees when the shit hits the fan!"

"Yes, I uh, I thought I would grow a beard".

"Whatever. Your real protection is you've never been in the area before, and you never will again. I'll give you a mobile phone that you'll use exclusively to contact them. When it's over, the phone will be cancelled and will never be traceable to you."

"I should hire a car, so no one can track the licence number".

"If you like, but the cost comes out of your cut!" He lit a Camel, and added "Just drive flawlessly, so the coppers won't take any interest in you."

The young man took several deep swallows of his drink. "Umm, this seems like a lot of trouble for a joke, why does your organisation want to..."

"It's not an organisation!" The thin man cut in "We're just a few blokes out to have a little fun, as we say."

"But, why go out on cold nights and fake corn circles?"

For several moments the thin man pondered the serpentine coils of smoke that slowly arose from his cigarette. "It's something I can't ever explain to people who don't already know." He took a puff. "I consider myself an artist, and a pretty good one. People expect an artist's ego to demand recognition, yet outside a very small circle of friends, my art is anonymous. How can this be, it's not because I'm so bleedin' modest! It's because I like to think of myself like the architect of the Great Pyramid. **Who** made **that**? What were his motives? Was it aliens made it? People have been bewildered by that giant stone diamond for thousands of years. That architect is the most successful man of mystery that ever was. And I like being a man of mystery.

I'll let you in on a little secret. Let's say someone's studying the symbolism in the crop circles, and discovers something very powerful about the designs. Maybe it suits his private agenda to misdirect others who are trying to decode them. So he hires a few night artists, see, gives them some diagrams and a few quid,

and everybody is happy, yeah? It's a treat getting paid for playing pranks we'd pull anyway."

"But you take serious risks trespassing, and all the croppies hate you - you told me so."

"Ha! The risks are trivial, in fact, there's a thrill and satisfaction in eluding detection not unlike a successful murder." He inspected the glowing ember at the end of his cigarette. "I suppose, I mean, I've never murdered anyone, but we do love a murder don't we? As for the circle lovers, on the one hand, I don't care. They are only a small fraction of my audience. There are thousands more who, while they assume circles are man-made, appreciate my art for its own sake when they drive past the fields whilst going to work every day. They say Corr! That's a bloody goodun! Maybe I even make them think about things they wouldn't have otherwise.

"On the other hand, I enjoy watching the little croppies squirm. I love spending an evening in my easy chair reading the latest corny circle magazine with a few beers. You should see them on the Internet! They squabble amongst themselves like undisciplined children. The real phenomenon has all but disappeared from their radar because of their jealous egos! My friend likes it that way too, you can be sure."

Smiling cruelly, he added, "We've got them all battered and bruised by their infighting, and their credibility with the rest of the world is hanging on a thread, so our little video could finish them off completely." He flicked a bit of ash off his black shirtsleeves, as if ridding himself of a bothersome insect. "Now, memorise part of the Ordnance map. Here's Oliver's Castle, and here's the pub where the circle lovers go....."

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## Background

Is there anyone in the Cropcircle universe who doesn't know about the chap who mysteriously appeared and then disappeared after circulating a videotape which purports to show a crop circle materialising beneath flying balls of light at a place called Oliver's Castle, in England last August? Thought not. The brouhaha in the wake of this video has nearly eclipsed the circles themselves, unbelievable considering the unprecedented formations we received last summer.

Well, it's possible I've been closer to the intrigue than anyone else, though I have not **publicly** expressed my opinion until now. That's because I became convinced early on that the video was a fabrication, and **I didn't want to give any energy** to the bloody thing! However, such a hodge-podge of conflicting reports and opinions has poured from the bottomless Pandora's Box in the past year, that it is my duty as a journalist to report the story as I experienced it.

The last straw was the phrase 'shite and unverified dirt' in a recent letter to the editor of an otherwise excellent circle magazine, phrases that were used to describe a sincere researcher's findings of fraud in the video affair. That won't do! In the Circle-makers name, I must stand up and be counted and tell the saga as I experienced it in the waning heat of that amazing summer.

## The Message

It began on the foggy morning of August 11<sup>th</sup> 1996, when tantalising phone messages were left for me at The Barge Inn, a pub in Wiltshire which is a popular meeting place for crop circle researchers. (I wasn't told at the time that similar messages had been left for others too.)

The caller, who gave his name as Jonathan Wheyleigh, briefly described to Lee Winterson (a dark and enigmatic videographer) and pub manager June Potts, how he had been camping at the ancient hill fort known as Oliver's Castle, some 10 miles away and had seen and videoed balls of light flying over the field below, after which he realised there was a crop circle in the field which had not been there before! Presumably because I am an American maker of crop-circle documentaries, he wanted to show me the video in the pub that evening.

When I arrived at the pub for lunch as is my habit. I got the messages and immediately went to see the actual crop formation with Nick Nicholson, the good natured, cigar wielding editor of 'Circular Review'. A six-armed 'snowflake' design could clearly be seen from atop the steep hill where the hill-fort is located. Whilst the formation may indeed be genuine, I wasn't especially impressed with its design. (Some people will tell you it was only a sloppy hoax; others say it was amongst the best formed and most beautiful in history.) Be that as it may, ***it's the video, not the circle, that concerns us here.***

By the time we returned to the smoke filled pub that evening, rumour and speculation were flying thick and fast. As the evening wore on, and Wheyleigh hadn't arrived, it seemed the phone messages had been just a joke.

### **The Joke's on Me**

A film showing a crop circle forming would be nothing less than a dream come true for us croppies. There have been anecdotal reports of the circle phenomenon in action, but it has never been clearly captured on camera. Not only would we all love to see such a thing, but if it were irrefutably genuine, it would be the proof needed to demonstrate that crop circles aren't just a hoax.

That's exactly why someone with nothing better to do would consider it a good prank to leave such a message at The Barge, and get everybody all excited. So, as 10.00pm came and went, I felt that this was indeed the situation, and looked around the crowded room, wondering if some shady character in the far corners of the pub was having a good laugh at our expense. I decided to call it a night, downed my fourth Scrumpy Jack cider, and departed with a few other disappointed croppies.

Unfortunately I was wrong about the nature of the joke, since Wheyleigh did indeed show up about an hour later, after last bell (pubs ring a bell to let customers know when the last orders for drinks can be placed). The young man passed his camera around to the people who were still there, and they viewed the exciting shot played back through the (video)camera's B&W viewfinder. Some of those people say that what they saw then was different from the video footage which was subsequently given to me and Colin Andrews. (Colin is the best known crop circle researcher. His report about the video in his CPR Newsletter, Volume 5 number 2, covers additional angles on the intrigue.)

You can imagine how I wanted to kick myself in the behind when I learned that I missed that first opportunity to see such an historic video! Not only that but, Freddy Silva, a friend of Colin's, who was present, arranged for Wheyleigh to make a copy of the tape for Colin. Boy! Had I missed the boat!

### **"I'm the man who shot the lights"**

Three days later, I was having lunch with a friend at The Barge, when a bashful young man of about 22 years sat down at the table with us. He spoke very little for about half an hour, and then he leaned over close to me and said in a hushed voice, "I'm Jonathan Wheyleigh, the man who shot the lights making the crop circle." Wow! My pulse raced! Maybe I'd get to see the miraculous video after all!

He confided that, in addition to the tape he was giving Colin, he wanted me to have one for analysis also, a job I was delighted to take on. (I wouldn't have been so eager if I had known how the fiasco would monopolise my last three weeks in England before I returned to the States and how it would plague me to this very day!) Since he hadn't brought the tape with him, he suggested we meet at a secret location before long, where he promised to provide me with my copy.

Continuing to speak quietly so as not to catch anyone else's ear, Jonathan told us ***what supposedly has happened at Oliver's Castle.*** He said he had left the pub and gone to spend the night at the hill fort, despite the fact that it had been raining, and he didn't have a tent, only a large piece of plastic to cover his sleeping bag. Early in the morning he heard a strange noise, like the classic 'electronic cricket' (a sound frequently reported association with crop circles). The rain had already stopped, so he crawled out of his bag to see what was happening.

There, way down in the valley below the steep slope of the hill, were balls of light flying over the crop. He watched dumbfounded for a few moments, and then got his video camera out from inside the sleeping bag where he had stashed it to be safe from the rain. At first it wouldn't work because of the moisture condensation (most video cameras have a dew sensor and they won't function if moisture has condensed inside the mechanism). Normally a camera must be put in a warm dry room for an hour or more to evaporate the moisture, but, he said, "After a few moments the camera began to function properly". By that time the lights had disappeared. However, they soon reappeared and he started shooting. He said I would definitely be able to see the crop circle forming while the lights fly around above it.

After the lights finished their job they flew away, leaving him breathless. Some minutes went by, and then along came a squad of soldiers on a morning exercise run. As they ran by, the sergeant cryptically asked him, "Did you get what you came for?" Who knows what the sergeant meant by that, but Jonathan said he thought it implied that the Army knew what had just happened, and he was frightened. So he hurriedly packed his gear in his car and drove out of the area.

The whole time we talked he seemed nervous, **his hands visibly shaking** at times. He confided that he was afraid that reporters would hound him, and he asked me to keep his name secret. (By now everybody knows it!) He would only give me a number for a mobile phone that belonged to a friend but promised to return my calls (which he did up to a point). He anxiously asked me if I thought the CIA or MI5 might break into his home to try to steal the video. Since this tape would be the most important evidence for non-human involvement in the circles, I replied that his fears might not be totally unfounded, and advised him to keep the original hidden at another location. (Many people gave him the same advice, and yet, weeks later he was still showing the original tape in his camera, a camera which he claimed sometimes chewed tapes up!)

Overall, I must say that John came across as very convincing, and on this emotional basis I tended to believe he was for real, and thus the video was probably all we hoped for.

After he left, my friend, Ulrich, a crop circle investigator from Germany, who had been there all during this discussion, said that he remembered seeing Wheyleigh, a complete stranger to the crop circle community, in the pub the night before the Snowflake formation arrived. Ulrich also observed that Wheyleigh had announced, conspicuously, that he was going to camp out at Oliver's Castle in hopes of seeing something, despite the wretched weather.

A few days later Jonathan called to let me know that he was going on a trip to France for a couple of weeks, and he would give me a copy of the tape when he got back. I would have to endure the suspense a while longer! Meanwhile, everyone was engaging in telephone whispers about the mysterious video. Some said it showed a crop circle being born beneath a complicated structure of lights like a Christmas tree, others said it showed nothing that could be clearly seen at all.

### **Viewing IT at last!**

Three weeks later I was starting to worry that Jonathan had forgotten about me, but then he called and suggested that we have a secret meeting at The Wagon & Horses. The Wagon & Horses is a beautiful, thatched roofed pub near Avebury, which used to be the favourite haunt of croppies until the more secluded Barge became the, er.. inn hangout. However researchers still go to the Wagon occasionally, so it wouldn't seem the best choice of a clandestine meeting place, yet earlier, he secretly met Colin Andrews there too.

Ulrich and I arrived at the colourful old pub fifteen minutes early, and before we had time to order drinks, Wheyleigh walked in. From a battered attaché case he withdrew a VHS copy of the coveted video and gave it to me. There was no videotape player available at the pub, but John had brought his camera along with the original 8mm tape still in it.

Like most people viewing it in the camera's eyepiece, all I saw the first time was little balls of light zipping around over the field and then flying off. Then, lo! I realised there was the formation in the field afterwards. I rewound the tape and watched again, ignoring the lights, and this time I could see the design materialise. It was beautiful and magical to behold!

Then Ulrich watched it twice, and since I now had the VHS copy that I could watch to my heart's content when I got back to the house, I resisted the urge to play the original again.

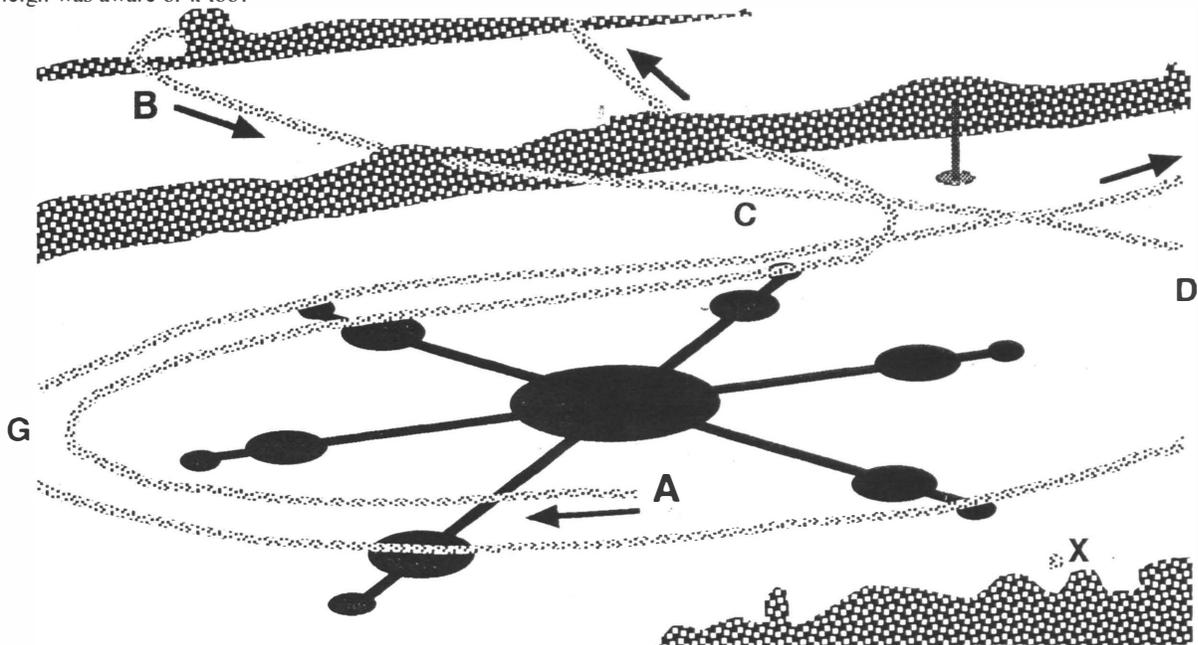
I dearly wanted to be able to use the video in a TV programme that I would be making about the year's crop circles, but I also knew the footage would be much too important to the world for me to just keep it to myself, and I told Jonathan so. He said he was glad I felt that way, and suggested that I try to get it distributed as widely as possible, both in England and around the world, as soon as the tests had been performed. We ultimately agreed that I would be his exclusive agent. (He didn't say that he had made that same arrangement with Colin Andrews already.)

Then, into our supposedly secret meeting, walked Lee Winterson. Lee had also been shooting a crop circle programme that summer. He was one of the people who had stayed at The Barge after the last bell that night when the camera had been passed around, and he wanted very much to get his hands on the astonishing footage also.

When Lee learned Jonathan had the original video with him, he suggested we should all go to a video facility that Lee used in nearby Swindon and view the footage on a good system with slow motion and enlargement capability. It was only half an hour's drive away, and Lee offered to make a high quality copy of the tape for Jonathan, so that the original wouldn't have to be used any more. Jonathan asked me if he should, and I advised him that this was an excellent idea. Before long we were caravanning northwards in three cars.

### On the Slo-mo

The reader needs to know that I have been involved in computer animation since the pioneering days, more than 25 years ago. I've watched the technology evolve from its crude beginnings into the photo-realistic dinosaurs of Jurassic Park. A lot of people around The Barge know this - I wonder if Jonathan Wheyleigh was aware of it too?



Once we arrived at the video facility, Lee quickly got one of the technicians to set up the slow-motion and enlarging equipment. As soon as I started to document the studio with my video camera, Jonathan asked me not to get him in the picture, reminding me that he wanted to be anonymous. I said this was an historic moment and I wouldn't use shots of him without his permission *but he insisted I shouldn't film him at all*. He also asked me not to use shots of his car.

Then a telling little thing happened in this room full of equipment. Jonathan took the 8mm cassette out of his camera, went over to one of the racks full of many different kinds of professional video machines, popped his tape right into the only 8mm machine there, and immediately punched the play button just like he was familiar with industrial equipment. Now, I've worked around this stuff for years, but in a strange facility with so much equipment, it would have taken me a while to locate the 8mm player. Industrial equipment is quite intimidating to the uninitiated. I'd bet dollars to donuts that he had prior experience with that particular **brand** of professional machine, in order to recognise it so effortlessly.

Meanwhile, the tape was copied over to the slo-mo system, and our inspection of the footage began. It certainly made a difference to see it in colour and on a big screen. The brief drama looked like something out of Disney's Fantasia, the sprightly little lights glowing a bright, bluish-white. We watched them fast and slow, forward and backwards, and at times under high magnification, for over an hour.

The crucial shot begins with two balls of light, which appear to be about three feet in diameter, already in the lower middle of the screen (A in diagram) skimming clockwise over the field of wheat at something like a hundred miles an hour.

Lee quickly discovered **a third light in the scene on only the first frame** of the shot. Trivia fans, take note! It is near the bottom of the frame (X on diagram), to the right of centre, next to the trees. It is gone in the second frame, never to be seen again.

About two seconds into the shot the crop formation starts to appear, and in the extreme upper part of the picture another light (B) flies **behind** a tree, reappears, crosses the distant hedge, and flies towards the middle hedge. This light is visible only on good copies of the video up to this point. In fact it may be difficult to spot until it reaches a point (C) where it has spawned a smaller partner.

Meanwhile, some five seconds into the scene, the first pair of lights have swerved away from the crop formation, one goes through the middle hedge, and they fly away into the distance. While it's difficult to see the effect of the light going through the hedge, we looked carefully at this under digital magnification in

the studio, and there is no doubt that, **as often as not**, the lights go **through**, not over, the shrubbery. (It's not an electric power line that some researchers have suggested obscures the lights. That is strung at an angle to the hedge, and is much too thin to cover them.) This is important, because it indicates how low the lights would be flying.

So, the lights are only a few feet above the wheat, **yet they throw no light onto the crop**, even though they are several orders of magnitude brighter than the ambient illumination.

As the second (**B**) set of lights flies around over the crop formation they zip out of the picture twice. (**D** and **G**) The camera makes no attempt to follow them as they glide near the edge of the frame and then leave our view. Everyone who sees the tape remarks that this seems very odd, hardly human! I know I would have kept the lights in the viewfinder! Defenders reply that Wheyleigh must have been guided by the circle-making intelligence to point and hold the camera there in order to catch the formation of the crop circle in centre frame. Later I'll tell you what I think.

One thing that troubled me greatly the whole time I watched the slo-mo and enlargement analysis, was the fact that the lights were not blurred in the direction of their motion. They should have been elongated into fuzzy ovals, but they were quite round. Only a high speed shutter could have that result, yet **the pre-dawn light would have required a slow shutter speed** especially with video. (It has been reported that the lights are appropriately distorted. Well, look at still frames and decide for yourself. With a slow shutter speed each light should have been elongated to the point where it nearly touches its own position in the frames before and afterwards. Although soft-edged, the lights are not blurred in the direction of travel.)

I admit I deviously kept these first problems to myself for the moment, because if the tape was real, these were technical matters that video technicians would be better equipped to address than Jonathan (whose feelings might be hurt in the process). If it was a fake, I didn't want to let on that I smelt a rat. As soon as I got back to Alton Barnes I made calls to invite everyone who could be interested, to view the famous tape at The Barge the next two evenings. Countless people turned up as we practically wore out the revind button playing the scene over and over. Inevitably the pro and con debate began. At that point, the fact that the lights were not blurred in the direction of motion seemed the strongest argument against it, while **apparent** hand held wiggling of the camera suggested it was probably real. (If it were a fake, we thought it would have been extremely difficult to match layers of animation of the lights and materialising crop formation with the shaky camera - more on this shortly.)

