

EARTHQUEST NEWS

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Winter 1982

No.5

Explores the Earth's
Mysteries



action packed start

Welcome to EN5, the first it might be added, to form part of the Associate Membership scheme with Earthquest; and the first to be printed upon the new offset-litho printing machine purchased recently by The Supernaturalist magazine, your editor, and the group itself. This will certainly reduce costs involved with producing such a publication and will allow a run far greater than we have ever been able to achieve before now. I already have visions of your editor labouring long hours into the night engulfed entirely by spoilt reams of paper and with the constant drone of the printing press running! Such is life.

Earthquest News is to appear quarterly in the format you see here now, although knowing me, things could (drastically?) change. I hate to be bound to any fixed routine. By subscribing to this publication you are becoming a member of Earthquest and thus will be kept up to date with group activities. This will include local meetings and seminars, field trips to sites of an Earth Mysteries interest in Essex, and our one day "beans" much further afield. These are by coach and in the past have included a trip to various sites in Cambridgeshire such as the Royston Beehive Cave, Saffron Waldon Turf Maze, Wandlebury Camp and Hill Figures, King's College Chapel and the Round Church, Cambridge, as well as the 7 point ley, under the auspice of Nigel Pennick. Other one day trips have been to similar such sites in Wiltshire and Berkshire. Each one so far has been highly successful and was enjoyed by all, so keep your eyes open for the next scheduled "beans".

Although Associate Membership for those residing outside Essex or Greater London will be little more than receiving four issues of the newsletter, it is hoped eventually to start groups in other parts of the Country. However, this is something for the future. So at present the nucleus of Earthquest will centre itself upon Basildon in Essex. Of course, this will obviously reflect upon the editorial content of the newsletter, and for the best I hope; as since the demise of Essex Landscape Mysteries, the fine journal of antiquarian interests, has meant this county being devoid of any literary work on the Earth Mysteries subject.

Best wishes to all our members and remember to mention us to your friends. Until next time, happy reading.

Andrew Collins

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Earthquest is a new Essex based organisation set on promoting and studying the subjects known commonly as the earth mysteries,

the paranormal, and new age thought. Its approach is very much objective, yet due to the fact that it does hold certain intangible views relating to the subjects covered, there is also a subjective element. Among the topics covered are paranormal manifestations, unusual phenomena, ancient and mystical sites and buildings, mythology, folklore, esoteric history and philosophies, understanding the mind, and developing and utilising psychic abilities. All Associate Members must agree to the aims and intentions of the group.

As Earthquest is a mouthpiece and personification of the earth mysteries, to become a member of the group means becoming affiliated to the subject itself.

Details of Associate Membership available on request.

Aside from "Earthquest News" the group has as a mouthpiece "The Supernaturalist," an occasionally produced booklet on specific topics relating to the earth mysteries and written by Andrew Collins. Associate Members will be notified of all release dates and details of future issues. Information on currently available issues from Earthquest.

All material used in "Earthquest News" remains the copyright of the authors unless otherwise shown. All other material will be written by the Editor, again, unless otherwise indicated. Opinions are those of the authors and maybe those of the group. Articles will be selected and will concentrate on new names, Earthquest members, and an Essex orientation.



THE FOBHING PUMA

and other Essex felines

During August Essex Newspapers ran two small pieces on "Puma" sightings in the area of Fobbing - somewhere previously unconnected with such reports. Intrigued by these totally unexpected appearances of feline phantoms in this region I followed up both reports and decided to look into Essex newspaper archives to catalogue all previous reports of this nature in recent years. The results of this exercise now gives us a comprehensive guide to the history of South-East Essex felines; and forms the basis of this article.

THE FOBHING PUMA BORN

The first reported sighting was featured in the August 20th Thurrock Gazette under the headline of "Snipers Hunt for a Puma." It told of a "Puma" spotted by Mr Bill Watt, 58, a foreman for the Essex Water Company at the Water Works Depot in Fobbing High Road, which is between Fobbing and Vange. Apparently, police and animal experts with guns were rushed to the scene after finding track marks, but no sign of the animal. They concluded that Mr. Watt had seen a large sandy dog. As Inspector Ted Howell of Corringham police said: "If it had been a Puma, I think we would have had another sighting by now."