### **The Smoking Gun**

The more I thought about it, the more the prognosis didn't look good at all. Then, a few days later I got a call from John Huckvale, who owns the Swindon video studio. He had discovered what I refer to as the smoking gun. His discovery makes it impossible for the video to be anything but a hoax. **ALL other arguments are moot and meaningless unless his point can be adequately addressed.** I shall explain.

We all know how **movie** film is a long strip of tiny pictures called **frames**. **Video** frames, on the other hand, are recorded on tape electro-magnetically, and so you can't hold the tape up to the light and see the pictures. The frames are there, stored as a sequence of lines (which can be seen if you look closely at your TV screen).

Now here's the crucial technical quirk of video that you need to understand to realise why the Oliver's Castle tape is a fraud: Each video frame is composed of two **fields** (not to be confused with crop fields), which are the odd-numbered lines and even-numbered lines that comprise every TV picture. All the odds (first field) are scanned initially, and then the even numbered lines (second field) are scanned. These fields are recorded and displayed sequentially, one after the other, one fiftieth of a second apart on the British **PAL** system (which displays 25 **frames** per second). **Each field shows the whole scene at a slightly different moment in time. They are effectively TWO SEPARATE FRAMES** in their own right, except that they cannot be viewed separately when you pause your VCR.

When you stop a movie projector, you get a single, still picture, but a frame of video is composed of two pictures, the fields captured a moment apart. If there's significant motion during

that moment, you'll see a flickering effect caused by the two alternating fields. Try pausing a shot of a football in flight, or anything moving fast and you will see what I mean.

**The balls of light on the original video show no such flickering when the tape is paused, despite their apparent hundred mile per hour speed!** This could **NOT** be if they were captured with a normal video camera, any more than a normal cinema camera would take identical pairs of film frames without motion between them. **This isn't a matter of personal opinion, this is a matter of fact.** Video frames have two fields. The lights should have moved between each of the fields. They don't!

However, **computer animation systems can produce exactly that result.** Indeed, the best computer systems have the option to render with or without motion between fields, but it takes considerably longer for the computer to render with the field motion. It also takes longer to render the object blurred and elongated. Time was a very important factor, because Wheyleigh had to show the tape at The Barge that night.

At the risk of beating a dead horse long into its next incarnation, consider, if instead of a video, we were dealing with a motion picture film in which the lights didn't move for two frames, then jumped to another position where they held still for two frames before jumping again, and so on. Everyone would immediately see that something was very seriously wrong. The exact same thing is afoot with the Oliver's Castle tape, except the abnormality is hidden within the two fields of each video frame. If only I could hold it up to the light and show you the pairs of motionless fields!(Yankees take note: Transfer of the video from the British PAL system to the American NTSC system caused **pseudo field motion in every third frame** because of the difference in numbers of frames per second between the two countries' television standards. Seeing this you might easily be confused, but you'll find that there still are plenty of motionless fields/frames to prove my case. British copies made from Wheyleigh's original tape do **not** have **any** frames showing motion of the lights between the fields. And, just to totally confuse the issue, when an American TV show about the mystery was re-broadcast in Britain, the pseudo motion could still be seen, even though it had been transferred back into the PAL system!)

### **The Last Nail in the Coffin**

As a way out of the motionless fields dilemma, the Believers propose that, since we don't know what make and model of camera he used, perhaps Wheyleigh had some unusual kind that doesn't work like a normal one. Actually, there are special digital cameras that capture both fields simultaneously, and would produce video like this (!), but they are made for industrial computer vision systems, and they are big and very expensive. I saw Wheyleigh's camera, and it was an ordinary consumer model, yet the defenders still hope that his camera somehow worked that way: perhaps it's actually cheaper to make a camera that doesn't have to capture the two fields at separate moments in time. Possibly. Truth be told, the very first, primitive home recorders simply made two identical fields out of one, but the loss in quality would make that unacceptable by today's standards.

**Then, in April, I discovered proof that Wheyleigh's camera works normally.** In the shot just before the flying lights appear, a zoom to wide angle of the valley below shows there is a blade of grass blowing in the wind at the bottom centre of the frame. If you pause frames of that grass when the wind is moving fast, you'll see it flickers properly! His video frames show movement between the two fields, like any other ordinary camera. (Note that there is no hand-shake in this shot! It indicates that Wheyleigh had a tripod with him.)

I repeat: **The lights were animated with a computer and added to the scene**, like Forrest Gump, as was the appearance of the crop formation itself. I realise that some animation experts have said that it would take days or even weeks, to fake the video. I don't know how to respond, politely! (I reach for my gun when people say they are experts!) They're just plain, flat wrong. You

don't have to be an expert to know that there's supposed to be motion in the fields of a video frame.

Unless the motionless fields problem can be answered, - and no one has done so, - all pontificating that a fake couldn't be produced in seventeen hours, are moot.

Special effects experts and amateurs alike realise that the only one really big hurdle the hoaxers apparently faced, was the shaky *hand-held camera effect*. It's true that it is formidably difficult and very time consuming to combine animated effects with a live action shot that wiggles. I don't deny that high tech motion tracking is expensive and might take days, while frame by frame hand rotoscope animation would take longer and would never look quite right. However experienced EFX (effects) technicians get a kick out of coming up with end runs around such problems and there is a nifty solution to this puppy.

Don't shoot the live action hand-held stupid! - Use a tripod! Rock steady footage was put into the computer animation system, so the animated lights and materialising crop formation could be easily superimposed. When all the effects were finished, the multi-layered scene was digitally *enlarged* so about 10% of the picture expanded out of frame. Finally, the remaining visible area of the picture was programmed to wiggle around within that expanded area and - presto - everything looks like it was shot with a shaky hand. It would not even remotely, require the skill or resources of a Steven Spielberg, as some crusaders confidently proclaim. The rushed implementation of this trick would explain why the camera doesn't follow the flying lights, as human nature would practically demand. My hunch is that the animator didn't realise the lights would fly off out of frame until the later enlargement step was carried out, and by then it was too late to go back and reanimate the lights to keep them inside the shaking frame. (*Am I right, John?*)

I'll very briefly describe some of the other EFX techniques that were probably employed: The balls of light and their graceful flight paths were easy as pie to create, using computer animation. Perfectly smooth curves, acceleration, deceleration and gradual changes in luminosity are trivial to control within the digital 3-D environment. Creating flight paths which have only to approach from the distance, then curve *approximately* around the place where the formation appears, and finally fly away, would take an experienced computer operator less than an hour. If the lights were animated to *precisely trace out the shape of the formation* while each circle appeared, then it **would** take **much** longer to do. (Who amongst us wasn't surprised that the lights didn't define the design?)

Superimposing the lights onto the camera shot is a non-issue. Making the lights look like they fly through the hedges was a nice touch. The easiest way to achieve that effect would be to utilise a program like PhotoShop. A little dab of colour that matches the hedge would be painted over the layer with the lights. The digital paint can have adjustable transparency, so the lights can appear to shine through the leaves as some of them do rather than totally disappear.

Viewers frequently point to the lights going through the hedges as an indication that the video might be real, because they think it unlikely that an animator would take the time to include such small details, or even to **think** of them. On the contrary! Animators take pride in coming up with subtleties just like this. Going beyond the obvious lends authenticity to their artwork. Many viewers don't consciously notice the lights going through the hedges until it is pointed out to them, but subliminally, the effect adds greatly to the realism of the shot the first time they see it. The best effects are the effects you don't see, as we say in showbiz.

A similar subliminal trick that should have been included, had there been time, is interactive lighting. Light sources illuminate things nearby, and I'm sure our EFX artist would have liked to put a glow on the crop below the balls of light. In the pre-dawn illumination there should have been at least a hint of this. It would have given the lights a much more tangible sense of presence. Interactive lighting requires many more variables and

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would have taken far longer to create than the lights themselves, time the mischief makers didn't have.

The appearance of the crop formation is quite another matter from the lights, and there are two quite different ways it might have been done, depending on whether the formation itself was genuine or hoaxed by accomplices. If there was a conspiracy involving circle fakers co-ordinated with a cameraman and animator, then *before and after shots of the field of crop would have been taken* without moving the camera. The before shot would be layered on top of the after shot, and the portions of the top layer dissolved away to reveal the various parts of the crop formation underneath.

Alternatively, in the event that the crop formation is genuine (in which case Wheyleigh was an astoundingly lucky flimflam man with access to an animation system, all he would need is a tripod shot of the finished formation. Using a *digital technique called 'cut and paste'*, areas of the picture that contain standing crop are electronically copied and 'moved' to cover the various parts of the formation. Unlike paper cut-outs, these patches have edges instantly blended and are virtually undetectable. Then they would be dissolved away to reveal the circles, one at a time.

In both scenarios, a soft edged oval wipe would be used to make the big circle appear to expand from the middle. The swirling effect some people report they see, would require an additional animated layer partly dissolved in under the oval wipe. The fact that the edges of the expanding circles aren't seen until they reach full size is a consequence of the 'dissolve-reveal' technique. Animating expanding edges for all the circles would have been prohibitive, time wise.

### **Jim Diletso**

The most impressive technical analysis on the video has been done by Jim Diletso, a well known American specialist who has studied hundreds of UFO tapes and films in recent years. On a *Sightings* TV show where I gave the video a thumbs down, he gave it a thumbs up.

Jim concentrated on the *non-image portions of the video signal* (the vertical interval, blanking pulse, sub carrier, back porch and pedestal), and he reported no evidence of it having ever been in the digital realm. If the video had been manipulated by a computer *there should have been a digital fingerprint there*, but there was none. When I discussed this with him on the phone, he allowed that it would be possible to eliminate such tell-tale digital traces, but said it would take sophisticated equipment that wouldn't be found in a normal animation studio. Although this suggests a deeper conspiracy (the CIA out to get us?) I recently thought of a low-tech solution to the problem (which I won't reveal, lest other mischief makers give it a go). I'm still certain the whole job could be pulled off in a modest digital facility.

At the time that Jim and I talked, I hadn't discovered the rapidly moving blade of grass that proves Wheyleigh's camera captured frames/fields in the normal manner, so Jim conjectured that a camera capable of taking simultaneous fields might have been used. He didn't hide the fact that this was a serious question. He also admitted he was suspicious of the fact that the camera doesn't follow the lights, but is pointed exactly where the crop formation will appear.

### **Timeline to Deception**

Having worked with accomplished computer animators on hundreds of TV commercials and some movies, I submit, with confidence, the following conservative timeline for creating the Oliver's Castle Lights Video:

- 5.00am - Shot of crop formation taken
- 8.00am - Arrive at studio (perhaps as far away as Bristol)
- 9.00am - Video footage digitised and edited
- 10.00am - Colour and shape of lights experimented with
- 10.30am - Light paths created
- 11.00am - Crop circle materialisation effects
- 3.00pm - Digital paint-box work for lights going through hedges
- 4.00pm - Camera-shake effect added
- 5.00pm - Removal of digital evidence from video signal
- 6.00pm - Job completed

The finished tape *could* have been at The Barge by 9.00pm (allowing three hours travel again). Since Wheyleigh didn't actually get there until after 11.00pm that night, that gives the animator an additional two hours to polish his handiwork (I don't think Wheyleigh himself was the animator, he would have been exhausted from his rainy night watch on the hill and all the driving).

Photographer Busty Taylor has pointed out that the shadow angle in the scene implies the shot was taken in the afternoon, rather than the morning. He may well be right. If so, then the shot would have had to be darkened and coloured to make it look like early morning. This would only add about fifteen minutes to the EFX job. But the loss of seven hours or so working time, due to the late acquisition of the footage would require the animation studio to be nearby.

I know there have been time estimates by the Oscar winning Jim Henson company and other special effects experts that would rule out creating a fraud in one day, but I'm afraid they didn't think it out long and carefully enough, especially the solution to the shaky camera. Reverse engineering the whole video took me a fortnight. It isn't fair to give a computer animation specialist the tape and expect him/her to unravel the tricks in a matter of hours. Ah, but, I hear someone say, expert 'X' had the tape for so-many *days*, and said it would be impossible to make it quickly enough. Yes, but were the experts as obsessed with our conundrum as we are, or were they perhaps busy with their own work most of the time? I'll bet that none spent half a day on the problem.

Also, unless the person is very well versed in computer animation, it doesn't matter how long they puzzle over it. For example, a rather well known motion picture director, who is familiar with UFOs (who'll remain nameless to spare embarrassment), stated that, after several viewings he thought the video had to be real because, to make it, *the video would first have to be transferred to film, and the EFX done in that medium, before transferring back to video tape again* and the developing time alone would preclude a hoax being done in one day. This accomplished Hollywood professional went on to talk about rear-screen projection and other film EFX techniques, and obviously hadn't a clue about the recent advances of digital technology.

Well, Hollywood is where I worked for nearly 20 years with the very best computer animators. I was on a first name basis with several of the guys who would later go on to form the digital EFX division George Lucas' at Industrial Light & Magic, back in the days when they were struggling to survive. Whilst I haven't bothered them with the video, I have shown the tape to other friends in the business who are also keen on crop circles and they agree with my analysis. They saw the shot a few times, I told them how I thought it was done, they watched it again, and they said, "Right!" (That's not cheating, we aren't testing them to see if they can figure the thing out for themselves, like a quiz show. We want to resolve the issue of the reality of the lights making the crop formation at Oliver's Castle.) These are people who would not have been afraid to tell me if they thought I was wrong.

### **Why Don't You Prove You Could Do It, Peter?**

I've been challenged to exactly duplicate the video in the required time-frame using my own shot of the Oliver's Castle formation. That is an innocent, but impossible demand. *The tricksters had no restrictions imposed upon them* except that the finished shot look believable. Just consider the flight paths of the lights: Within very wide aesthetic limits, the lights they created could go anywhere, at any speed - no problems, mate! To precisely match those particular flight paths would require many more hours of work. The dissolves revealing the crop formation would take several times longer to duplicate precisely. In fact, just matching the colour scheme of the landscape would be a real pain.

A realistic looking *approximation* could definitely be done in the time-frame, but not a strict replica. Nevertheless, my challenger insisted that would not be satisfactory.

Although studio time with all the proper equipment costs hundreds of dollars an hour, I might have gotten the time donated to create an approximation of the video, if I asked for it, but I won't go into that kind of deep debt of obligation, just to have the 'Believers' pointing to every little deviation in my effort as 'proof' that the Wheyleigh tape is genuine.

That's what happened to Paul Vigay, a man with very limited animation experience and a home computer, when he took a stab at it one day. While his result is definitely flawed, I congratulate him on coming reasonably close to the mark, especially since he had never done anything like it before. It borders on immoral to compare his experiment to The Video without pointing this out, as some have done.

Even duplicating the original *exactly* would only prove that it *could* be done, *not* that the Wheyleigh tape itself was necessarily faked.

In the case of the Oliver's Castle tape, the proof of forgery is the incontestable lack of motion by the lights between the video fields. Period. All the other oddities are gravy.

### **Clinging To The Last Straws**

Desperate to salvage the supernatural mystery of the video, some Believers have suggested that the Circle-Makers somehow caused the field/frame aberrations on purpose. Well (sigh!), I concur that it would be trivial for an advanced technology to detect when Wheyleigh's camera was about to capture each frame, then position motionless, anti-gravity balls of light, while the two video fields were recorded, and reposition them for each succeeding frame (like some extraterrestrial Wallace & Grommet clay animation)..But, *why?* To impress us with their awesome powers by creating a mind-boggling puzzle of course!

One of the people who has put this theory to me is a computer and video-savvy professional who concluded, "We just don't know the motivations of the intelligence we are contemplating". I must say it isn't absolutely, utterly inconceivable that we are being tested somehow, perhaps as to our *blind faith*.

Somehow I doubt it. Confronting us mere humans with a video aberration that exactly mimics the appearance of computer animation would be very unfair! The Circle-Makers know us well enough to realise that such an underhanded trick would only cause confusion and acrimonious arguments amongst us. Their renowned sense of humour is subtle, but not sadistic. There would be *much* better ways for them to prove their technical superiority if they wanted to, they might have levitated the camera right out of Wheyleigh's hands and flown it out and around, following the lights! Also, whilst our faith is most certainly being tested by the whole circle phenomenon, *blind faith*, I feel sure, is one of the things being *weeded out*.

No, I'm sure the video isn't from any metaphysical source. This tape was made by mischievous or malevolent humans, and their goal *was precisely* to cause confusion and acrimony! They've been laughing their bottoms off as they read the magazine articles and the debate on the Internet. They'll be sniggering for years.

### **Wheyleigh Mysteriously Disappears**

John Wheyleigh had refused to give me, or anyone, his personal phone number or address. He did scribble the cell-phone number of a friend of his for me, and insisted I give it to no one. He *did* call me back on four different occasions after I had left a message on the answer-phone. Then, late in August, I left a message *tactfully* saying I thought there might be some digital artifices on his video. He has never been heard from, by any croppie, since. To no avail, I left a few more messages saying if his video was an animation, it still was a beautiful illustration of what a crop circle forming might look like. Ultimately, the phone number was disconnected and reassigned to another party.

As much as a shy person might have been hurt by my message, or insulted by the subsequent accusations of fraud that were published by others, that excuse doesn't feel entirely right to me.

If *you*, gentle reader, took such an exciting shot of unknown flying lights making a crop circle - arguably the most important shot in UFO/Crop-circle history, wouldn't you do *something* in support of the truth? Personally, I'd *rush* to the most respected polygraph authority and demand a whole series of tests! (The CCCS would gladly pick up the bill, I'm sure.)

He really ought to have the courage to step forward and tell us the whole story in detail, including where he was between 5.00am and 11.00pm on that day. It would be reassuring to see that his school and employment records have nothing to do with high-tech video, or computer graphics. His phone records could easily prove that he wasn't mixed up with those shady characters in the circle-faking business. These measures would certainly intrude on his privacy, but he should be able *to prove he is innocent* and therefore a *hero!*

If he won't come out of the closet, he could at least have a trusted friend take the *original* tape to the BBC for analysis (not letting the cassette out of his sight).

### Beyond Piltdown

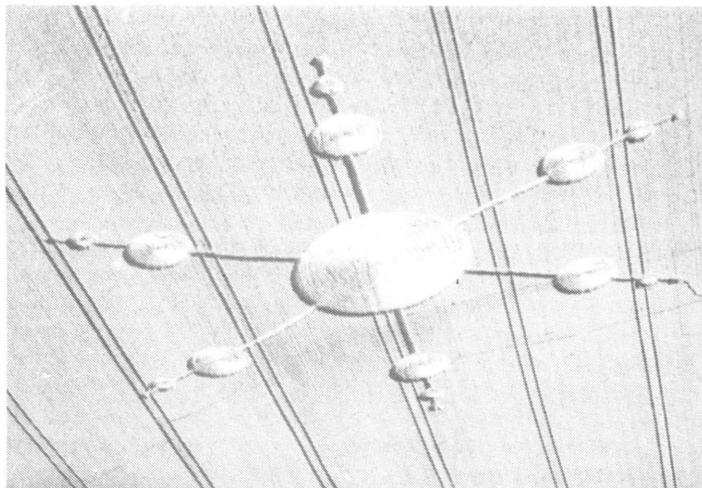
Back in 1912, unknown hoaxers put the fossil jaw of an Orangutang together with the skull of a primitive man, and Dr Arthur Woodward of the British Museum proclaimed to have discovered the 'missing link'. Despite well reasoned arguments that it was a hoax, the Piltdown Skull held a place of honour in the British Museum for several decades. Supporters of Darwin's theory of evolution wanted desperately for the skull to prove them right, and clung tenaciously to the fossil. Ultimately the skull was acknowledged as a fraud, but Darwin survived the fiasco, thank you very much.

**I am certain that the crop circle phenomenon is a genuine mystery, and I do not enjoy being in the position of a debunker, arguing against anything to do with the magic, but I must speak my truth, whether right or wrong. The Great Truth is not served by exaggeration, nor does it require shoring up. The veracity of the Oliver's Castle video has nothing to do with the reality of Crop Circles. Like Darwin, the Circle makers are doing just fine, despite - not because of, the video.**

### Stop The Press!

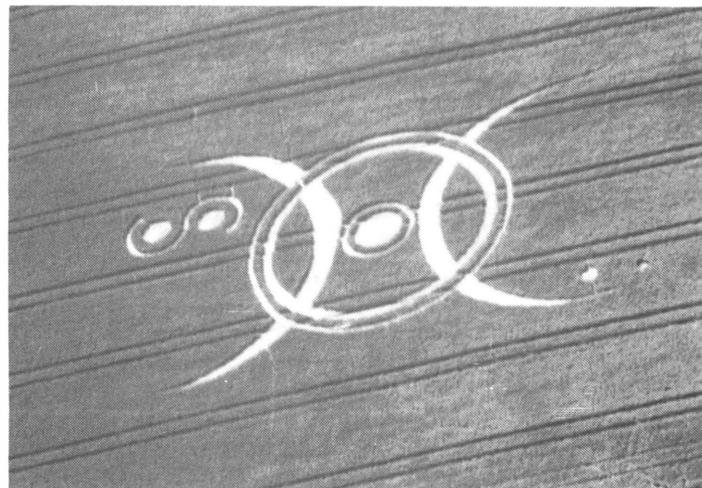
Some 11 months after the perpetration of the video hoax, Nippon Television staged a 'raid' on the computer animation studio in Bristol where the video was probably made. Lee Winterson had discovered that one John Wabe (pronounced Way-bee - rhymes with Wheyleigh!) was co-owner of the studio. Although Wheyleigh/Wabe had bleached his hair blond and grown a beard, **a photo of him from before the make-over was hanging on the wall, and I can confirm that it is the guy who gave me the copy of the tape last summer.**

While the Japanese news team went in the front door, Lee and I waited outside in the parking lot, expecting to be called in as witnesses at the crucial moment. Instead, Wabe effected his escape via a back door and jumped into his car. Despite his disguise, I recognised him after a moment, and managed to get a shot of him as the car sped away. He obviously recognised me too, because he did a double take when he saw me, and then with a big grin, he waved as if to say, "Can't catch me - nyah - nyah!" The Nippon TV interviewer managed to get Wabe's partner to admit that Wabe "was involved in the video". It was subsequently revealed that Wabe has made a documentary for an American TV company showing how he made the cursed thing. Perhaps, by the time this is published you will have seen the show, and the matter will have been laid to rest. (The believers have suggested that the 'real' Wheyleigh has been bought off by the CIA, so an impostor, 'Wabe', would be free to debunk the miracle. Sigh!) At least I can rest easy now, knowing the 'Disappearing Cameraman' has been found.



Oliver's Castle 'Snowflake' August 1996

© Lucy Pringle



Oliver's Castle, Wilts. Aug 1997

© Lucy Pringle

Stonehenge, Wilts. July 1997

© Peter Sorenson

## ACTING CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Firstly, I take my hat off the previous administration for the amount of work they were carrying out behind the scenes. It is only when it gets dumped into your own lap that you realise just how much hard and rewarding work has to be done behind the scenes to make the organisation appear to run so smoothly. They carried out their work, often in conditions of great criticism at their methodology and the manner of their administration. In any big organisation there are a small number of people who have to make difficult decisions in time of crises or need. They don't always get it right, but they at least are doing something constructive rather than rushing around like headless chickens complaining that there is nowhere to put their hats!

I would like to thank all of the present officers of the CCCS who have offered their unstinting support in a very difficult task and in the manner in which they have improved the lot of those who may come after us and the positive manner in which they have risen to the various challenges that came our way. It would be very unfair to pick out any individual from the whole council, but I think you will all agree that Peter Henden has worked miracles with the accounts. Barry Reynolds has pulled many a hot-potato from the fire and produced "The Bundle", a compilation of the events of 1996 as well as keeping many of us up to scratch and, as Branch Liaison Officer, he was also expected to act as our link with the membership organisation, smoothing ruffled feathers and preparing documentation for many of our events. Andrew King has maintained progress on our membership system and has implemented many controls that will improve our contact with the membership at large. Joyce Galley has produced minutes with great skill and tenacity. Jeremy Kay has worked wonders with the Bulletin in very difficult conditions as deadlines come and go and last minute changes are tossed at him like confetti. Busty has run the Hot-Line, as well as funded it, in his own inimitable style. Changes may be necessary or desirable, but at least he has maintained this service for us in often barren times, when no-one put in any details. It is the sort of service that requires YOUR input to make it successful.

As acting chairman (with a small 'c') and administrative Chairman, I have attempted to de-personalise a position which has often been criticised for its heavy handed approach to the everyday running of our organisation. Until such time as a 'proper' Chairman is elected, the council has been selecting a chair operating on a meeting by meeting basis. On the whole I think this has been fairly successful. If we find it doesn't work, then we can always change it back, or come up with a different system. If we can sublimate our egos into a force for the greater good of the membership then we will have succeeded in setting an example many would do well to emulate.

I hope that the forthcoming year will be one in which continuing progress is made into the investigations of the phenomenon. The one thing we have never been able to predict is the way in which the phenomenon continues to throw us a curve at least once every season. The Snowflake video, The Mandelbrot, The Barbury Castle Mandala and the so-called Julia Sets. I wonder what this year's revelation will be. Whatever it is, it will make our own political posturing seem very small beer by comparison. Unless we wish to join the dinosaur in history, our organisation must continue to develop and grow taking on board all the challenges, changes and nuances that the phenomenon tosses our way as well as the advances in technology that science offers us into researching the evidence in the field and the vast knowledge lurking amongst the masses of evidence already collected in our archive.

Much of what I saw at the scene of my first crop circle meant little until one or two more seasons research and a review of the photographic evidence I had collected, began to suggest avenues of thought and threads of evidence to which I could cling at times of doubt. I think we have all seen those who are over protective of their own particular theory, paint themselves into an inextricable corner from which they seldom emerge, and generally then only as confirmed sceptics who seem solely interested in besmirching those who have held the faith and continue in their more open minded search for the answer to the conundrum of the circles.

*The text of a message I took to the AGM, 'just in case', but due to pressure of business, I never got an opportunity to inflict it upon the audience, however in the continuing traditions of the CCCS, I enclose it in the next available issue.*

The new technology of the Internet with its Emails and fax facilities offers us a means of propagating and promoting our research in a far more efficient manner and in a way which can project our organisation to all corners of the globe, and maybe to all corners of the universe for all we know. Perhaps this multidimensional media has more depth than we appreciate and perhaps more than we can ever know. It is a media that we must explore as it will enable some of our foreign membership a greater opportunity to take part in our council deliberations as well as being able to access our resources in a much more user friendly fashion. Council will be exploring the possibility of encouraging input at meetings from our foreign representatives who have to battle against the vagaries of the postal system at present, but video conferencing and the Internet may present opportunities for greater participation for regional representatives from overseas branches to participate in our deliberations.

There have been many calls for our archive to be put on the Internet, but we still have a long way to go in this endeavour and will still have many hurdles to climb before we can carry out this project. Not least of these tasks is the economic one. Such sites cost money to set up and run. They have to be funded from somewhere, we simply cannot impose on the goodwill of a site 'owner' and in a hard-nosed real world scenario we would need to create a rolling fund to finance such a web-site. Yes it is a good idea, and yes we are looking at various ways in which we can deal with this thorny question. YOUR subscriptions helped us to set up our archive and the administration of it must be to YOUR benefit and not incur debts or expense beyond our means to subsidise. Unfortunately the CCCS had fallen on bad times, the kitty had become somewhat depleted supporting a number of projects beyond its means.

Subscriptions are a form of contract with members to supply them with four issues of the magazine. It therefore follows that enough money to finance those issues should be held in reserve at all times, in order to provide a viable organisation. Procedures set up in the heady days of a thousand or more members invited extravagant expenditure that failed to take note of a declining income. It has been our unhappy task to pull in the red carpet, tighten the organisational belt and prune out any unnecessary expense back to the bone, indeed back to the marrow where we can get away with it. In this we have been very successful and we are well on our way to providing a sound financial footing from which we can once again venture forth into the world of Conferences and Scientific Research. We have been able to set up a strong contact with Manchester University where the Director of Biological Sciences will be willing to carry out research into the characteristics of plant stem bending. A large Agricultural Research establishment may also be involved in this work if the findings continue to be as interesting as first indications suggest. There is no doubt that funding might be available from private sources, in order to support a scientific

study into plant technology, particularly when the work of the BLT Team becomes more widely recognised.

Much of the more esoteric research is very often of an unquantifiable nature, often subjective, carried out by earnest researchers who make quantum leaps that the uninitiated find hard to follow. These researchers must always remember to paint word maps of their route and background, otherwise their work will never achieve the rewards and recognition it may well deserve. Bear in mind that your followers may well have difficulty in keeping up and if they have to make a 'quantum' leap to understand your present point of view, your work could founder in a quagmire of unproved and unsubstantiated hypotheses. I have seen and heard prominent researchers in the field denying the efficiency and efficacy of the EVM and similar gizmos and I can sympathise with the difficulties this type of 'black-box' technology must engender in those of a low-tech approach. I think the hi-technocrats probably feel the same about those who wield their sawn-off double-barrelled coat hangers with such aplomb whilst conversing about the 'etheric' qualities of Michael & Mary, or the relative merits of the 'Hartmann' or 'Curry' Grids. Hopefully the CCCS is a safe haven to all aspects of the phenomenon, and all facets of human nature. Each of us in our own way may hold a single, simple clue to the whole, and unless we are allowed to carry out and publish our work, how can we possibly present that morsel of gold to the eventual goulash of truth? It is quite likely that we have all come in contact with the answer to the enigma, but have failed, or perhaps even chosen not to, recognise it for what it was.

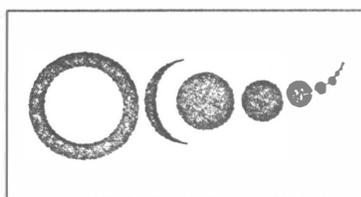
The new constitution has offered an opportunity for greater branch participation in the administration of the CCCS and I hope more of the branch convenors will make an effort to participate in this activity that can only be of benefit to us all. If we can proceed to focus all of our energies on solving the enigma without having to watch our backs, or worry about the agenda of others then we should be able to achieve great things. I have been told that some people are trying to jostle for position to be the first to solve the phenomenon as a means to preserve their place in history. I don't think that this is the way in which a solution will be found. My own experience is that like the blind men and the elephant, many of us hold individual clues and it is only by putting all these clues together that we shall come close to a solution. I know from my own experience that much of what we see in the fields is subjective and personal to the individual observer. I know how difficult it can be to relate some of these controversial and exotic events, indeed if I were to relate some of mine, I would most likely get locked up for my own safety and the sanity of others. I only ask that everybody be cautious in their interpretation of the latest piece of information. It is as bad to be a confirmed sceptic as it is to be an avid believer in every aspect of 'circle lore'. Whilst we have members at both ends of this spectrum, most of us fall in between these polarised points of view and are much more open to aspects for or against the various theories that rise and fall with monotonous regularity within the confines of our field of research. I often cringe when I hear someone propounding a new theory, or suggesting that an event is genuine and then basing their whole theory on this premise. How will they extricate themselves creditably when a hoaxer claims it as his own work? In that regard, whilst I try to refrain from categorising any circle as a fake or not, I hear voices asking that CCCS pronounce upon the genuineness or otherwise of the 1996 events. What fools we would be if we did and then the Wessex Sceptics, or whoever, leap from cover with a video of themselves making it. I am aware that some of the crop formations we see are probably hoaxes, at least in my estimation, but what is a 'hoax', and what drives hoaxers to expend so much time and energy on their 'hobby'? Are they really in control of their actions, or are they merely the well trained and

orchestrated puppets of the 'Circle Makers'? Even if you accepted that every crop formation for the last seven years was a hoax, you have to ask yourself where did the first one come from for the hoaxers to copy? There is certainly a very worthwhile line of research here that would amply repay the time and effort of a serious researcher. If you accept that no formation is a hoax, then you have to ask yourself just what do these 'so-called' hoaxers actually achieve by claiming as 'theirs' the work of some super being and what karma are they accruing for the grand reckoning in that great circle in the sky?

Perhaps like me, you belong to the middle ground, adult enough to accept those events you are happy with and cautious enough to set aside those you are instinctively 'unhappy' with. I do get material sent to me as editor that I do not print in the magazine. It doesn't go in the bin, it merely percolates and gravitates to the safe recesses of the bottom of my material barrel where it will fester until I hand it over to the next editor who may well leap on it with glee and wonder at my hesitation.

Without sounding too parochial, we must question why so many 'mile-stone' events occur in England first, only to appear later, often in a cruder form in some foreign field far away. What is it about the English landscape that engenders these glyphs? If they are a natural phenomenon, why haven't we seen them before? If they are a new natural phenomenon - why now? If they are a communication - What does it mean? Why should it mean anything? What might it portend? Who, or what, is sending it? Again an opportunity for research in the archive and in the field for some aspiring researcher looking for a subject to pursue. Many of you are already asking these questions, many of which are rhetorical, but I think it does all of us a great deal of good to go back to our roots and review our progress. You will be surprised how much you missed the first time!

On a more positive note I think it is fair to say that we have never been so close to a solution and have never had so many avenues of productive research open to us. The forge of adversity has filtered out much of the dross and the refining process is coming to a point at which we can test the metal of many of the lines of research on the anvil of reality. The malleability of our phenomenon is going to be tested by the hammer of scepticism. It will be a time for reassessing our values and for possibly rethinking our view of the physical world that may even question

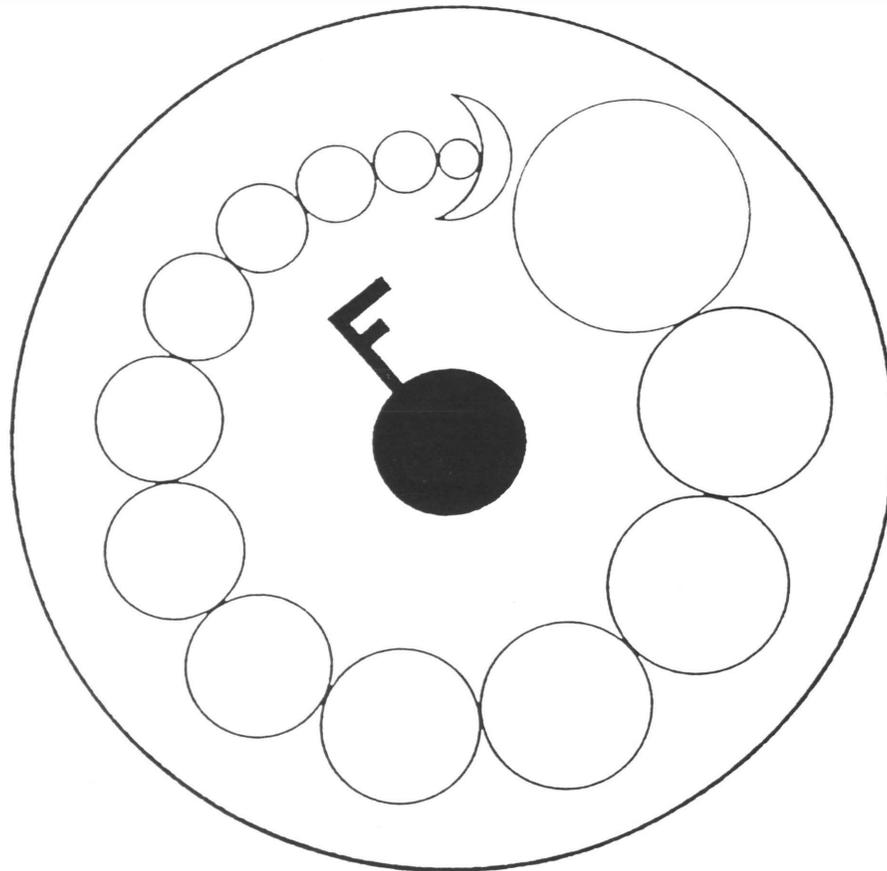


the laws of nature that have governed and channelled our outlook for so long. I hope we will  $\pi!$  be man, or woman, enough for the job. We may well still have a testing time ahead of us as some theories and 'facts' are found wanting or flawed, but it will be a renewal of faith in the phenomenon reinforced by the Circle-

Makers' activities in our fields during the coming year. If what we have seen in the fields so far this year is any indication, then we are in for a real treat. Certainly sufficient cause for celebration and an indication to all of us as to why we are here and what it is that we should be focusing our energies on. I think the primary challenge for the CCCS is the dissemination of information to all who seek it.

Just in case there are those who think I am being a little ambivalent and in my role as 'Devil's Advocate', prone to dissembling, I am more than happy to state my position. Yes! I do believe in Crop Circles and I do believe in the CCCS. Despite, or perhaps because of, the flaws in some aspects of both, I enjoy the challenge that each offers to anyone with a genuine interest in the well-being and future of the phenomenon and our organisation and I hope you will continue to support the Centre for Crop Circle Studies and play your part as it meets the challenges and excitements of all our tomorrows.

George Bishop



**“Let Us Remember Dragons”**  
**A Meteorological Connection**  
**In Crop Circles**

By

Ed Sherwood

# “Let Us Remember Dragons”

## A Meteorological Connection In Crop Circles

By Ed Sherwood

**“Once man and Dragons walked high,  
And the Earth was in harmony as one.  
Dragons watched when time was born out of fire and darkness,  
Dragons live forever men do not.  
There was a time when Dragons fire kindled the hearts of men,  
Uplifted to greet the worlds morning.  
Was to glimpse the mystery and those blessed by Dragons gaze,  
Lost for all time their fear of the dark.”**

Quoted exactly from the mysterious ‘Messages’ received by researchers at the  
‘White Crow’ Crop Circle Surveillance Operation, in June 1989.

### TO ‘SEE’ A DRAGON

During the early 1980s a theory emerged offering a completely natural explanation for the origin of many crop circles. It is called the ‘Plasma Vortex Theory’ and its main proponent was Professor Terence Meaden: a meteorologist.

According to Professor Meaden, a genuine crop circle is the effect of a “descending energetic vortex from the atmosphere, a vortex of air which is ionised to the point at which it is better regarded as a species of low-density cool plasma, producing a high-energy electromagnetic field.”

The Plasma Vortex Theory describes how a rotating mass of electrically charged air (reported as a UFO) might form from certain weather conditions and topographical features in the landscape. (See ‘References’)

Many people, including myself, have experienced UFOs associated with crop circles. Of the 56 that I saw between 1992 and 1996 while living within three miles of East Field (one of England’s most prodigious crop circle sites), 31 looked ‘plasma-like’: luminous, diffusely edged ‘fire balls’ that materialised in a variety of colours, though most often **amber**, or ‘Golden’, and/or **red**; and 29 of those occurred in the same weather conditions, characterised by calm stable air, high pressure, high humidity, and low to no wind speed.

While not supporting the idea that crop circles are created by weather, it can be observed that the physics of meteorology plays an important part in the formative process of many crop circles, including ‘Pictograms’.

### UPON THE ‘LEY’ OF THE LAND

Looking strangely ‘Hieroglyphic’, the East Field crop circle pictogram appeared during the pre-dawn hours of July 11th 1990 near the villages of Alton Priors and Alton Barnes, in Wiltshire, England. (Fig.1)

It was the longest and most complex formation to have appeared up to that time, the first to involve ‘claw-like’ and ‘foot-like’ design features and to include a double ‘dumb-bell’. It was also the first ‘Crop Circle’ to manifest in East Field, belonging to farmer and resident of Alton Barnes, Tim Carson. Apart from its unique design and massive size (measured at 405 feet long), there was evidence of : 90 degree plant stem bending (in this case wheat) without a break or crease: ‘Gap Seeking’, a physical effect on ‘downed’ plant flow when crossing or approaching

tractor lines: repeated electrical equipment malfunctioning when inside the pictogram, as experienced by national and international television crews within days of its forming; and ‘Tangential Geometry’ giving a precise alignment and spacing of design elements.