That second sighting came quite independently just two weeks later when in the August 27th Thurrock Gazette a further piece appeared under the headline of "That dog - it's a Puma!" It told of a man who had spotted a big cat leap out of a hedgerow as he walked along a footpath near Mill Lane, Fobbing early on the Wednesday morning. The incident occurred just yards away from Mr. Watt's sighting.

The report, which was also run on the front page of the August 25th Evening Echo, the day of the second sighting, came via Corringham police, the nearest station to Fobbing. Already dubbed the Fobbing Puma, both reports said police were investigating the matter. This time they had concluded: "It seems likely it is a big cat rather than a Great Dane." What sort of cat though was not specified.

POLICE

In an attempt to track down the witness to the second sighting I visited Corringham police station. After a fashion they named the witness as Mr. David Brazier of Mill Lane, Fobbing. They also mentioned that since the incident a representative of Laindon Zoo had visited the site yet had unfortunately found no evidence to suggest the presence of a large cat in the area. It also became clear that no registered "Dangerous Animal" had been reported missing to account for the Fobbing sightings.

INTERVIEW

On the afternoon of Monday, August 30th, Jeff Saward, Editor of "Caerdroia" magazine, his wife Debbie and I, visited Mr. Brazier at his home and obtained a complete account of his sighting of Wednesday, August 25th. Being a middle aged, no messing, local of those parts we had no reason to doubt his words, and must therefore assume his testimony is an accurate account of what actually took place.

It seems that around 05.05 on the morning concerned, Mr. Brazier approached a gate that led onto the main Fenchurch St. to Southend railway line, next to the water works reservoir and compound of Fobbing High Road. It was semi-dark, and the witness was on foot having travelled along a footpath from his home in Mill Lane on the way to work in Vange - a journey he makes daily.

Mr. Brazier turned on his torch, in preparation for crossing the railway line, when he heard a frenzied disturbance in the undergrowth to his right, accompanied by a loud feline-like cry, likened to "treading on a cat's tail." This was followed by the appearance of a "large cat" which dashed out in front of the witness, at high speed, away down the track to his left and into the undergrowth some yards away.

The description gained, during the obviously short time the animal was in view, was of a feline creature some eighteen to twenty inches high, four feet long, with a drooped short haired tail about two feet in length. Its coat was "short haired" and of a "sandy" or "tawny" appearance on the upper surfaces, with a "blonde" colouring on the belly and between the hind legs. A distinct cat-like face was observed, with short pointed ears, turned down. No other specific details were recalled, which is not surprising since it was in view for not more than five seconds. However, at its nearest point the animal was just three paces away from Mr. Brazier. No other sounds were recalled and no smells were attached to the sighting. Mr. Brazier spoke only of a sense of fear and shock following the startling and unexpected incident.

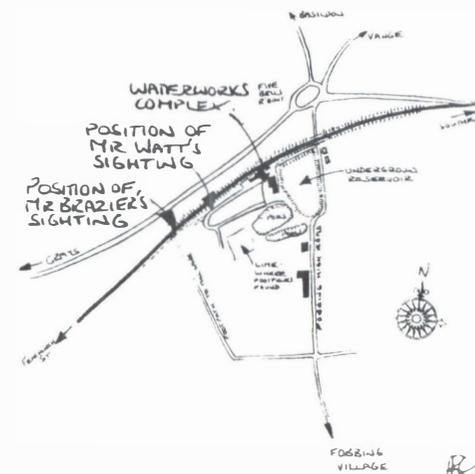
Previous to his sighting Mr. Brazier had heard of the other reported "Puma" sighting made by the Essex Water Company Foreman two weeks beforehand, but had not taken it seriously. Following the sighting he contacted Corringham police; and it was they who

had applied "Puma" to the story. They passed on details to local newspapers, who ran a small report on the sighting that day in the Evening Echo, after a short interview with Mr. Brazier.

BACK TO THE FIRST SIGHTING

After interviewing Mr. Brazier, I turned my attention to Mr. Bill Watt, the witness to the first recorded sighting of "The Fobbing Puma". I spoke to him at his place of work on September 1st and interviewed him that evening on the premises of the Basildon Town Rugby Club (of which he is a committee member), and from which the following account stems.

Mr. Bill Watt is the Foreman for the Water Depot which lies behind Fobbing High Road. It houses an underground reservoir and a sleepy complex of scattered buildings and filtration plants, linked by concrete roadways over a large area of land. It is surrounded by tall wire-mesh fences, except for the side bordering onto the Fenchurch St. - Southend railway line. The two are divided by a two hundred yard stretch of thick, coarse wasteland comprised of trees and undergrowth.