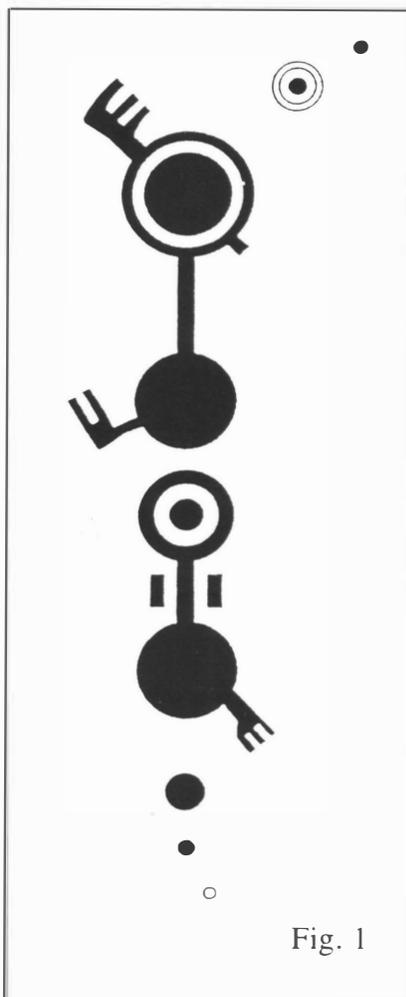


Fig. 1

meteorological symbols soon took on other meanings.

### DRAGON’S PLAY

Naturally curious about the symbols and their possible meaning, I tried to ‘read’ them soon after the formation appeared. Nine months later a spark of inspiration lead to a startling discovery:

The pictogram symbolised a **forecast** of the prevailing weather over East Field, before and after the crop circle event. This was represented by the double dumb-bell, and International Meteorological Symbols depicting the very ‘ideal’ plasma forming weather conditions that occurred during the 10th and 11th of July 1990. The formation confirmed and challenged the role of meteorology in crop circle physics. (Fig.2)

To be sure, I checked the symbols and orientation of the pictogram against national weather forecasts published in *The Guardian* newspaper, and hourly print outs from the ‘Met’ station at RAF Lyneham, approximately 11 miles North/North East of East Field. The results of this inquiry completely verified its ‘Meteorological Message’, and that was not all. If viewed metaphorically, and in an ancient cultural context (i.e. Chinese, Japanese, Egyptian, and Greek), the

### WHERE THERE IS WIND AND WATER

Water, important in meteorology, has long been recognised as an element of the crop circle phenomenon, and perhaps not surprisingly, can be ‘seen’ in the design of some notable formations.

The symbol used by meteorologists to represent wind force and direction is known as a ‘**Wind Feather**’. (Fig.4) As a symbol it is reflected in many formations, and has helped in reading them. A perfect example was the pictogram that formed at the Neolithic site of Old Sarum in 1992, that incorporated wind feather symbols to create a pair of metaphorical ‘wings’ and a ‘tail’ to what I suspect to be a symbolised ‘Crow’ or ‘Raven’. (Fig.4)

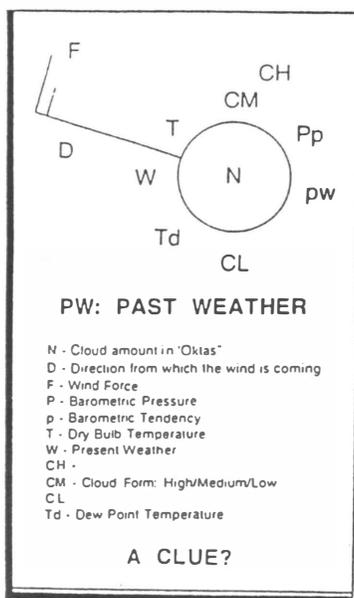
# THE DRAGON'S FORECAST:

A CROP CIRCLE "PICTOGRAM" DEPICTING INTERNATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SYMBOLS AND EAST FIELD WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR JULY 10/11 1990

Crop Circle  
Location:  
East Field, Alton Priors  
Wiltshire, England

WIND SPEED  
DIRECTION

WEATHER  
STATION MODEL



Distortion  
due to "Gap  
Seeking".

MAGNETIC  
NORTH

STRATUS  
OR FRACTO-  
STRATUS  
CLOUD OF  
GOOD  
WEATHER

Formation  
discovered:  
11-7-90

METEOROLOGICAL  
SYMBOLS

CLOUD  
RAIN

CALM:  
HIGH  
PRESSURE

MIST: HIGH HUMIDITY

CLOUD/RAIN

CLOUDLESS

Fig. 2

With its 'head' and 'beak' pointing directly at Old Sarum, its central axis reflects an alignment between that site and Stonehenge, represented by the ringed circle.

Old Sarum and Stonehenge are exactly six miles apart "as the crow flies", when measured from the centre of each site. The pictogram shows six circle areas of what was flattened crop.

Throughout the ancient world the Raven and Crow were thought to be the confidants and messengers of the 'Gods', possessing the power of prophesy. To the Greeks and Romans the Crow was a 'weather prophet'. In the British Isles the Raven was considered to be an oracle. In Ireland the phrase 'a ravens knowledge' means to see and know all.

Considering this, could the pictogram be saying: "This is a metaphorical message from the 'Source' (also represented by the ringed circle), once revered at ancient sacred sites, from which and to which the 'messenger' of the Gods flies?" (i.e.: along 'Ley-lines') Hmm.

Incredibly, the windy Giza Plateau also received a crop circle formation in 1992, incorporating a wind feather in its design. (Fig.5)

## RAIN (WATER) SYMBOLS

● ●	1989 Longwood Warren ENGLAND	● ● ● ●	1991 Gloucestershire ENGLAND
	Moderate Intermittant Rain		Heavy Continuous Rain
● ● ● ●	1988 Cornhampton ENGLAND	‘	1989 Winchester ENGLAND
	Moderate Continuous Rain		Drizzle

Fig. 3

## LOOK TO THE EAST

Exploring 'Eastern Traditions' in folklore, legends, earth sciences, and religion provides many clues to understanding the crop circle phenomenon, especially in terms of its implied physics and metaphysics.

In China where the ancient science of 'Feng-Shui' (translated: 'Wind' and 'Water'), or 'Geomancy' has been practised for over

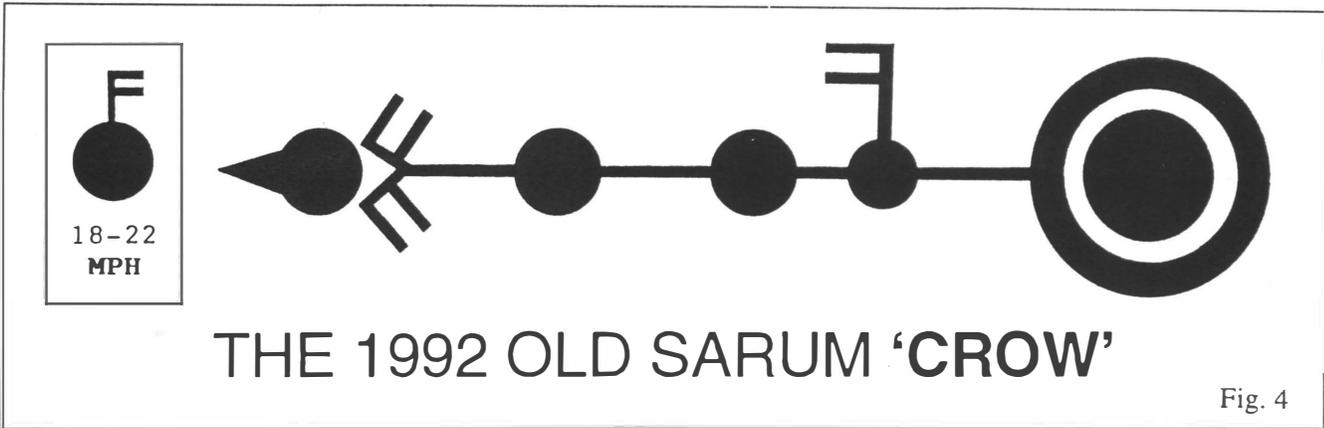


Fig. 4

2000 years, the Chinese have long held the idea that the Earth, like the human body, is covered by a matrix of invisible lines of subtle magnetic force, referred to as 'Lung Mei' translated 'Dragon Paths'.

In England Lung Mei correspond to 'Ley-lines', and references to them have appeared in the design, geometry, orientation, and location of many formations, including several pictograms from East Field. (Fig.6)

Taking each in turn:

The major axis of the 1990 pictogram was aligned to **Magnetic North**, the primary 'Geomantic' compass bearing. It was also crossed by several Lung Mei, and with its wind feathers 'doubling' as symbolic legs, feet, and claws, the pictogram even takes on the appearance of a symbolised Dragon, traversing its path across the land.

In 1992 the symbol of a 'Snail' formed. I later learned that scientists have found that snails perceive extremely weak magnetic fields (Lung Mei) by which they navigate. Also, in old England a snail was called a 'Dodman', which could mean: 'an ancient surveyor of the landscape, a term given to ancient 'geomancers'.

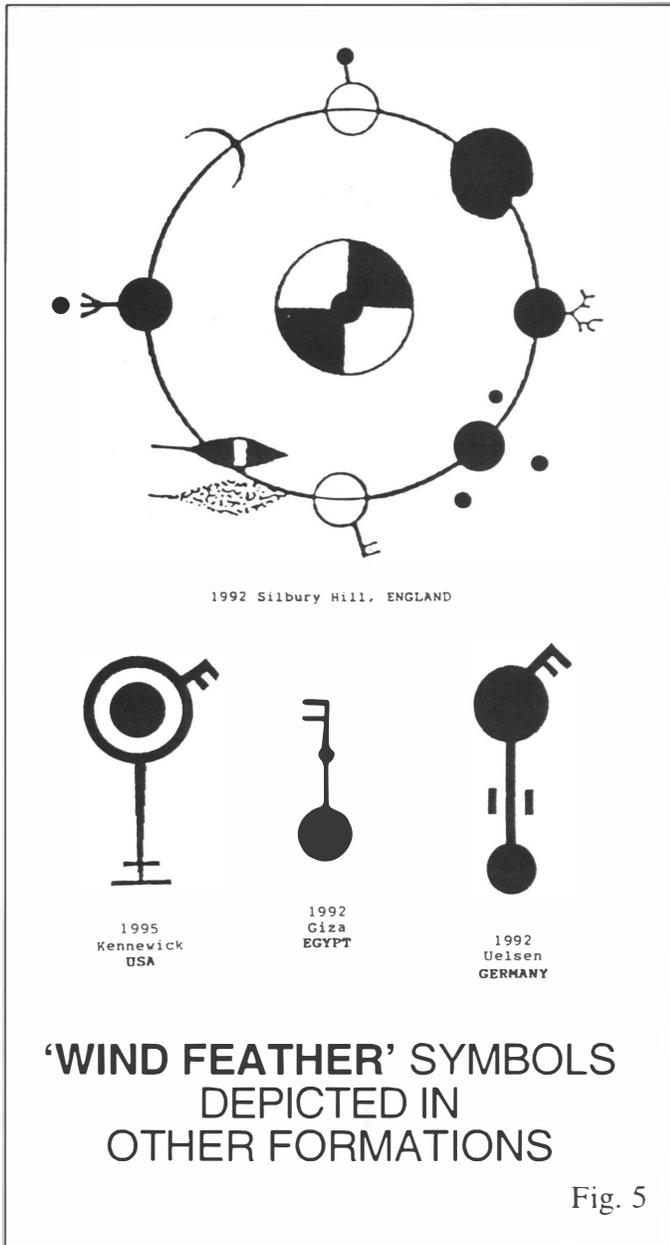


Fig. 5

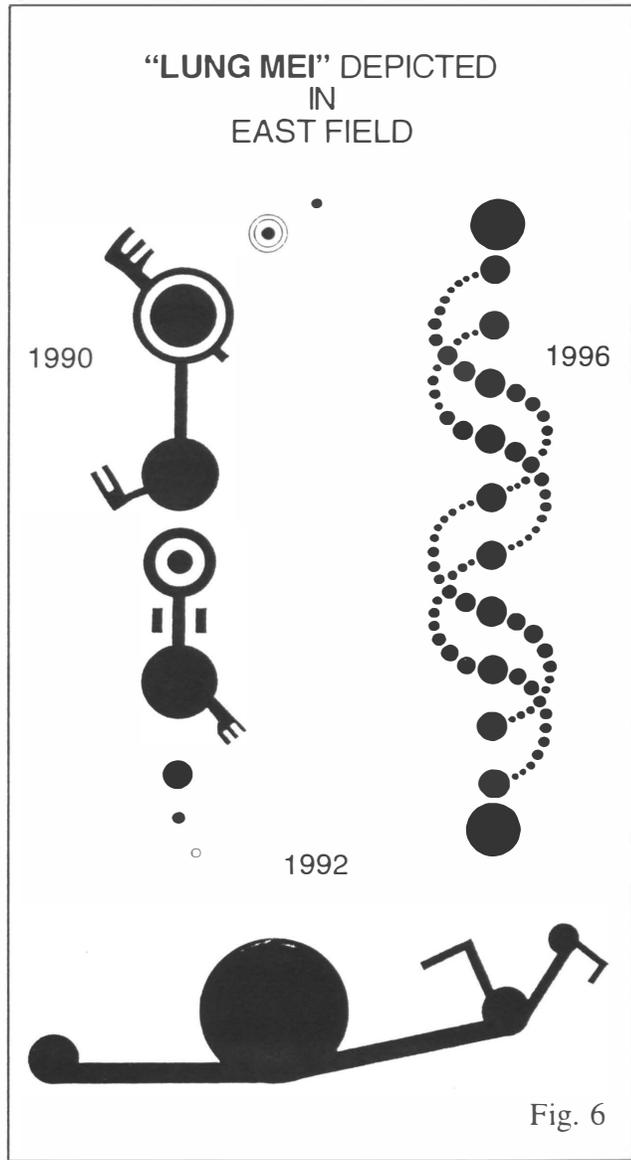


Fig. 6

And in 1996 a spectacular formation 'mirrored', amongst other things. Lung Mei, by symbolising and combining the path of a 'Serpent', historically interchangeable with Dragon, and the

## DRAGON'S SONG

There have been reports of inaudible and audible sounds emanating from the centre of some crop circles, or from their vicinity.

On July 29th 1990, at approximately 12pm, at a formation directly opposite the East Field pictogram, a pulsing whining sound issued from the centre of the largest of three circles. (Fig. 7) Although clearly recorded on audio tape at the time as a distinct sound, it was otherwise inaudible to the three witnesses present: Rita Gould, Vince Palmer, and myself.

Another sound, this time audible, is known as the 'Trilling

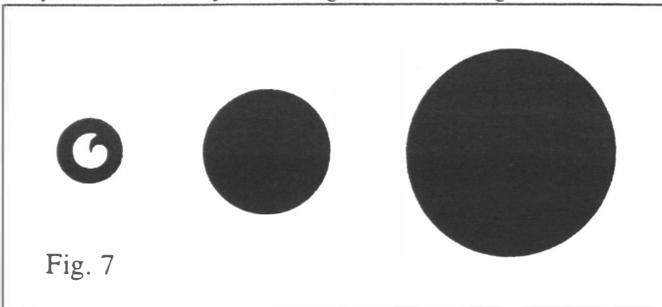
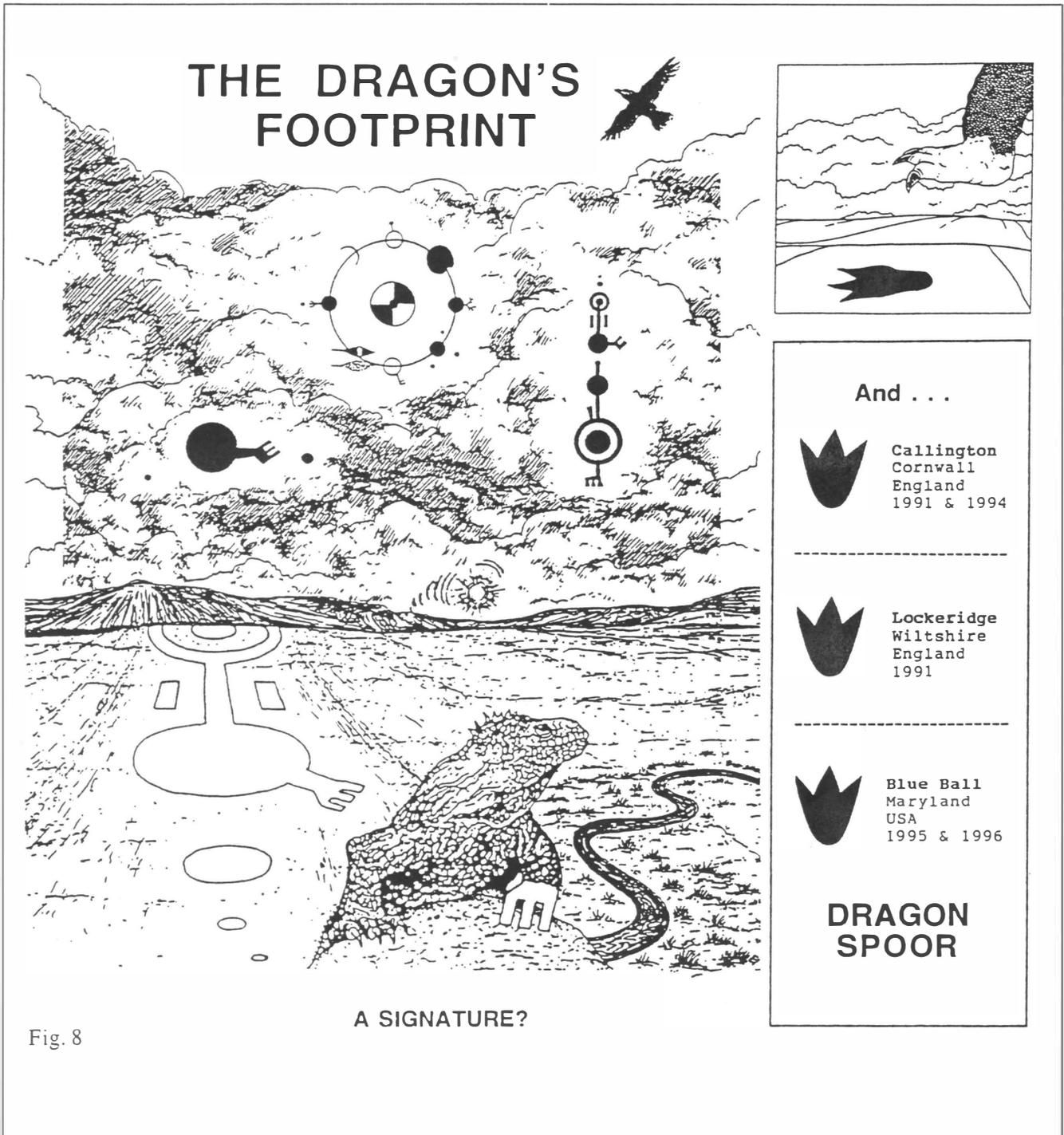


Fig. 7



A SIGNATURE?

Fig. 8

path of two snails. As John Haddington stated in 1992 (See 'References', including Dodman). Latin for snail is 'Helix nemoralix', or in the case of two snails: a 'Double Helix'!

Sound', or "electronic sparrow", as Colin Andrews once aptly called it. Measured at 5.2KH, it is a sound that seems 'localised', from a distance, and 'all encompassing' when very close. I have experienced it three times to date.

And . . .



Callington  
Cornwall  
England  
1991 & 1994



Lockeridge  
Wiltshire  
England  
1991



Blue Ball  
Maryland  
USA  
1995 & 1996

**DRAGON  
SPOOR**

On a 'resonant' note a striking correlation exists in an old Chinese tale: 'Yui Yi & The Dragon King'. as it describes Dragons in human form in the process of changing back to Dragons: "All around them, the sudden chattering of the courtiers rose like the twittering and trilling of thousands of birds, like the liquid songs of flutes or the chiming of bells. In the pearly light, the courtiers' shapes seemed to dissolve and form again and again, as if the atoms of creation were dancing."

## SIGNATURES ON THE LAND

Dragon's feet have appeared in a number of impressive formations since East Field, 1990. They include: **Milk Hill** (Left), on the following night; **East Kennett** (Right), just over two weeks later, and **Silbury Hill** (Centre), on August 18th 1992. (Fig.8)

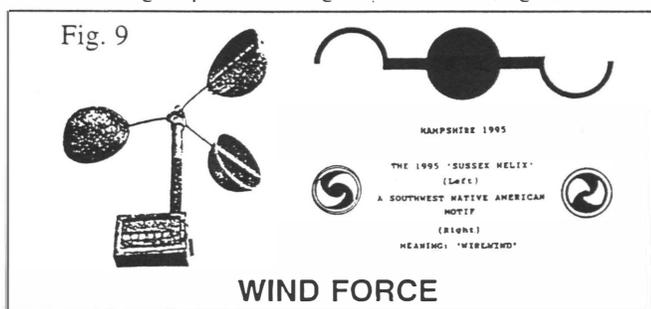
In each case the 'foot' was symbolised with three 'claws', which could be a reference to 'Tatsu', a Dragon in Japanese folklore identified by three claws (unlike Chinese Dragons that have either four or five) on each foot. This Dragon was thought to be capable of changing form and size at will, even to the point of invisibility. Interestingly, Japan was the only country in the Orient to report crop circles in 1990, the same year that Dragon's feet first entered crop circle design.

Another twist to this very 'Holographic' phenomenon are 'Dragon's footprints', a term given to areas of irregularly flattened crop, resembling 'elemental' footprints (Fig.8, 'Dragons Spoor'), that sometimes precede or accompany a crop circle event, and display biophysical anomalies characteristic of non-man-made formations. (See 'References')

## A SIGN FROM THE GODS

'**Dragon Lane**' is the road sign name for a narrow village road built on a prominent Ley-line leading both to an ancient sacred site called 'Swanborough Tump' and a field a little way beyond that known for its crop circles and references to Lung Mei. (Fig.6) Yes, we return to East Field and another 'Sign' of the Dragon.

To the ancient Chinese, and Japanese, Dragons were '**weather lords**' masters of the wind with control over water. Their flight was the wind; their breath, the mists and rain. Thought to be spirits that spiralled the sky and blew the clouds along, resting in regions beyond the bounds of air, they were ordinarily seen as the ever changing patterns of the weather. As great clouds, storms, wind squalls and **whirlwinds**, they left their mark on land, flattening crops and causing rivers to flood. (Fig.9)



Eastern Dragons were said to be as fluid as the elements, and **water** was their place of residence. I learned from Gerald Hawkins last year that 'Alton' as in Alton Barnes and Alton Priors is an old English word meaning "source of a river", and that the source of the Avon (a river that flows within a mile of Stonehenge) begins at the foot of East Field.

Many crop circle formations have appeared in close proximity to water, either or both above and below ground sources. There is even evidence of a phenomenon very similar to crop circles

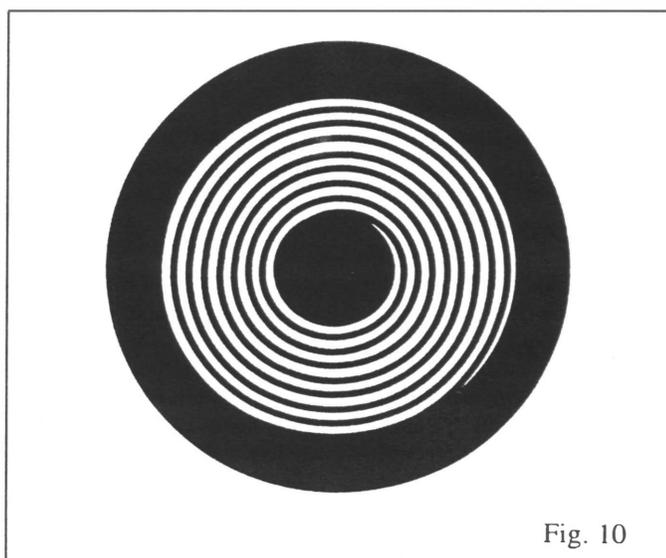
having occurred in the sea! (See 'References') Also, water has been a reoccurring theme reflected in crop circle design symbolism since 1988. Other examples include: Stonehenge 1997; Liddington Castle 1996; Stockbridge Down 1995; Oliver's Castle 1994; Cherhill 1993; Silbury Hill 1992; Firs Farm 1991 and East Field 1990. Like a stream of clear consciousness **water** (amongst other things) is reflected again and again, as a key element of the crop circle making process. Another sign?

Chinese folklore says "If Dragon fire comes into contact with wetness it **flames**, and if it meets water it **burns**". In the damp Wiltshire valley known as the 'Vale of Pewsey' anomalous light forms are not uncommon. Of those that I have seen, from distances of several miles to a few hundred feet away, more than half were best described as: 'Plasma Balls'; 'Plasma Vortices'; 'Earth-lights'; 'Amber Gamblers'; 'Fire Balls'; and 'Dragon's Fire'. (See 'References')

Dr. W. C. Levensgood, a noted biophysicist and expert in crop circle plant analysis, had this to say about plants sampled from the 1996 Laguna Canyon crop circle formation: "As we have seen in the past, this degree of change in the cell wall pit diameters indicates the plants were exposed to a very rapid, high heat input." Signs of internal heating have appeared in other ways too, such as stem node swelling, splitting, and expulsion cavities. These effects have occurred in the stem node areas where water is most concentrated. (See 'References')

On 8/9th August 1986 in a mountainous part of Yamagata Province, Japan, a single crop circle appeared in a rice paddy. That night a 'bright orange light' was seen in the vicinity, severe television interference was experienced at a nearby house, and approximately 20 tons of water vanished from the field.

At another formation that appeared on 18th August 1992 near Silbury Hill, in Wiltshire, a metal **water trough** became an incorporated design feature in one of the most beautiful pictograms to grace the English countryside to date. Clearly underscoring the **importance** of water the trough had also been partly emptied by the event. (Fig.5/8)



Apart from the Silbury Hill formation referencing water it also consisted of **nine** different design symbols: eight joined by a narrow ring and one in the centre. In the monumental Chinese Medical treatises the 'Pan Ts'ao Kang Mu', compiled at the end of the 16th century, and the 'Nine Dragon Scroll' of mid-13th Century, there were said to be Nine Dragons revered in China. One of the Nine Dragons, '**The Golden Dragon**' or '**Cosmic Dragon**' was given greater importance than his fellow kinsfolk. Said to be the colour of the Sun, like an Amber Gambler I

suspect, this Dragon was described as an elusive, enigmatic, august and solitary creature that disdained display. Scholars wrote: "He can be large or small, short or long, obscure or manifest, alive or dead. The King cannot drain his pool or catch him (like we cannot 'catch' the genuine 'Circle-makers'). His intelligence and virtue are unfathomable. He does not go in company or live in herds. He waits for the wind and rain and departs himself in the azure air. He wanders in the wilds among the heavens. He comes and goes, and at the proper season (Summer!), if there is **perfection**, he comes forth, if not, he remains unseen". (See 'References')

The Golden Dragon also appears in ancient Egypt. The first religion of Egypt was based on '**Nine Creation Gods**', and like the Nine Dragons of China, one was deified more than any other. Named '**Atum**', he represented 'The Emissary' of the Nine Gods: the 'Messenger of Messengers' who in one act of divine 'communication' was said to have *given birth* to the fundamental forces of the Universe, symbolised by the Nine Gods. He is depicted in sculpture as **The Great Sphinx** at Giza. Did we not receive a sign at Giza in 1992 in the form of a crop circle pictogram? (Fig.5)

Atum, The Golden Dragon, has also been known by other names including: 'Re-Harakhti' ('**Re**' pronounced *ray*) was the Egyptian Sun-god, Herenkar, Harmarkos, Tehuti, and the name for the 'Spokesman' of the 'Council of Nine' in more recent times: **Tom**. (See 'References'\*)

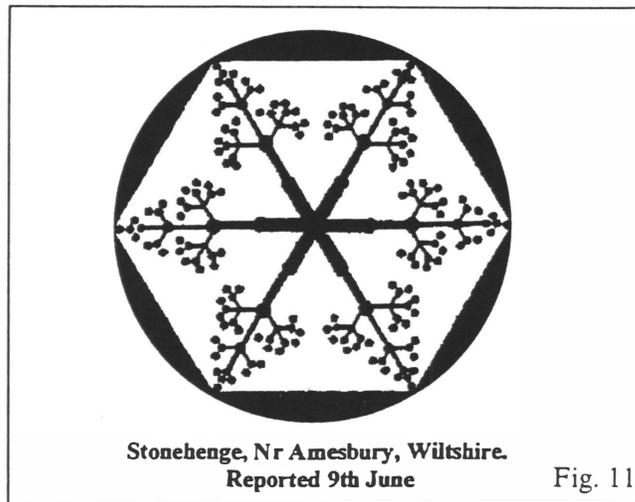
Discovered by Vince Palmer on 30th July, and in keeping with one of the central concerns of Tom, and 'The Nine', a 30 foot circle appeared in a wheat field at a village called **Palistine** in 1990, situated only a few miles from Stonehenge. In 1995, the largest and finest to date nine ringed spiral design formed in young barley, its location near Beckhampton, in Wiltshire, closely corresponding to the 'Earth Analogue Site' of the 'Face on Mars', also known as the '**Martian Sphinx**'. (See 'References') With its location referencing Atum, and its design, The Council of Nine, the Knoll Down formation was simplicity itself. (Fig.10). From the 'Dragon's Forecast' of 1990 to the '**Gaia Mind**' formation of 1997 (Fig.11) are many non-man-made pictograms reflecting 'Nine' and 'Dragons' in their design symbolism. (Fig.11)

### **LIKE A HOLOGRAM**

Formations like the East Field pictogram of 1990 (and many more not included in this article) are, in my view, created from the **Psycho-kinetic Energy** of our own **Collective Mind**, in conjunction with natural forces and processes of the Earth and Cosmos. What I understand to be the '**Infinite Intelligence**' (symbolised by Nine Dragons, or Nine Gods) does not exist outside **creation**, but lives and manifests through us, and every living thing, everywhere, always. In 1952, via the Collective Mind of Dr Vinod (See 'References'\*\*) the 'Spokesman' had this to say about their reality: "**We are Nine Principles and Forces, Personalities if you will, working in complete mutual implication. We are forces, and the nature of our work is to accentuate the positive, the evolutionary, and the teleological aspects of existence.**" The Spokesman continued: "**To be simple, we accentuate certain directions as will fulfil the destiny of creation.**"

As we approach a New Millennium the '**Signs**' of a world in transition are before us, like a 'Course in Miracles' from humanity's 'Higher Self', they reflect the language of literal and metaphorical symbolism, and a lesson for us all: While every thought, and every intention, every feeling and act of giving attention has an 'effect' in a **Psycho-kinetic Universe**, let us remember the power of prayer and meditation. "Let Us Remember Dragons".

*The Circular* - Issue Number 29 (Summer 1997)



Stonehenge, Nr Amesbury, Wiltshire.  
Reported 9th June

Fig. 11

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**DIAGRAM CREDITS:**

**Fig. 5** Silbury Hill Pictogram 1992. John Martineau.

**Fig. 6** 'Double Helix' 1996. Peter Sorenson.

**Fig. 8** Milk Hill & East Kennett Pictogram 1990. Wolfgang Schindler.

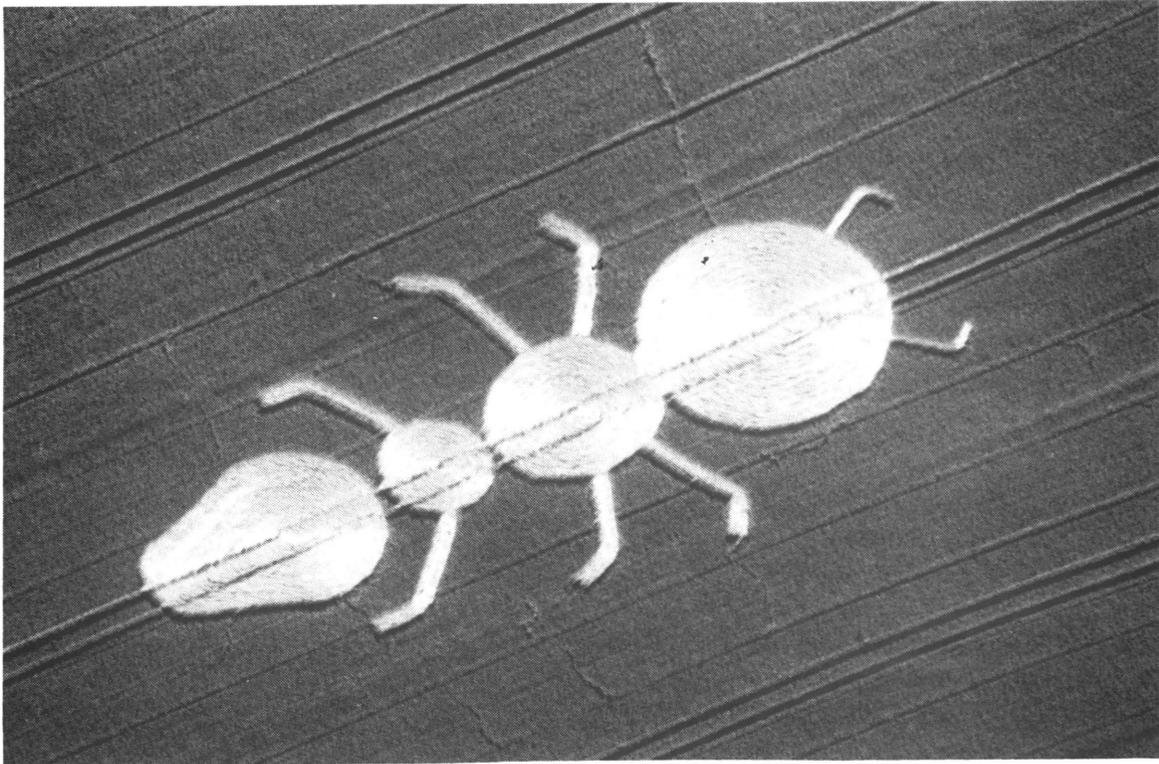
**Fig. 10** 'Nine Ringed Spiral' 1995. Peter Sorenson.

**Fig. 11** Stonehenge 1997. Peter Sorenson.

**Fig. 12** 'Double Helix', 'Julia Set' & Windmill Hill Pictogram 1996. Peter Sorenson.

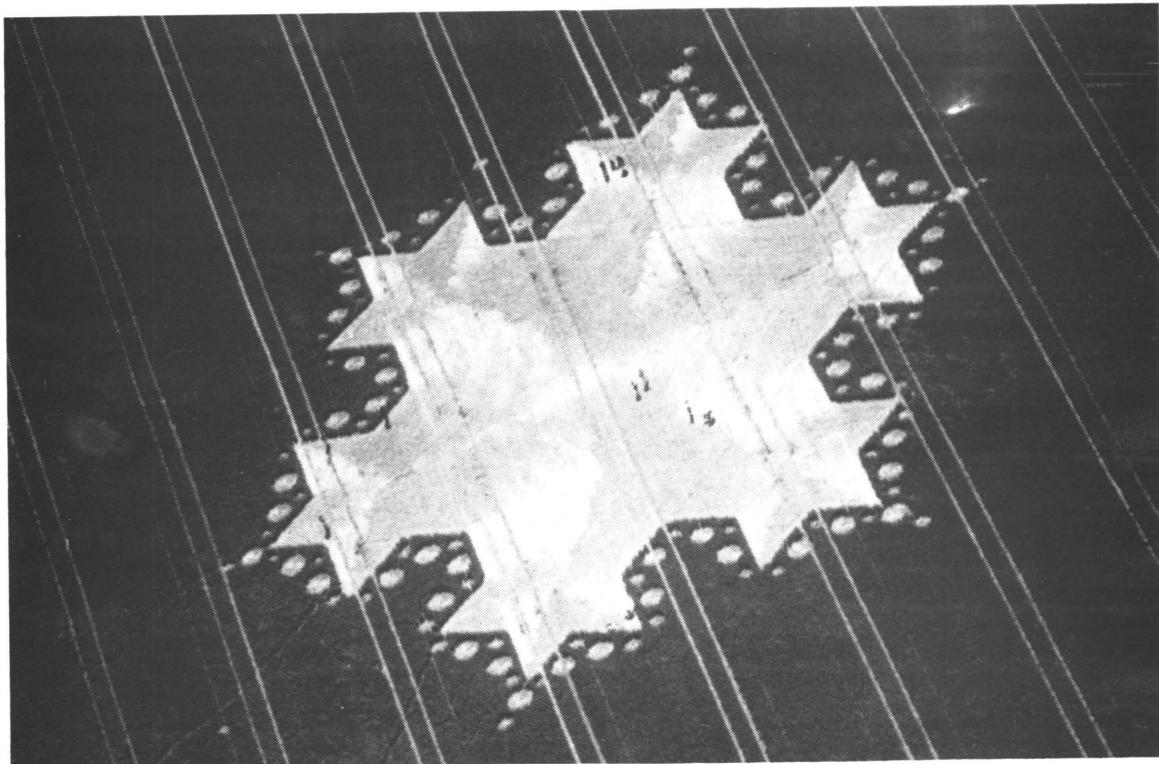
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East Meon, Hants. August 1997

© Lucy Pringle



Silbury, Wilts. August 1997

© Lucy Pringle

# DISCOLOURATION OF STEMS

Coats of Arms in the Landscape

by Lucy Pringle

After a cold start to 1997, the weather changed in April to almost summer-like conditions: the sun shone with newly washed brilliance lightening our hearts and awakening us to the reality of the new life thrusting itself to the surface in a joyous acclimation of continuity and immortality.

Oil-seed rape is a hollow stemmed and fragile crop, normally snapping if bent at an angle of 40 degrees or more. While visiting this formation I managed to take close up pictures of one of the many curved, unbroken stems bent at 90 degrees. This evidence always fills my heart with joy.



It is extremely hard if not impossible to bend this crop in a tightly curved manner without resulting damage. You will see from the aerial photograph that this formation is entirely curved.

I always enter formations with a completely open mind, looking for evidence for which I can find no logical explanation. Until I find this evidence I am not prepared to

recommend it as a genuine formation.

Barbury Castle April 1997

© Lucy Pringle

The first arrival was the scalloped crescented formation. The Flower of Life adorning the landscape like a coat of arms emblazoned in the startlingly rich yellow oil-seed rape.

It was clearly visible from the ancient iron age hill fort of Barbury Castle, towering majestically above and appeared on the night of 19/20 April. This is the earliest recorded formation to appear in oil-seed rape.

I visited it within 48 hours of its arrival to bury my bottles of water and despite many people having entered during that period, found many unbroken stems still 'popping' when trodden on.

The mathematical precision throughout was immense, the crescents spinning around at angles of 60 degrees, and the apex of the crescents



Fig. 2. Stalks immediately beyond the flattened crop showing discoloration marks from the base © Lucy Pringle

So where does one start to look for clues? It will vary according to the crop, its age and the period of time it has been already flattened.

Few people walk close to the perimeter of a formation and it is here that one finds the most revealing evidence. Oil seed rape being a fleshy, rather succulent crop, bruises easily and you will see tell-tale marks on the first row of standing crop if any mechanical instrument has been used. The use of an instrument will inevitably and unavoidably result in a 'rubbing' against the first row of crop.