On Thursday, August 12th at around 10.30 in the morning, Bill Watt was walking along one of the concrete roadways, in the direction of the railway line, having just checked off the load of an incoming lorry. In front of him, some ten yards away, at the edge of the roadway and in front of long grass, was a pile of empty wooden pallets. As he drew near to these he heard a long murmuring cat-like growl emanating from behind them. Immediately, a large cat shot out from behind them and scooted off across the tall grass at great speed into the dense undergrowth, the sound of it crashing its way through the dense wasteland being heard for some moments afterwards.

Mr. Watt did not see the cat's face. However, because it was no more than three paces away when he first saw it, a clear description of the rest of the animal was gained. It stood the height of a "large alsation" although much longer, and more streamlined in flight. It appeared "sandy-grey" all over, with a "thick, roughish coat," and a very long tail - perhaps three feet in length, and two inches in diameter. However, what struck Mr. Watt more than anything else was its broad hind quarters, like that of a "great dane." The head seemed "low," and its ears were, not unnaturally, folded down.

On being asked whether he smelt anything at the time of the sighting, Mr. Watt instantly recalled a "pungent, urine-like smell" at the position behind the pallets where the creature had sprung from. It was as if, as Mr. Watt suggested, "the animal had urinated when it was disturbed." No evidence of urine was seen by the witness though.

The sighting lasted for about five seconds. It severely shocked Mr. Watt. Soon afterwards Mr. Watt reported the incident to Corringham police who visited the depot and looked the area over. The police showed an apparent interest in the depressed grass track made by the animal during its flight into the undergrowth. Their conclusion, however, was that a large dog had been seen.

The police were followed by the appearance of Mr. Bob Hands of the nearby Vange Zoo who also studied the tracks. The police never returned to the area until after Mr. Brazier's sighting fifteen days later.

COMPARISONS

Both Mr. Watt and Mr. Brazier saw a large cat-like animal for a very short duration, which in both cases seemed to have been startled by their approach. In each case it ran off into the under growth near the railway line, and after visiting the site of both sightings it is clear that they occurred within one hundred yards of each other.

In the main, the descriptions of both the large cats are similar. Both witnesses reported seeing a large, sandy coloured animal, with a low head; small folded down ears, and a long tail. The obvious discrepancies being Mr. Brazier's recall of a blonde belly and a smooth, fine coat. The last mentioned being an easy confusion in the half-light of the early morning. Certainly, from the accounts given, a puma is the only feline that fits the description exactly.

FOOTPRINTS

On Saturday, September 4th Jeff and Debbie Saward, and I visited the Fobbing High Road Water Works to obtain photographs for this report. Whilst there we learnt of unaccountable large pawprints which had appeared in the soft quicklime pit within the complex. Although they were nonchalantly passed off as those of a large dog, one interesting fact arose. The pit was virtually inaccessible as it is surrounded on all four sides by a tall wire mesh fence, topped with barbed wire.

Jeff and I were able to enter the compound and view the paw marks at close quarters. They were scattered all over the quicklime near to the bank and it was apparent they had not been made at the same time. Those freshly done were deeply impressed and consisted of five paw marks, with open claws. In length they were about four inches, with a width of three inches. It became apparent that pumas do not move with their claws open, and a dog might well be the culprit of these tracks. Yet I have since learnt that one of the "tell tale" signs of an out-of-place puma is that they move with their talons open!

One of the tracks was kept by the investigators.

ANOTHER SIGHTING?

Mr. Bill Watt mentioned that, as foreman for the water storage plant, he had heard mention of another apparent sighting at the compound about eighteen months before. It would seem that a Mr. James Christmas was witness to a "large cat" at the plant and had mentioned it to other colleagues at the time. They, of course, treated this as a joke and nothing more came of the matter. However, in light of the two recent sightings Mr. Christmas' animal is an interesting link not to be overlooked.

With the idea of substantiating this extra sighting, I tried to locate Mr. Christmas, but unfortunately found that he has since left his employment at the plant. Attempts to find him proved ineffective, and so the sighting remains pure heresy.

AN INTERESTING COINCIDENCE

It is perhaps relevant to mention that reservoirs, in connection with out-of-place puma sightings, is not unknown. During 1962, at the commencement of a series of reports of the so-called "Surrey Puma," one case occurred which strikes a remarkable resemblance to that of Mr. Watts. One morning, a Mr. Ernest Jellett, an employee of the Mid Wessex Water Board, was inspecting a reservoir near Farnham, Surrey, when he witnessed a puma-like animal stalking a rabbit. The description of what he saw is very similar to that of the Fobbing puma.

THE HISTORY OF OUT-OF-PLACE FELINES

The interest generated by the sightings of the Fobbing Puma made me look into the archives to see what sort of history Essex possessed of sightings of out-of-place felines. Seeing that I work for our local newspaper this task was made somewhat easy although a certain amount of microfilm work had to be done, and this really is "hard work." This involves looking through each one and each newspaper individually. The results are fascinating and I can now give you the first ever comprehensive catalogue of out-of-place feline sightings in Essex since 1975.

1. BLACK PANTHER - PITSEA - MAY 76

The May 28th edition of the Basildon Recorder ran a brief report of the sightings of a black panther seen in Pitsea, not one and a half miles from the 1982 Fobbing puma cases. It read as follows:-

"Police searched a new shopping complex on Friday (May 21st) after a report that a panther was on the prowl in Pitsea.

"The alarm was raised after a man looked out of a bedroom window near the new Sainsbury's shopping area, and thought he saw a black panther pussyfooting his way up a tree.

"The area was searched and local zoos were contacted.

"A police spokesman said: "We have come to the conclusion that their must be a large black cat in the vicinity."

I remember at the time contacting Pitsea police who refused to disclose the name of the witness to this sighting. A tentative search of the new town complex in the area revealed nothing of interest. It is, however, possibly relevant to mention that the area was at that time a mass of houses under construction, or completed awaiting buyers.

2. PUMA - HAWKWELL - APRIL 1978

On April 17th the Evening Echo ran a nine line snippet on a supposed puma seen at Hawkwell, near Southend, under the headline of "Police in Puma Hunt." It read as follows:-

"Police with a tracker dog were out in the Hawkwell area today looking for a Puma."

"Van drivers at the Lesney Matchbox toy factory in Ashingdon said they saw what they thought was a puma on farmland.

This piece was followed up in the May 4th Evening Echo with a further single column report under the heading of "The big game hunt of Essex goes on."

This report outlined a second sighting of a "Puma" in the same area, and read as follows:-

"Police are out on safari after the second reported sighting of a big cat in deepest South-East Essex."

"The animal, said to look like a puma, has again been spotted in the Rochford-Hawkwell area. It was seen there two week's ago."

"Police have been on it's trail with tracker dogs."

"There's no way it could be just a large dog," said Mr. Ernie Silvers, a security man at Lesney's Rochford toy factory.

"It was biscuit-coloured with smooth fur and at least six foot long from the tip of it's nose to the tip of it's tail."

"When I saw it, it was going towards Hall Road, Rochford, but while I was telephoning the police the animal returned and went towards Rectory Road, Hawkwell."

"A Southend police spokesman said there had been another reported sighting and that officers were still out searching the area."

Nothing more came of the 1978 Hawkwell sightings of the Puma, and just like it's Fobbing associate of 1982, after two token sightings it faded into oblivion, without logical explanation.

3. LIONESS - BILLERICAY - MAY 1982

The next reported out-of-place feline sighting occurred in May 1982 and was highlighted in a large feature within the June 1st Evening Echo under the headline of "Gun police swoop in helicopter lion hunt."

The alarm was raised after two people felt they saw what they thought was a lioness near Noak Hill Road, Billericay. Mrs. Annette Redhouse, along with her teenage niece Alison Carter, was in the garden of her home in Noak Hill Road on Saturday, May 29th, when they noticed a large animal in the fields opposite. At first they thought it was a cow, but after viewing it through binoculars, decided it was a lioness. She described it as "a champagne colour with a face exactly like a lion." A similar animal was seen by Mrs. Bedhouse's husband later that evening.

A large search was mounted by the local police using a helicopter and armed officers, but nothing was apparently found, aside from a large white domestic cat! However, although this supposedly accounted for Mr. Michael Redhouse's sighting, Mrs. Redhouse was adamant she'd seen a lioness.

Supt. James Smith of Basildon police was reported as saying: "First we called everyone in the area who owns such animals to check none were missing and then we started the search with the help of the helicopter. Because of the nature of the call we thought it prudent to have armed officers on the scene. It all blew out finally. We think possibly someone saw something which was larger in their mind than it actually was."