I found little evidence of this beyond the normal effect left as the crop fell naturally



tapering to a single standing plant in every case  
fig. 3 Close up of stalks immediately on edge of flattened crop showing discoloration marks from base. © Lucy Pringle



**Fig.4. Close-up of standing crop outside formation, showing no discoloration. © Lucy Pringle**

However what was of tremendous interest was a discoloration at the base of the standing crop some 8-10 inches into the standing crop taken from the sharp cut-off point of the fallen crop. This brown discoloration extended approximately 6-8 inches up the stem of the crop. There was no roughening on the stems and the crop was undamaged. On close inspection the standing crop in the rest of the field outside the formation showed no evidence of any discoloration, the stalks being an unbroken and continuous green all the way up. You will also note that the leaves on the plants showing discoloration in Fig 1 and 2 are hanging limply, whereas the leaves on the crop outside the formation show no signs of wilting and are firm and erect.

We have often thought that there could be an 'over-spill' or 'heating' effect from the force that extended some way beyond

the flattened area. This effect has been scientifically confirmed by American biophysicist Dr Levengood and is very well demonstrated in an article by Nancy Talbott, titled 'Crop Formations : The Biophysical Perspective.' *The Circular*, Issue Number 28, Spring 1997, in which this effect is shown in seeds germinated from the 1996 Julia Set and extended area outside the formation .

It is unfortunate that it was not possible to make a thorough investigation of the 'Flower of Life' formation

and take the required number of samples recommended for strict scientific analysis.

However I believe this is the first time this effect has been photographically recorded using normal colour print film and it is hoped that my photographs may provide additional evidence of this 'spill-over' effect that although not strong enough to actually flatten the crop, still leaves its tell-tale traces.

Freddy Silva, a researcher from America who visits England each summer and who has been studying this phenomenon for many years, confirms these findings using infra-red photography. He has found that "the energy involved tends to bring out the watershed and renewed growth in the plants.

It appears every time I shoot genuine formations, the infra red picks up the acquired heat: this is not so with hoaxed formations."



**Formation at Oliver's Castle August 1997**

© Lucy Pringle

## CROP CIRCLE IN KENT, SUMMER 1918

By G T Meaden

I reproduce here the oldest anecdotal record of a crop-circle which has yet come to my attention by 'personal communication' having never before been put into writing. The information is contained in a letter and sketch map from Mrs Joan Tookey of Penenden Heath, Kent. She was aged 73 in August 1988 when she wrote to me. In a telephone interview she confirmed that 1918 was the correct year. Her father, James Lukehurst, born 1888, had been invalided out of the army a few months earlier. The grid reference of the circle site is TR 04-34..

*Having just read your letter in the London Daily Mail regarding mysterious circles which have flattened crops, perhaps you might be interested in a story which my father used to tell us. I was too young to have seen it myself as it happened just after the First World War in a tiny village bordering on the Romney Marsh called Bilsington, seven miles south of Ashford, Kent, and seven miles from Dymchurch.*

*My father had just returned from the war and was anxious to start a bit of farming, so his father allowed him to rent a few acres of ground just below the bridge which spans the Royal Military Canal (the first field on the left after the canal bridge when going south). I am not sure which kind of crop was sown there but it was either beans or oats. He took a great pride and interest in his first bit of ground, hoping to make a profit and kept a constant eye upon it to see how the crops were growing. All was going fine but one day to his amazement he found a huge circle of the crops completely flattened to the depth of a yard or so.*

*At first he was angry, thinking someone had been trespassing there or camping for the night. He suspected gypsies of course but even they do not enter a green field of crops. As he walked towards the damage, he was amazed to find the ground which was flattened was perfectly level and the circle as perfect as if it had been drawn with a compass. It covered a wide area, enough to hold a house, my father used to tell us. But what intrigued him the most was the fact that there were no marks of any kind leading up to the circle. The remainder of the field was completely intact. He had spent a long time fighting the Germans in France and was used to seeing bomb and shell damage but never anything like this. Of course, he immediately brought his father along to see it and many other local farmers who could do nothing but stare in amazement. Whatever the crop was on that occasion, it failed according to my father, although up to that point everything appeared to be doing well. Whenever I pass that field these days, I always glance at it with particular interest but my family think I am telling them a tall yarn when I speak of it today. However, there is one thing which I have noticed and that is that the field has always been a grazing field since that time.*

*My best wishes in your study of this fascinating subject and I only wish that my father were alive today to give you his eye witness account but it certainly made an impression on him.*

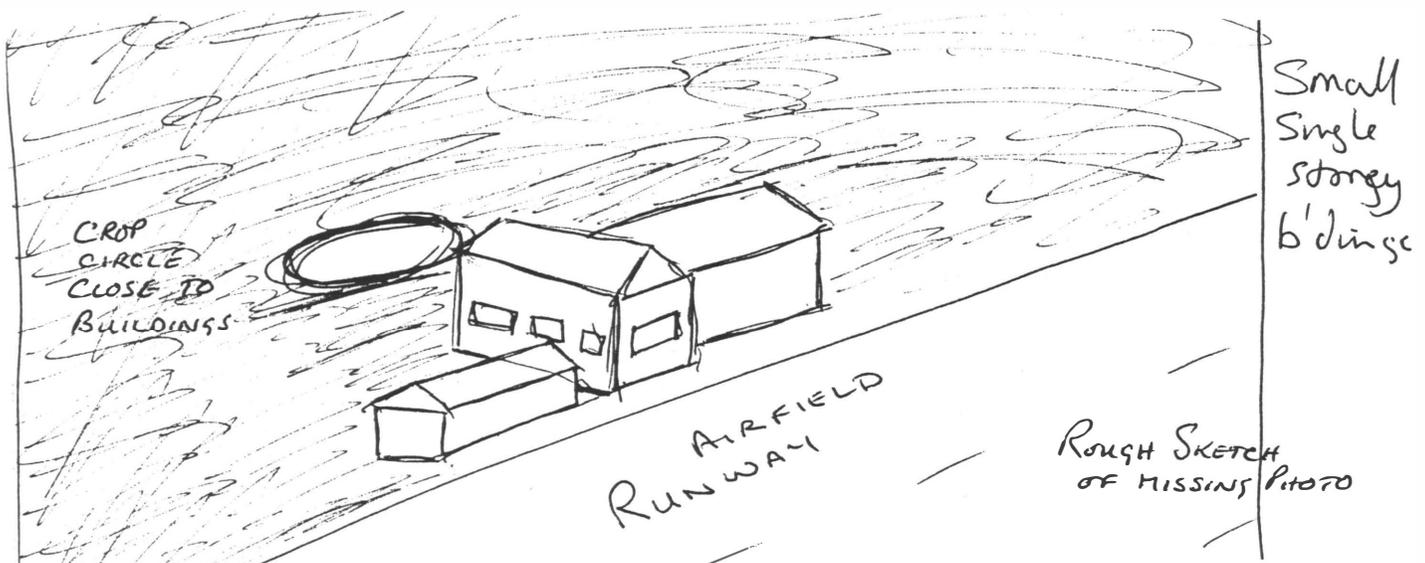
The preceding article appeared in the pages of the *Journal of Meteorology*, Vol. 16 no. 155 in January 1991. Those members who live in the area might like to track down the field and see what is there today. Allowing for the vagaries of memory, if there is, or was, a local paper it might pay to see if this event was reported in the newspaper of the time. You'd only have to skim through the summer editions for 1917 to 1920 and it probably would have been a weekly which would make life easier. An event that caught the attention of local farmers may well have attracted the attention of the local reporter. This letter forms part of the archive of Terence Meaden who sold it recently to a couple of researchers in Sussex.

In line with this type of historical research, I have had a request for information about a circle that was photographed just after the war at an airfield in southern England. The enquirer has written up some details of anecdotal war-time circles as reported by flight crew as they flew over them during training and operational flights at the time. In order to provide some factual pictorial evidence, he is trying to trace a photograph which he remembers being published in *The Circular* or *The Cerealogist* some time ago. Can anyone else remember where this photo was published? A rough sketch from memory is shown below.

Bognor Regis may be home to some early photographs of crop circles too: as reported in Andy Thomas's book, *Fields of Mystery*. Dorset researcher, David Kingston was giving a lecture to an audience there, after which he was approached by a member of the audience who produced several photographs which showed crop circles taken from the air over RAF Tangmere. Unfortunately David did not have an opportunity to take details of the address of the owner and the thin thread of synchronicity was broken. Researchers in Bognor Regis might try advertising, or inviting David back to give a further talk in order to attract his attention.

Retired Civil Service organisations, other local British Legion or ex-RAF organisations might seem a good place to start. Does RAF Tangmere have a reunion group? These would all seem fertile ground to some avid collector of early crop circle information.

We'd be pretty keen to see the photos too!



## BACK ISSUES

The CCCS has a considerable number of back issues in the archive. It seems to me that many of you, particularly the newer members might like to catch up on some of the wonderful articles and photos that have graced our pages over the last seven years or so. There are a few gaps and some issues are down to only the odd copy, but they will be supplied on a first come, first served basis. We also hold a few sets of postcards of 1994/5 formations and some calendars from 1996. Yes we know they are out of date, but the pictures are well worth buying for the record and at a bargain price too! - twelve coloured pictures of some of the formations that were illustrating our crop fields in the previous year.

Issue date	Vol. No.	Issue no.	New no.	Cover price	
March 1991	Vol. 2	no. 1		£1.75	
June 1991	Vol. 2	no. 2		£1.75	
Sept 1991	Vol. 2	no. 3		£1.75	(1 only!)
Jan 1992	Vol. 2	no. 4		£1.75	(3 only!)
Apr 1992	Vol. 3	no. 1		£1.75	
July 1992	Vol. 3	no. 2		£2.50	(No stock!)
Oct 1992	Vol. 3	no. 3		£2.50	
Mar 1993	Vol. 3	no. 4		£2.50	
Jun 1993	Vol. 4	no. 1		£2.50	
Sept 1993	Vol. 4	no. 2	no. 14	£2.50	
Dec 1993	Vol. 4	no. 3	no. 15	£2.50	(No stock!)
Mar 1994	Vol. 4	no. 4	no. 16	£2.50	
Summer 1994	Vol. 5	no. 1	no. 17	£2.50	
Autumn 1994	Vol. 5	no. 2	no. 18	£2.50	
Winter 1994/5	Vol. 5	no. 3	no. 19	£2.50	
Spring 1995	Vol. 5	no. 4	no. 20	£2.50	
Summer 1995			no. 21	£2.50	
Autumn 1995			no. 22	£2.50	
Winter 1995/6			no. 23	£2.75	(No stock!)
Spring 1996			no. 24	£2.50	
Summer 1996			no. 25	£2.50	
Autumn 1996			no. 26	£2.95	
Winter 1996/7			no. 27	£2.95	
Spring 1997			no. 28	£2.95	
Summer 1997			no. 29	£3.50	

We have no copies of Vol. 1 issues at all, when the magazine was published as part of the *Cereologist*, not to be confused with the *Cerealogist*. which is another magazine and organisation altogether these days.

We will supply the above magazines at the original cover price plus post and packing of £0.60p per magazine (Mainland UK only, other destinations by arrangement). We will negotiate prices for larger orders



Salem, Oregon 9<sup>th</sup> July 1997 in wheat

© Photo by Mary Ann Koch Submitted by Carol Pedersen Calif.

## The Truth, The Whole Truth...

Recently Colin Andrews posted a message on the Internet that he had sent to Roland Pargeter, Convenor for Somerset and the organiser of the Glastonbury Symposium. a letter that you might expect to be a private missive between two parties. The fact that he posted it on the Internet and that he asked Roland to read it out at the Symposium, suggests that he intended it to have as much publicity as possible. I have seen various versions posted on the Internet by other parties who seem equally keen to propagate the misinformation it contains. I wrote to Colin Andrews requesting a copy - I had no reply. I rang his UK number and left a recorded message - so far I have had no reply. I can appreciate that he may be somewhat embarrassed by the contents, but not sufficiently to withdraw the notice, nor to correct the untruths therein. Roland assures me that he did not read out the message at Glastonbury, but its contents have had great exposure on the Crop Circle Connector etc. and other Websites. Here is one version of the message as relayed to me. It comes from Global Circles Website. It starts with a prologue by Global Circles.

"This is being posted on behalf of Colin Andrews, who wishes his reasons for not participating in the Glastonbury Symposium this year to be known as soon as possible to save any potential embarrassment.

"Global Circles would also like it known that we fully support Colin and applaud the stand he is taking. We appreciate his courage in declining to speak at the Symposium - a chance to "bathe in glory" the opportunists would give their right arms for."

### *(The next bit is Colin's actual message to Roland)*

"To Roland Pargeter

Re: Glastonbury Conference.

I do hope you enjoyed your latest trip to India and that your energy was replenished in time for another heavy bout of work, back in England. I too have been away doing research and lectures in Germany and Japan and feel I could do with recharging.

On this occasion I have bad news for you. I have been observing the crop circle fraternity falling deeper and deeper into total denial of the facts surrounding the subject. This is in the main, the result of the influence of a handful of magazine editors and new CCCS board members who are misquoting and mishandling information for their own agendas.

This unfortunate state of affairs reflects badly upon the many good and well meaning members of CCCS and other organisations. Some would have us believe via their Internet statements, magazine articles and television interviews that ALL crop circles are real and that this is a proven fact with the only tools necessary in research i.e. dowsing rods. Ample data supports that quite the opposite is true. Many crop circles are real and dowsing is a useful tool - but that is different to what the public are hearing.

The crop circle phenomenon itself is not being served well by these people and the troubled media receive just the support they need for their own views, those being that anybody interested in the mystery is mad and the circles have to be a human new age creation to attract such oddballs. I must say I think the respectable ground once achieved is being rapidly lost to those who are getting carried away with forming a new religious following, instead of keeping to research and honesty.

My hard thought-out decision was actually quite easy to come to after I asked myself just one question. Do I genuinely seek the truth. The answer has always been, and continues to be - yes.

I can see little merit at this time in presenting my latest findings, as exciting as they are, to a high profile crop circle event of this kind. Only to be understood and appreciated by a few and willfully attacked and misquoted by the people to whom I refer and whom concern me greatly.

I have spent many years now trying to promote the scientific and spiritual enquiry. Yes, spiritual, as in inner truth and personal growth as well as knowledge. My work will continue, all be it (sic) currently on a lower profile. My results will be published via the CPR international newsletter and other media when appropriate.

It is with great regret I must disappoint you and some of your audience in Glastonbury this year, by not accepting your usual kind invitation to speak. I do hope those lovely people I have enjoyed in Glastonbury will understand my position and feelings. I do wish you and your conference well and hope that as the truth wins through that a change of spirit and attitude will re-emerge in those who appear to have lost their way.

For anybody who wishes to make contact with me, please write to PO Box 3378, Branford, Connecticut, CT 06405-1978, USA.

Best wishes

Colin Andrews"

=====□□□□□=====

Since Colin declines to answer my communications, I write here an open answer to his open letter. I will respond paragraph by paragraph for greater clarity

Para 2 - As a new member of CCCS Council AND an Editor, I must assume that I am being targeted particularly. I challenge Colin Andrews to produce any misquoting of information, or mishandling of information for my own agenda. In fact I challenge Colin Andrews to reveal any impropriety of mine that he may be aware of.

Para 3 - Far from believing that ALL crop circles are genuine, I preach caution to everybody who will listen, and my opinions of dowsing the veracity of a circle, are well known NOT to include dowsability as proof positive of the genuineness or otherwise of any crop formation. As Editor I usually act as 'devil's disciple' to ANY point of view, in order that everybody takes as broad a view of anything they may read of or hear within this organisation as possible.

Para 4 - I am quite happy to be thought of as mad, a crank or eccentric, just as long as people leave me alone to get on with my research. I have no religious aspirations but I wonder who is not keeping to research or honesty here? How many times have I heard it said 'Andrews & Delgado are keeping something to themselves about the evidence they collected', -purportedly in order not to assist the hoaxers.

Para 5 - This paragraph does not sit comfortably with the evidence.

Para 6 - I have never, nor have members of the new council of CCCS, as far as I know, attacked or misquoted Colin Andrews in any shape or form so he need not concern himself on our behalf. Yes, I will call a spade a bloody shovel, and I will expose double standards and duplicity where ever I encounter it, **that** is my duty as Councillor and Editor of this organisation to the membership who must either trust us - or replace us!

Para 7 - Colin obviously has a great deal of work to do in this department. The information highway is a two-way street, the information highway to Colin Andrews address appears to be a one-way cul-de-sac.

Para 8 - I concur wholeheartedly. I hope Colin will be man enough to take the first step back and write an apology to the membership of the CCCS within these columns, or produce proof to the contrary, in which case I will be happy to apologise

profusely and resign from my 'criminal' activities. as a token of which I have sent a copy of this article to him prior to publication.

### **Give me my ball back...**

Recently I noticed that Colin's membership of the CCCS was running out. I wrote to him, as I write to all whose membership runs out, inviting him to renew. He wrote back stating that he thought that he had "been awarded a 'Lifetime Membership' of the CCCS" I checked this with some members of the past administration who stated that their interpretation of the situation was that this was meant to be a reciprocal arrangement and not an automatic 'right'. There were precious few signs of any 'reciprocal arrangement' in the archive. I wrote to Colin Andrews explaining this and suggesting that we exchange magazines on this basis. To date I have had no response.

Unless - the letter to Roland was it?

I have sent him copies of this article by post and by e-mail, prior to publication, in order that he has an opportunity to answer the challenge if it is unjustified, an opportunity denied to those *he* was addressing.

*One of my copies of this article must have attracted Colin's attention, because on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1997, Colin wrote to me as follows:*

Dear Mr George Bishop

I am sorry you saw yourself as the recipient of my comments in my letter to Roland Pargeter. I do not know you. It was not my intention for you to take my comments personally, there are several CCCS publications and yours was not the focus of my concerns. I do not wish to get into the specifics of time, date and person involved and realise that leaves the spectra very broad and open to the type of misapprehension you have suffered. However, the purpose of my letter to my friend and colleague Roland Pargeter was not to castigate and point fingers but to explain why I was withdrawing from his conference. I placed this letter on the Internet to avoid having people who had seen my name in the advertisements for the conference, arriving to find I was not in attendance and wondering why.

Let me say straight away, the lack of response to your telephone call to me recently on this matter was due to 12 hour days engaged in research since my arrival in England. I apologise for this.

As to my reasons for withdrawing from the conference, my displeasure in the conduct of several specific people is, I feel, totally justified. This is clearly reflected in the number of people and researchers who have contacted me in agreement with my stance. I will not list the many misquotes and antagonistic statements to which I referred as I do not wish to continue the bad energy, attacks and counter-attacks which have been going on. To waste more time in this vein helps nobody. I chose to withdraw from the conference rather than engage this type of energy.

Finally, I must say I am amazed that you think your readers are the slightest bit interested in the status of my honorary membership. However, to answer your point, Michael Green personally bestowed the membership on me with no request on my part. It was not my business as to the legality of this with the CCCS board, however, the last thing I want at this point is to continue to receive the benefits of my honorary membership if the current board finds this unacceptable. You seem to feel I have not reciprocated with our own journal. In fact, I send complimentary copies to at least six of your board members. If there was one key place you wanted a copy sent, nobody ever informed me. It would seem the best course of action is for you to drop my honorary benefits and I will drop our complimentary copies. I will send in a subscription to continue my receipt of your journal.