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY!

Just to show you that not every loose feline creature is

unaccountable I would like to mention an incident which occurred in December 1978, involving the shooting of a fully-grown lion on the outskirts of Basildon. The following details are taken from an article that appeared in December 6th Evening Echo that year.

Apparently, a lion escaped from its cage at Horndon-on-the-Hill on December 5th 1978 and following a call from its owner, Mr. Philip Clark, Bob Hands of Vange Zoo (of whom we have already referred to) and local police were rushed to the scene. Mr. Hands was first to arrive and spotting "Purdy" the lion, shot it dead. Mr. Clark is reported as having said "I came back to find a big hole in his cage. I don't know how he got out or whether he bit through the mesh or charged it down. They are strong animals."

The case of a lion escaping is used here to show the situation created by such an event. All dangerous animals are licensed and it is law that if one is found missing then it should be reported to the local police. However, in the case of sightings of out-of-place feline creatures no such report is ever made. Additionally, one other logical observation comes to mind in respect to such cases. Why is it that "pumas", or a puma-like animal are consistently reported? Surely, if these were just escaped dangerous animals, then the puma is hardly the most obvious pet. One would assume that if a choice were given, then someone would have say, a leopard, a tiger, a black panther, or even a lion as a pet. Not a very unimpressive-looking puma. Thus, by statistical chance, we should find just as many reports of leopards, tigers, black panthers, and lions. However, this is obviously not the case, aside from the isolated black panther sighting at Pitsea in 1976.

PHANTOM FELINE SYNDROME

To me, the most significant element in the recent puma sightings at Fobbing is the reservoir-water works connection. In mystical lore, sightings of phantom black dogs are associated with expanses of water and ghosts are often connected with wells beneath the houses or buildings they are supposed to haunt. Could it possibly be that the unnatural man made disturbance of the land, in the creation of a reservoir, causes bizarre, out-of-place supernatural manifestations? A dowser would tell you so.

The other important element to the Fobbing Puma was Mr. Watt smelling a "Pungent, urine-like odour" at the place where the animal had sprung from. Strange odours are common in sightings of out-of-place and time animals and this would tend, without much doubt, to classify them in the realms of paranormal manifestations of an extraordinary kind. This I would love to be so in the case of the Fobbing puma. But if this is correct, then we have to learn that the witness to such phenomena is far more important than we ever imagine; like a witness to a UFO or a ghost. Also, that investigators of such phenomena will have to stop going around falsely claiming a pure zoological interest in out-of-place animal sightings, as I have done for some years; and admit outright their paranormal connections. Yet in doing so would we frighten off many possibly co-operative witnesses by thus insinuating that what they saw was not "real". Remember, not all witnesses to such things have read books such as "Alien Animals".....

Recently there was a succession of manmade disasters across the world, all of which were publicised within the British national news media. I thought at the time, this is so unreal. Not since I could remember had so many catastrophic events taken place in a mere few days. I considered that if anything "the planets" were not in a very good position for world affairs those few days.

That was my view, others, even my Mum, suggested there was "a jinx" in the air. What the hell did she mean? An astrological jinx - what on earth could this mean? I knew not.

Carole Young is a member of Earthquest who has studied astrology for many years. If anyone, it would be her who'd know what this all meant. I asked her to write a small piece on the topic. She said she would - this is the result. Jargon is certainly above me, but never-the-less, I see the implications.

AN ASTROLOGICAL JINX ?

by Carole Young

Being a keen student of the noble art of astrology I took a look at the position of the planets when the Earthquest team noticed that there had been a high proportion of accidents of various kinds within a short space of time, during the month of September. In particular, the period from 11th to 14th September.

Here are some details. On September 11th there was a helicopter crash near Mannheim, West Germany which killed 46 parachutists. The next day 39 people were killed as a train hit a tourist bus near Zurich and many others were killed in a similar accident in India. Again on the 12th there occurred a gun battle in Beirut killing 3 and injuring many more in that already tragic city. A Spanish DC10 airliner crashed on September 13th at Malaga which killed 46 people and on that day Princess Grace crashed her car, after suffering a brain haemorrhage and died shortly afterwards. On 14th September the Lebanese President-elect, Bashire Gemayel was killed in a bomb blast in Beirut. Also on the 14th there was another helicopter crash, this time in the North Sea. Six men who were on a mercy mission were killed. Around this period of time there were many reported car crashes nationally, some of them involving many cars at a time. Looking at the local paper in Essex, the Evening Echo, I noticed that there were also many car crashes, several fatal and I witnessed one crash myself.