Best Regards  
Colin Andrews

Well, that clears up some of the issues, but leaves a number unanswered. It would appear that Colin is aware of other CCCS

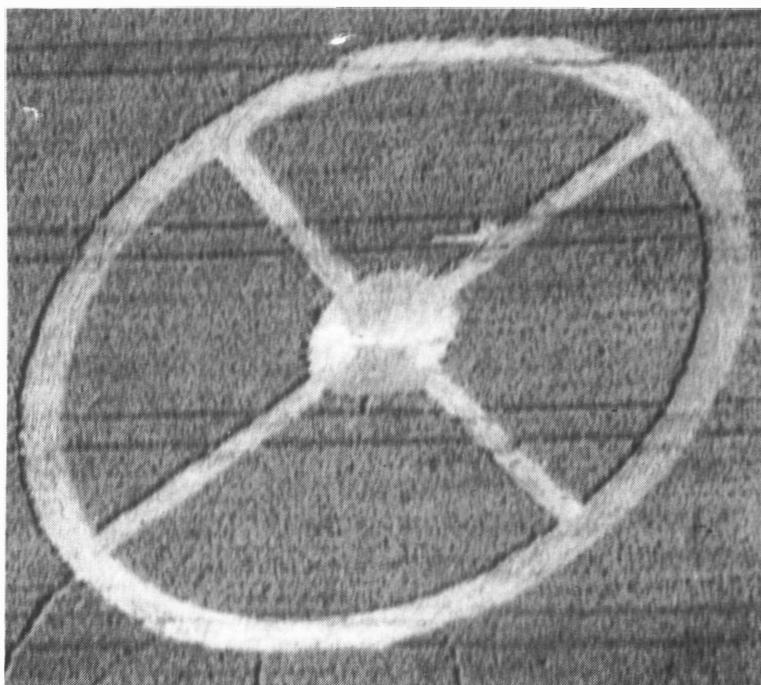
groups and publications that I do not recognise. I also get the feeling that Colin Andrews may not be aware of just who is a member of the CCCS Council and who isn't. If he has a bone to pick with them, then he might profitably tackle them direct and not bundle us all together. If he had been more particular in his choice of wording in his letter to Roland and not got involved in or engage in that 'type of energy' in the first place, none of this would be necessary. He might have considered that a private letter to Roland would be better entrusted to the GPO than to the Internet if he wanted it to remain private. Personally, I find his answers evasive and equivocal. The CCCS is not run by a "Board", it is a non-profit making organisation run by, and for, the benefit of its members. It is run by a Council of members chosen by the membership on an annual basis and has a proper constitution

As a member of the new Council of the CCCS, we set about a number of measures aimed at reducing our out-of-pocket expenses. Free copies to various parties being one of them. I tried to find out about Colin's honorary membership and was unable to find anyone who thought it had ever been ratified. If I had, I would have been delighted to continue that status. Had I been aware of any reciprocal measures from Colin's organisation, I would never have questioned it in the first place. On behalf of the membership, I would want to know just where my money goes and would be very interested in what happens to 'freebies'. All of my actions on behalf of the CCCS are carried out on the basis that they are for the good of the membership as a whole, not the individual. Much as I admire some of Colin Andrew's work in the past, that does not absolve him from observing the common decencies.

I think that as an organisation, the membership deserves a proper and full explanation of Colin's statement and an assurance that we, as a council, are not the target of his remarks. If he is prepared to name us, then deny that he meant us, then he should have the consideration to correctly identify his target and make amends for his thoughtlessness. The Internet would seem the proper place to correct any slights he may have unintentionally made to the membership and Council of CCCS as well as within the covers of this magazine.

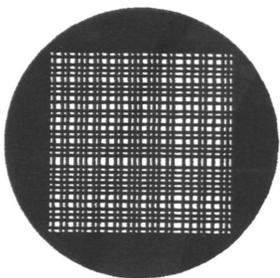
Perhaps he will be more careful with the publication of his private thoughts in future?

Whether the membership is happy with his response, I leave to them, but you could phone him on 01264 358402 and find out for yourself.



Crewkerne, Somerset August 1997

© Lucy Pringle



## TWO at ETCHILHAMPTON

These 120± foot wheat circles arrived August 2nd, in the same field the  $\frac{4}{5}$  mile formation was last year (the "ghost" of which can be seen as wind damage). The square is roughly divided into 754 tiny rectangles.

© 1997 Peter R. Sørensen



## Accounts 31 December 1966

At the AGM on Saturday 7 June 1997 a query was raised with regard to the make up of the figure for "Meetings". This was not resolved at the time as the supporting vouchers were not brought to the meeting. It was agreed that this amount would be analysed and the details made available. These are now shown below:

### Analysis of Meetings :

Review Body: Print Post & Stationery	334
AGM: "Fayre Deal Hotel"	211
Conference ticket cost - advance	100
Position as at 31 Jul 1996	645
Conference ticket cost - refund	(100)
Council Meeting "Weyhill Fayre"	36
AGM (1995): Videotape refund	(26)
Review Body: "Coronation Hall Hire" (bal)	13
Council Meeting "Coronation Hall"	30
Position as at 31 Dec 1996 per Accounts	£ 598

### Donations

The persons listed below made donations to the organisation during 1996.

The CCCS hereby extends its thanks to them for their generosity.

H Van Beusekom	J F Knight
G Bishop	F G Lindsay
J J Boume	J E Mason
S Chinn	M Novakovic
R Cox	K R Paice
G A Critchley	D J Peck
F Farquharson	C R Shaw
J Galley	L Symons
C D Green	J C Talbot
Hants C C Research Grp	F C Taylor
L P Henden	S M Therese
A Holdsworth	E A F Valde
J Kay	S H Walker
A B S King	O Young

If anyone feels that the list is incomplete will he / she please inform the Treasurer.

## CORNISH CROP CIRCLES

Report of crop formation at Narkurs by Jean Brown and Joan Wysisk

Crop Circles: Lower Treyone Farm, Narkurs, SE Cornwall. Farmer Mr Hambro  
Map reference SX319569

Four connecting circles in barley which appeared four weeks ago (in mid July?) according to Mrs Hambro

At about 5.15pm, we called at Lower Treyone Farm and spoke to Mr Hambro's brother-in-law and he gave us permission to look at the formation.

The circles were in a field adjoining the road and could be seen from the gate. They were on a gentle slope some distance from the gate. The barley was old and the heads were 'necked' over with the stalks rather matted together and brown - it didn't look good and the combined harvester parked in the swathe cut around the perimeter of the field. Suggested harvest had been delayed over long due to the wet weather.

We walked up the tramline to the first circle:

Circle 'D':

(Test samples taken - no. 1)

Laid anti-clockwise.

Diameters: 29.5ft x 28ft

The centre was positioned on the centre line of the tramline and was bare earth. When dowsed by Jean, the answer was 'manmade' on tramline, but 'no' in crop circle.

Circle 'C':

This circle was connected to the above by a corridor flowing towards 'D' and part of a tramline with a width of 3.75ft and length of 51.75ft.

(Test samples taken - no. 2)

Laid anti-clockwise

Diameters: 57.5ft x 56.25ft

Lovely 'nest' in centre with quartz stone and two other stones. No response at first to dowsing, but later on Jean asked again if it was man made and got a 'yes'. We picked up a feather in the circle for analysis.

Circle 'B':

Connected by a corridor with 'C' with crop laid from 'C' to 'B' and very messy. Width 3ft, length 20.5ft

(Test sample taken - no. 4)

Laid anti-clockwise

Diameters: 26.25ft x 28ft

Centre knotted or rolled. When dowsed by Jean who asked who made it, the answer was 'non-human'

Circle 'A':

Connected by corridor flowing from 'C' to 'A' and very messy. This corridor was 2.5ft wide and 30ft long.

(Test samples taken - no. 3)

Laid anti-clockwise.

Diameters: 27.5ft x 28ft

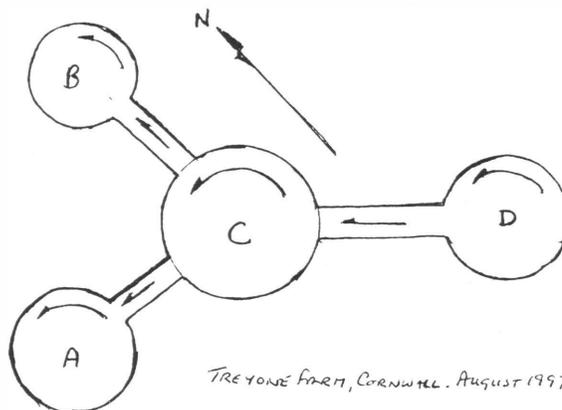
When dowsed by Jean and asked who made it, the answer was 'humans'.

This circle not so messy and had a small nest in the centre.

Samples of barley with root and soil were taken in all of the circles and sent to Jim Lyons for analysis.

### Editors Note:

Sounds like the same field we had a crop formation appear in during 1991, my impression then was that it was contrived with messy corridors and holes in the ground at circle centres.



TREYONE FARM, CORNWALL. AUGUST 1997. 43

# The tetrahedral pattern

© 1996 by Jens Rowold

It has been often been asked if there might be an overall pattern which may be able to explain the locations of the crop circles. Many attempts have been made so far to find such a pattern. Mainly ley-lines or alignments have been found. Ley-lines have been known for a long time. Take for example the ley-line from Salisbury Cathedral over Old Sarum to Stonehenge. There has been an attempt made to go from the single-dimensioned ley-line to a two-dimensional pattern: one can draw an equilateral triangle between Old Sarum to Groveley Castle and Stonehenge. When I started to look for a better location pattern of crop circles, I was reading the books of Richard C. Hoagland and David S. Percy.<sup>1</sup> The drawings and mathematical calculations from Hoagland really impressed me, so I thought that there must be more tetrahedral patterns.

I started to look for more measurable alignments between crop circles. Although it is easy to buy a 1:50000 O.S. map from the area of Avebury and other places to handle with exact ley-lines, it is not easy to work with crop circle positions. The reason for this is simple, there are not many recorded exact positions. Until today I have only discovered about 60 exact positions from the years 1990-1996, nevertheless I began with these sixty co-ordinates.

What I developed - and rediscovered - *last year* (1995) is a tetrahedral grid in the landscape of England, an example can be seen in the map on page 45. I took the ley-line from Salisbury to Stonehenge and let it run further to the north. Because I had one triangular pattern (from Old Sarum to Groveley Castle and from there to Stonehenge) I copied this triangle many times and made some kind of "snowflake" pattern. If you copy one equilateral triangle and put it again and again next to each other, you get a nice pattern without gaps.

It looks a little bit like a diamond, with its crystalline (lattice) structure. So we have England covered with this pattern, it won't stop at the border of England, however, but goes on over the whole world.

As one can see, there are more than 40 crop circles on this grid in the area around Alton Barnes. I have not counted the prehistoric monuments yet.

Like a confirmation there appeared *this year* (1996) a crop circle near Oliver's Castle, which is on my grid, and this crop circle looked like a "snowflake", too! No hoaxer could have known of my grid, because I waited one year before I decided to tell anyone. What good luck that there were many formations this year which were placed exactly on my tetrahedral grid!

The tetrahedral grid is iterative. That means, we start with the big triangle from Stonehenge, Old Sarum and Groveley Castle. Then we are going to divide this triangle into eight smaller triangles by cutting every side of the big triangle into three equal parts. These triangles can be seen on the map.

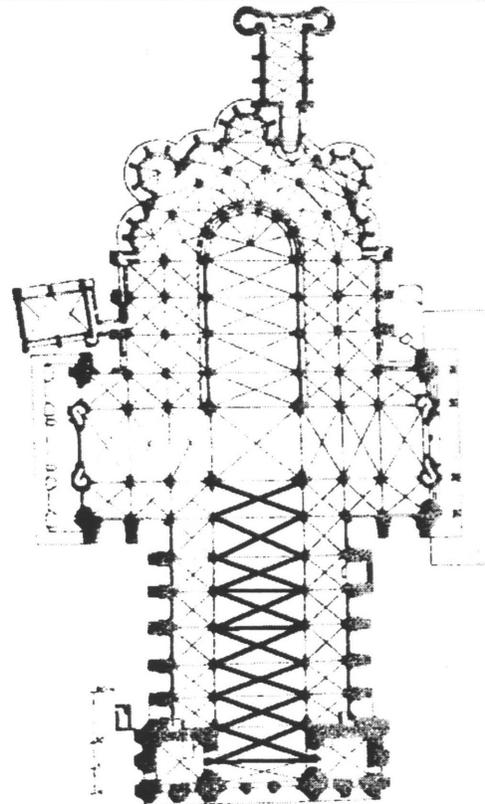
Let's take a look at some places of the grid. We have got Oliver's Castle, Knap Hill above the East Field in Alton Barnes, Lurkeley Hill, Knoll Hill (nr. Allington), Roundway Hill, Firs Farm, Avebury, Barbury, Windmill Hill, the "long-pictogram" at Allington Down from 1990, and many, many more.

But where is Silbury Hill, for example? It is on a line which intersects a triangle exactly in the middle. Many ancient places or crop circles are on these lines, too. And that's really what a diamond or a brilliant looks like from the side. Or it looks like a simple UFO from the side. Or it looks like .... gothic vaults.

## Part 2 of Jens article

...is a tetrahedral landscape of England....

...but go on to cover the whole world.



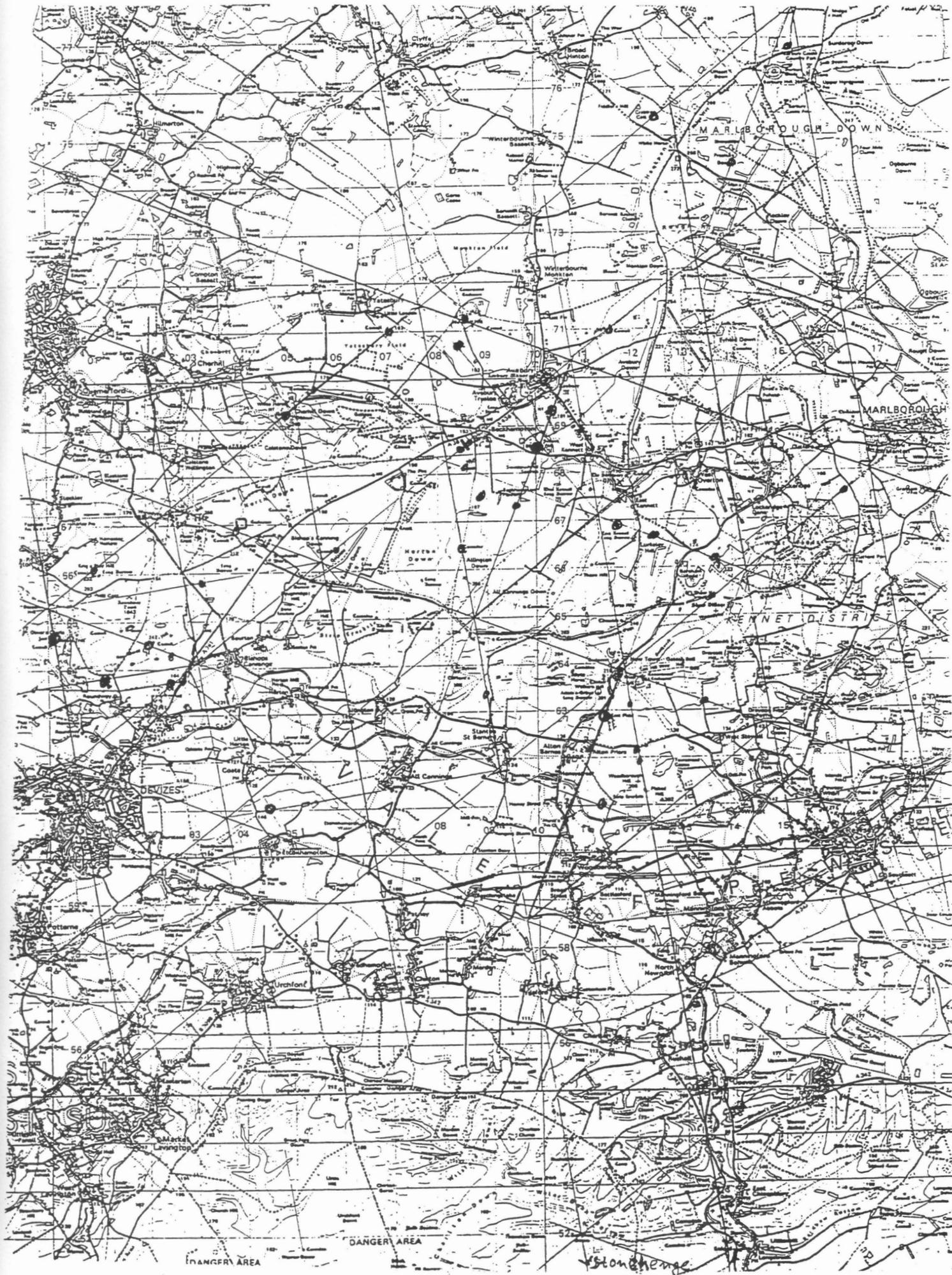
Above we can see a ground-plan of the cathedral of Chartres, France. It is one of the most classic cathedrals built in the high-Gothic building-style. In the middle nave we see the same pattern as we see in the area around Alton Barnes.

There are some mysteries about the beginnings of the gothic building-style, and about sacred proportions and so on. No one knows the architects of this brilliant cathedral, and there are some very interesting stories about the "maze" in the southern part of the church, for example. The thing is: the pattern of the crop circle has been known before. At least in the Gothic cathedrals. This raises the question of the meaning of all this.

As I have shown in my article "A new classification scheme of crop circles" (*The Circular, Issue 28 Spring 1997*) the circle glyphs have something to do with our deepest personal structures, with our aura and with our chakras. The meeting point of the *meaning* and the *positions* is Chartres (beside the theory of tetrahedral physics of Mr. Hoagland) - but that's **another** story!

<sup>1</sup> Richard C. Hoagland: The monuments of Mars, North Atlantic books, 1987

David. P Myers & David S. Percy: Two-Thirds, Aulis Publishers, 1993



So we have got a pattern around Alton Barnes. But will it go beyond the frontiers of Hampshire? As far as I can see it, the answer is yes. I tried to make my grid complete for England with a quite good map, and it fits very well for the crop circles from Sussex, from Yeovil (1996), Cheesefoot Head, Winchester, Pepperbox Hill, Denton (near Oxford) or Andover, for example. But it is necessary to make this grid on very exact maps (1:50000), or with supercomputers. Then we will have the ultimate confirmation.

As I read something from Isabelle Kingston I was amazed that she talked about the "pyramid" over England, which gives the new energies to the planet earth.<sup>2</sup> Well if you make an equilateral triangle become a platonic solid, you will get the tetrahedron - a three sided pyramid.

What I do to this big, single pyramid is divide them into many, many pyramids. I start with one big pyramid and intersect it into eight smaller ones. And from there one can go further. The pyramids are all divided into eight smaller ones, again. And again, and if you do that, you will get details in the crop circle design! The crop circle themselves are built up from small triangles (8.6 meters per side!) So the overall pattern is an holistic pattern which can be found in the very small (meter-range) and in the very large (hundred-miles-range).

It is breath-taking how the small triangles build up a crop circle. But that's **another** story!

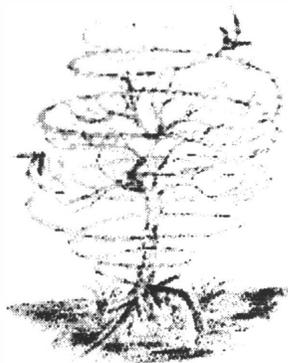
(By the way, this effect can be found in Chartres, too).

So we have got tetrahedrons. According to Mr. Hoagland and Stan Tenen, they have got a spiral inside. This spiral is the pathway of energy outflow from the centre of the rotating sphere to the three 19.5°-edges.<sup>3</sup>

If one puts a model of this tetrahedron on my grid and lets the sun produce some shadows through the spiral which is inside the tetrahedron, there will be some remarkable results.

You will get positions of tumuli and so on. But that's **another** story.

As you have seen, the interpretation of the pattern is as important as the pattern itself!



## The flow of life-energy

As I have shown, the crop circles have something to do with the way we adsorb life-energy through our chakras. Because many people feel something in the crop circles it can be said that they teach us something. As Joachim Koch and Hans-Jürgen Kyborg have shown in their book it is even possible to develop some spiritual or mental abilities. Our energy field (or aura) is raised in the cornfields.