So, to get back to astrology, armed with my ephemeris (booklet of the planets' places, in case you were wondering) I checked out the mundane planetary positions and aspects. This is what I found.

Immediately noticeable was the presence of Mars in the zodiacal sign of Scorpio, Mars is associated with accidents, strife and war when it is displaying it's more destructive face. Meaning, when it is badly aspected to other planets. Planet Mars is also associated with machinery. Where you find a fire there is nearly always the presence of Mars observable in the heavens. The fact that Mars was in Scorpio at that time is certainly relevant to a high proportion of accidents. The sign of Scorpio is symbolically associated with death or more precisely the transition from one state of being to the next, transformation, death and rebirth. Not always physical death of course. However, Mars in Scorpio, if afflicted can indicate violent death, if there are other factors to support this active in the solar system. It is also important to mention here that a bad aspect from Mars does not always manifest as a physical or violent happening, it could work out for example as a very nasty argument. So, Mars in Scorpio is not all trouble and strife and when conditions are right it can have a beneficial influence as Mars is indeed a co-ruler of water element sign Scorpio.

Now, what else was going on heaven wise. Well, also contributory I think was the fact that Saturn and Pluto, two mighty and slow moving planets were moving close to a conjunction (joining up) during September. Now this conjunction does not happen very often, the last time it happened was in 1914, the start of the first world war, whoops! No, I'm not saying that there's going to be another world war, just what happened last time around. Saturn can bring sorrow, endings and restrictions in it's more negative influence and Pluto being the planetary ruler of Scorpio is associated with transformation, meaning it can bring about massive changes, death, elimination and regeneration. These two planets joining plus Mars in Scorpio, when badly aspected, can indicate the sort of conditions we are looking at. The conjunction of Pluto and Saturn took place in the air element sign of Libra and quite a few accidents happened in the air. This particular conjunction in Libra lasts until November 1982 when Saturn moves into Scorpio. As for Mars, he moved out of Scorpio on 19th September 1982.

When an astrologer looks to the stars to see just what planetary aspects may relate or seem to relate to a particular event or series of events on planet earth, it is always seen to be a combination of aspects and placements occurring at around the same time, not just one.

Now lets look at the planet Neptune and see what he was doing around September. Why, well because Neptune is notorious for being involved whenever there are accidents afoot, and not just accidents at sea either? For example on September 11th when the helicopter crashed in West Germany, the moon was moving through the air sign of Gemini the twins and in opposition to Neptune in Sagittarius. So, looking at the other planetary situation and Neptune the planetary mood of the day was not very good for flying. The moon also afflicted Mars in Scorpio. Why is Neptune associated with accidents? Because it's influence can bring about confusion, dreaminess and forgetfulness, you know, downright lack of attention to the practical job in hand something we all suffer from more or less.

On September 13th when the Spanish DC10 crashed at Malaga, Neptune was also involved. The sun in Virgo afflicted Neptune by forming a 90 degree or square aspect and so did the moon. This was a nasty day as the Moon also made a difficult aspect to the Saturn - Pluto conjunction in Libra. So, there were several elements of discord operative on that day.

It is worth noting that while Mars was in Scorpio it opposed the newly discovered planetoid/planet (it has not yet been decided whether to call it a planet or a planetoid) CHIRON pronounced Keron and an opposition when Mars is involved is a potentially dangerous one. Chiron was discovered on November 1st 1977 by Charles Kowal. There is not a great deal known about it's astrological influence, due to it's recent discovery, but a lot of research is going on so hopefully more information will be forthcoming. It is, of course, helpful if individual astrologers do their own Chiron watching. Chiron in September was in Taurus, the opposite sign to Scorpio. It has been suggested that Chiron tends to activate the unconventional and erratic tendency of the

planet it contacts, so Mars in opposition to Chiron would be highly volatile in nature. I am not suggesting that the Chiron - Mars connection is definitely a contributory factor in this case, but it is certainly worth looking at, as we have a lot to learn about Chiron, especially in aspect. One of the keywords given to Chiron is 'maverick' and it has an affinity with the sign of Sagittarius, a sign associated with the search for knowledge, expansion and movement, adventure, sport and travel. On the day of the helicopter crash the Moon opposed Neptune in Sagittarius and Mars opposed Chiron.