<sup>2</sup> Isabelle Kingston: Word from the Watchers, in: "Crop Circles - Harbingers of world change", p. 147

<sup>3</sup> Richard C. Hoagland : The United Nations Briefings, Video

<sup>4</sup> Ellen Grasse: Chakren- und Aura-diagnose, Knaur 1993, Farbtafel I;

In this article I would like to stress the dynamic of energy flow. Imagine the energy coming in and out of the chakras and ancient sites ( in England or elsewhere ). It is not that this life-energy or Chi ( as the old Chinese people called it ) is coming in like raindrops - that is : in a straight line. The chi is circling inwards like a spiral. We have in our chakras, as I have said before, little vortices which look a little bit like a tornado.

Stan Tenen and Richard C. Hoagland have given us the phantastic (sic, but how could I edit it out!) world of tetrahedral geometry and it's application in science (physics, history, etc.). As *the* basic element they took a tetrahedron with a spiral inside. With these two things they show us the energy flow of a rotating sphere from the centre of this sphere to its surface. Seems to be very simple, and it is also fundamental, because it is measurable. Richard C. Hoagland was the one who discovered the so-called "Tholus" on Mars. It looks like Silbury Hill on earth, with its winding path on it. Silbury Hill is known as an energy centre in the ancient landscape in the middle of England. So we have again the "sacred mountain" with a spiral-like structure on it!

Stan Tenen, the leader of the Meru-Foundation put emphasis on the fact that the human heart is built like two interlocked spirals. One is for the left side of the heart, which is a little bit bigger than the right side. The other spiral is for the right half of the heart.

Now, what I did was simply to look for bigger spirals in the landscape. I started at Silbury Hill and discovered two spirals which are going from there to many locations of previous crop circles.

The **first** one is an archimedal, anti-clockwise spiral. It finds its way through West Kennet Long Barrow, Firs Farm, Knoll Down, Windmill Hill, Overton Down, Rybury Ring, Cherhill, Temple Farm, and so on. On its way there are lots of crop formations ranging from 1990-1996. This pattern of crop circle locations was made by me last year, and this year there was the triple-spiral at Windmill Hill, exactly on my first spiral!

The **second** spiral is opening faster (in an anti-clockwise manner) and it starts at Silbury Hill, too. We find Swallowhead Springs

One clairvoyant, Ellen Grasse, is able to see the flow of the Chi coming both from heaven and from the earth inside plants and trees.<sup>4</sup> To the left there is an example. Red Chi is coming from below and blue Chi is coming from the heavens. They meet (at the)inside of the tree.

There are a lot of more examples from spiral-like turning life energy. Take Carlos Castaneda's life force or the effect of whirling water which was discovered by Schauberger. The most important thing is the chakra with it's multi-dimensional process of exchanging old, dead energy against new, life-supporting energy. This process can be found in every healthy chakra or the vortices of the chakras. But this is only one thing from the subtle forces.

There is a counterpart in quantum physics.

on it, the tumuli of West Kennet, the tumuli of Avebury Down,

King's Play Hill, Roundway Hill, Etchilhampton Hill,

Stonehenge, Badbury Hill, and, of course, many, many crop circles.

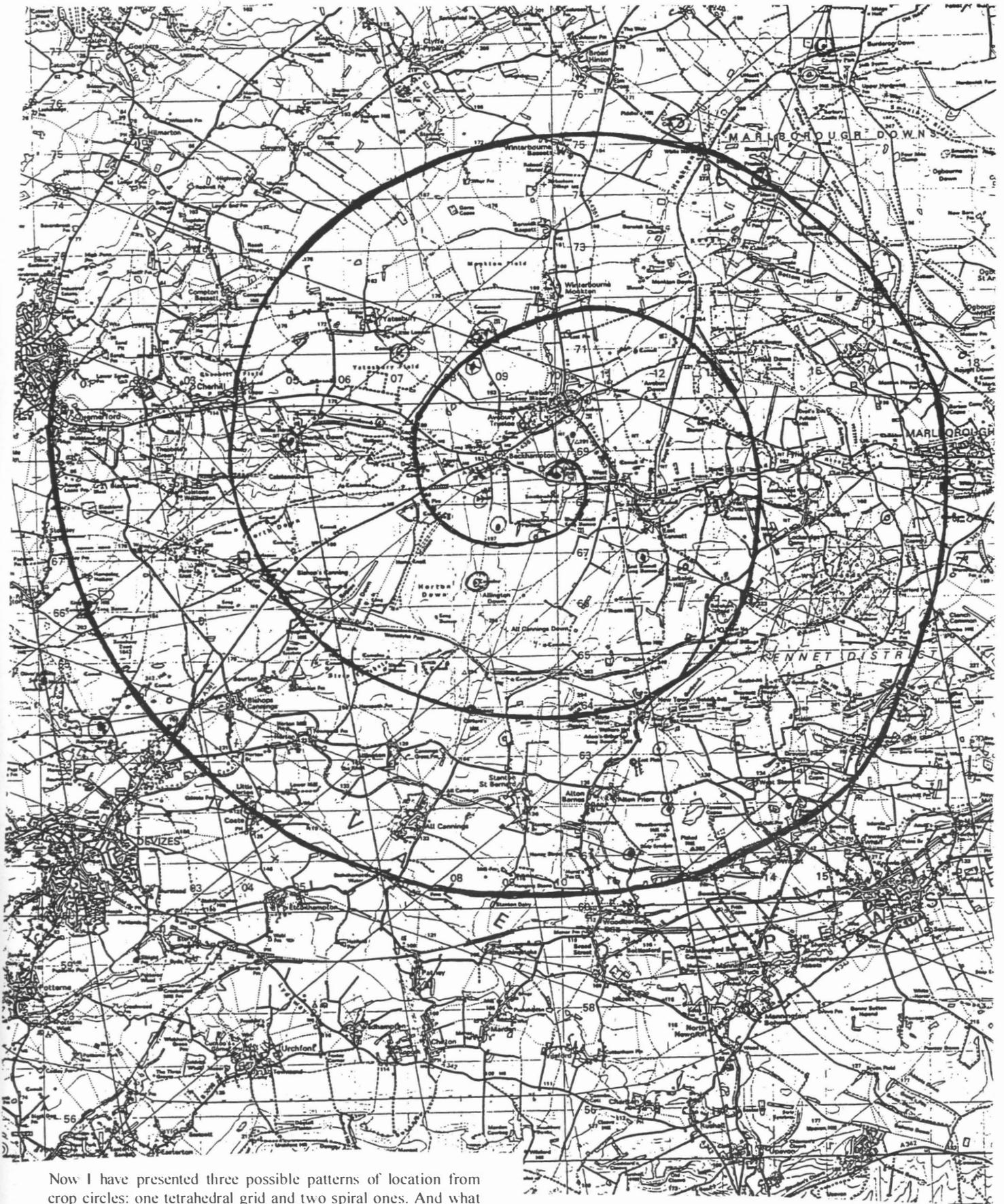
The most impressive from 1996 was the spiral at Stonehenge. Again, I completed the spiral *last* year, just to find

the "right" crop circle at the right place *this* year!

Like in our heart we have one inflow spiral (clockwise) and one outflow spiral (anti-clockwise). I think these two large spirals show us what the energy inflow from above and towards the Earth looks like. These patterns are not the only ones, they are some kind of different dimension beneath the "tetrahedral grid". These patterns are a replication of the universal flow-pattern which can be found everywhere in nature. It reminds us of the harmonic ways in which in fact everything is flowing, in our heart and in "holy" landscapes. It grounds us!

By the way, there is a spiral as a pattern of crop circle locations in Germany, too. It starts at the old Celtic site "Marsberg"<sup>5</sup> in Hessen.

<sup>5</sup> which might be translated as "Mountain of Mars"



Now I have presented three possible patterns of location from crop circles: one tetrahedral grid and two spiral ones. And what can be seen in the formation of Barbury Castle? Not only the beginning of tetrahedral physics (as Richard Hoagland has proved) but three small circles with two spirals and one line. So we find again the locations of crop circles in the design of one of them. This should be noted for further research.

*(Editor's note: The maps are not clear enough for reproduction here, so this illustration, which should be sufficient for those interested to recreate their own versions, contains all the necessary data on the tetrahedral pattern and the clockwise spiral. For the anti-clockwise spiral, simply reverse a logarithmic curve starting with the same centre as this one. I have indicated the crop circles he uses with a circle to help identify the sites referred to.)*

# THE LIST SO FAR.....1997 Data Base. by Barry Reynolds.

Country/Place	Date	Crop/size/shape	Associated data	Country/Place	Date	Crop/size/shape	Associated data
<b>Australia</b>							
Melbourne	18/Feb	G 30' circ.	Indentations	Hants. Meon	16/Jun	W 150' "Ant" (see this issue)	
<b>Brazil - Rio Grande do Sul</b>							
Santo Angelo	27/Feb	M? 10m circ.	Lights/noises	Hants. Headbourne Worthy	7/Jul	W 200' Quintuplet	
<b>Croatia, Northern</b>							
Zagorje	16/Apr	? 28m circ	UFO/lights	Hants. Cheriton	25/Jun	W 175' Quintuplet	
<b>Czech Republic - Ceska Lipa</b>							
Near Mimon	23/Apr	G 2x9m rings		Hants. Cheriton	29/Jun	B ringed circ. (see this issue)	
<b>England</b>							
"Somewhere North"	7/Jun	Confirmed as non-existent		Hants. Kilmeston	12/Jul	? circ & rings (see this issue)	
Beds. Barton-le-Clay	23/Jul	? Picto. Circs. Triangles and paths		Hants. Longstock	4/Jul	B "bell" shaped formation (ditto)	
Beds. Flitwick	4/Aug	? ringed circ with path and ring		Hants. Morestead	21/Jul	W 100' form	
Berkshire. Newbury	29/Jun	? R/circ	Path & key shape	Hants. Petersfield	9/Jul	? No futher details yet	
Bucks. Stokenchurch	15/Jul	B 50' swastika	Same field as '96	Hants. Petersfield	3/Jul	? 40' circ	
Cambs. Ickleton	7/Jul	unconf circ.	Spotted by pilot	Hants. Shorley	7/Jul	B? 80' rgd circ formation	
Cambs. St Neots	11/Jul	? Dmb x2 & circ		Hants. Upham	14/Jun	B 3x rgd in-line circs	
Cheshire. ?	29/Jun	? ?	Unconfirmed	Hants. Upham	14/Jun	B 2x joined circs	
Cornwall, Sennen	31/Jan	G 37' Ring		Hants. Upham	15/Jun	? pictogram	
Cornwall, Sennen	7/Feb	G 28' Ring	Inside first (?)	Hants. Warnford	13/Jun	B "Smiley face" "messy"	
Cornwall, Sennen	9/May	Confirmed as non-existent		Hants. West Meon	29/Jun	W Ring & 13 arcs (see this issue)	
Cornwall, Downderry	15/Aug	B 4xcirc. linked	(see this issue)	Hants. West Meon	12/Aug	? rgd Db in same field as above	
Cornwall, Penzance	20/Aug	F 30' (?) circ	unconfirmed	Herts. Berkhamstead	2/Aug	W Long lines between 1 - 2 miles	
Devon. Bickleigh	4/Jul	B? 30' (?) circ	seen from air	Herts. Walkern	4/Aug	? several circs reported NFD	
Devon. Bradninch	29/Apr	Confirmed as non-existent		Kent. Sevington	12/Aug	? 3x 10' circ in triangular formatn	
Devon, Kennford	1/Aug	B? 40? Circ	Seen from A38	Kent. Cuxton	17/Aug	? Complex Picto of 19 circs.	
Devon, Marsh Barton	25/Jun	R 38' circ	With overlaid X	Norfolk Wacton	? ? ?	? NFD	
Devon, Sampford	15/Apr	confirmed as non-existent		Northants. Middleton Cheney	9/Aug	? NFD	
Devon, Staddiscombe	15/Jun	W 37' & 55' circs	UFO/lights	Oxon. Brackley	9/Aug	? NFD	
Devon, Staddiscombe	15/Jun	B 30' circ	Month old?	Oxon. Chislehampton	24/Jun	W Quint. 64'	
Dorset, Poxford	1/Jul	W 30' circ		Oxon. Long Hanboro	9/Aug	NFD	
Essex, Littlebury Grm	20/Apr	R 370' ring	(See issue 28)	Oxon. Toot Balden	6/Aug	? 60' & 10' circs	
Essex, Strehthall	2/May	R 100' ring with 3 petalled flower	(28)	Oxon. Uffington	6/Jul	? Smiley face form. of 3 circs	
Gloucs., Chedworth	29/Jun	? 9' circ.	"nice spiral lay"	Salop. Forton	2/Aug	W 30' circ	
Gloucs., Chedworth	12/Aug	? Db & circ with arms		Salop. Forton	2/Aug	W Dumbbell NFD	
Hants. Basingstoke	17/Jul	250' r/circ with two opposing arms		Salop. Shrewsbury	15/Jul	? 30' circ.	
Hants. B/Waltham	15/Jul	B? 200' circ? With ring?		Somerset. Taunton	29/Jun	? ?? (at Shootmead?) NFD	
Hants. Bournemouth	26/Jun	? "OKLAHOMA"	Publicity stunt	Somerset. Isle Brewers	12/aug	W Db 18' o/all	
Hants. Clanfield	3/Jul	? circ & 2 gs		Somerset. Newbridge	11/Jul	? 40' circ	
Hants. Droxford	9/Jun	B picto/diamond and ring		Somerset. W. Coker	21/Aug	B? 75'? rgd X with circ	
Hants. Droxford	14/Jun	B 2x rgd circ. (1 with 6 satellites)		Suffolk. Hitcham	26/Jun	W? Triple Db 100'	
				Suffolk. Hitcham	8/Jul	? Dumbbell	
				Suffolk. Hitcham	14/Aug	? Dumbbell	



New Jersey	Mercer	9/Jul	? Dumbbell?	Oregon	John Day	17/Jun	? "Thought bubble formation"
Oregon	Salem	7/Jun	W 100' "Double Horseshoe"	Utah	Richmond	7/Jul	? picto
				Utah	Smithfield	7/Jul	? picto

## Photographers Wanted

### Reward £5 per published photo

It has been decided that CCCS will pay £5 for every photograph published within our Journal's covers. Not a lot, but it will at least buy you another roll of film. Photographers may submit any number of photographs for consideration but please note that any details about the site location, date of photograph, date of formation and any other details you might have about the crop circle, should be submitted at the same time. This applies to formations in the current year (1997) from issue 29 and future years. i.e. this is not a retrospective deal! Photographic data might also help - film type, speed, stop number, camera etc. but this is not mandatory.

All photographs submitted will remain in the archive of the CCCS, so even if your photograph doesn't get chosen this year, it may well appear in future issues. They will also be available for future researchers who may follow in our footsteps.

Once a year, the Council will choose the photograph they think best epitomises our phenomenon and that photographer will win a year's subscription to *The Circular*. We depend upon your photographs for the quality of our publication and we feel that it is only fair that *your* contribution is recognised.

The Editor's decision on choice of photographs is final and the Council's choice of photograph of the year is likewise their own and no discussion will be entered into with anyone.



Alton Barnes Aug 1997

© Lucy Pringle

## WANTED - VERY MUCH ALIVE!

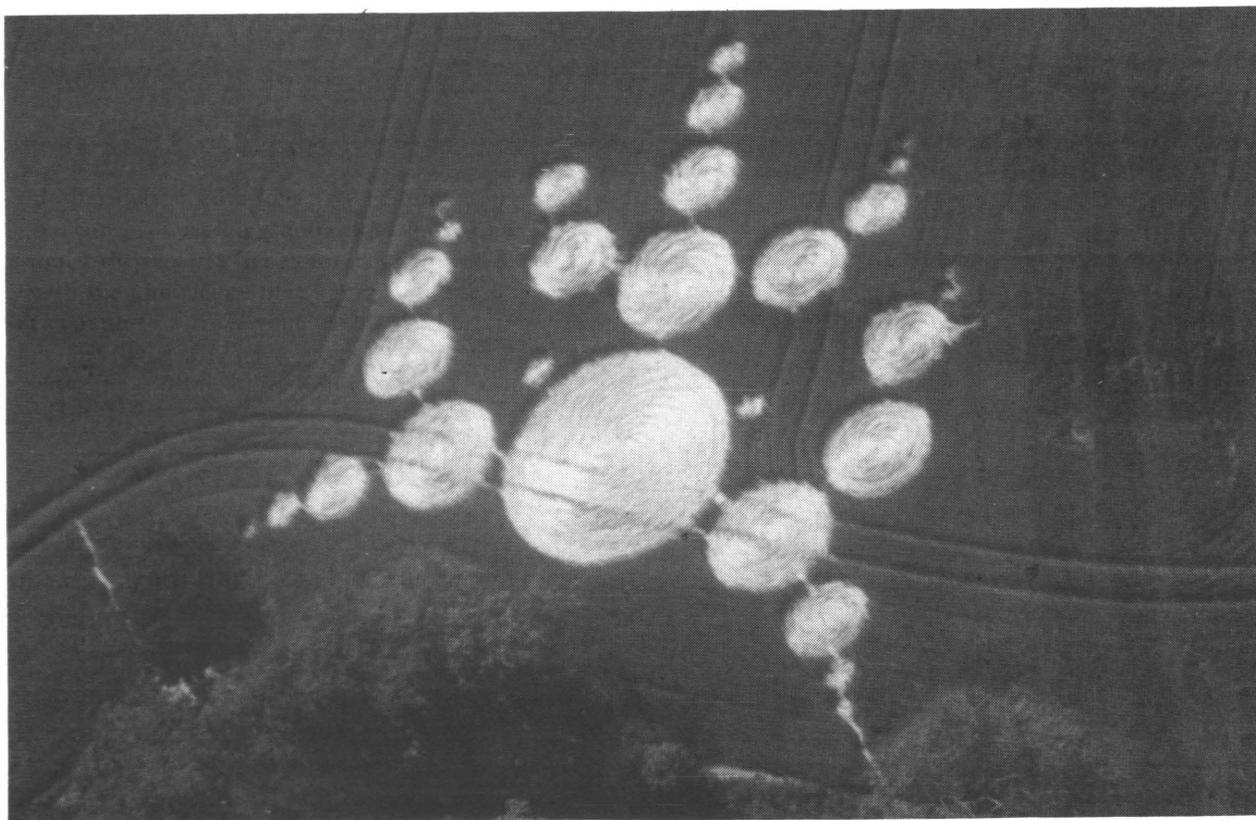
CCCS desperately need a live-wire graphic artist who can help us to create an image and improve our profile in the field. We can promise long hours and incredible frustration allied with unsociable working conditions and all for no wages too! All we *can* offer is the reward and satisfaction of seeing your work in print and that rosy inner glow that comes with the knowledge that you have done something useful for others, but that will not do your CV any harm will it? Not enough to attract you? Well, one of our projects might well make you a household name (more details to the right person) the rest is up to you! If you can demonstrate flair and an eye for the dramatic as well as detail, get in touch with the Editor. We might even consider this as a college project if they show a genuine interest and commitment.

### WANTED: YOUR OLD CROP PARAPHERNALIA AND EPHEMERA

Our archive may be extensive, but it has some obvious items missing; perhaps they were too obvious and common at their first appearance and apparently nobody thought them worth keeping at the time.

Books, pamphlets, photographs or even the adverts that featured crop formations. Copies of the Led Zeppelin album cover for example, indeed anything that has a crop circle flavour that you have outgrown or are considering consigning to the dustbin - no madam, husbands don't count! - or you are having difficulty housing. We will acknowledge all such bequests or donations and you can be assured they will find a welcome place in our archive. I noticed recently that some of Andrews's and Delgado's books were still on sale, yet we have none in our archive, a sad omission that I was able to rectify at the Glastonbury Symposium.

Details to your local Co-ordinator or the Editor.



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