To sum up, in my view, the main contributory factors involved astrologically during the period under study were the Saturn Pluto join in Libra and Mars in Scorpio. Also, various afflictions to Neptune and possibly the Chiron, Mars opposition.

Also worth stating, is that Saturn moves into Scorpio in December 1982 until May 1983 when it returns to Libra and forms another conjunction with Pluto until August 1983 when it again moves into Scorpio. It has to be said that Saturn in Scorpio is certainly not all sweetness and light, even though it does have its more positive influence, such as a strong sense of purpose and direction and dedication. It can also bring suffering and oppression and at least hardship in its wake. Saturn stays in Scorpio until Autumn 1985 and will be joined by Pluto, which moves into Scorpio in November 1983 and stays till, wait for it, 1995. So Pluto will be in Scorpio for a long time but for 2 years we will experience a Saturn-Pluto conjunction in Scorpio. A rare joining of planets indeed. Now, this aspect could wreak terrible havoc that would effect us all or a great proportion of people as Pluto is a generation planet, meaning it effects a whole generation of people in a similar way. I will just mention that Scorpio is a sign that is associated with Middle Eastern Countries but as mentioned Pluto has an effect on the masses.

Pluto is also associated with nuclear energy. Let me make one thing clear here, I am certainly not giving out a straight message of doom. Astrology is not that cut and dried, just like life. Astrology is a criss-crossing of sometimes conflicting and sometimes harmonising energies that goes up to make the tapestry of life, highly colourful and very varied. Of course, astrology is not like clairvoyance, with astrology you cannot necessarily see how energies will manifest physically but you can see the energies behind a physical happening that may cause certain physical conditions or to be more precise relate to not cause physical conditions here on earth.

Pluto and Saturn in Scorpio has another deeply significant implication. The potential is also there for some beneficial results. It could for example indicate the re-awakening of profound spiritual knowledge and natural lore, perhaps by creating the sort of conditions where the necessary transformation in the minds and lives of the people that allow this knowledge

to surface. It could also indicate very significant discoveries coming about, possibly in the field of healing with which Scorpio is associated. Discoveries may be made of rich natural resources and forms of energy or of physical items that have been hidden for a very long time. Well, we will see won't we? it's not that long off!

A point well worth remembering with regard to astrology is that old saying that "the stars incline rather than compel." It is very important for anyone interested in astrology to understand that. As Shakespeare wrote "the fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings ...". That statement does not, repeat not, make a nonsense of astrology. It simply means that the more aware an individual is the more able he is to work with the planetary influences rather than be continually influenced badly by them. He or she will not so readily jump in response to the negative influences. In effect, they have a choice to respond more often to the good and natural rather than the bad and false. The last thing I want to tell people, as an astrologer, is to blame everything on 'something' out there, you know a 'jinx', that is superstition. So I have to be boring and unsensational folks and tell you that on the dates mentioned in September there was no jinx operating in the heavens. Astrology at it's finest is about getting individuals to look within to help self understanding and development and to become aware and an astrological chart is simply a tool in this. Know Thyself - as they said in ancient Greece. It applies just as much in this day and age perhaps even more so.



KING ARTHUR'S CROSS

A REPORT BY YOUR EDITOR AND MIKE LEWIS

Earlier this year National newspapers ran stories on the sorry plight of one Derek Mahoney who had just been committed to a two year prison sentence at Pentonville. His crime was no ordinary one, or not the sort you would expect for such a harsh penalty. He had neither committed a robbery, a mugging, a rape, or arson. No, none of these. His supposed crime was refusing to hand over an artifact he'd found whilst involved in a dredging process at Forty Hall, Enfield, in Middlesex.

This artifact Mahoney had inadvertently uncovered was a lead cross, some nine inches in height, which he eventually began to realise, was the exact description of Arthur's Cross supposedly found upon the wooden coffin of King Arthur in the Twelfth Century by the Monks of Glastonbury Abbey. An object which, if genuine, was priceless.

The newspaper reports stated that Mahoney had presented the cross to the British Museum who, although recognising it's appearance, cast it off as an eighteenth century replica. Despite their request to hold onto the item, Mahoney refused to let it go. A local newspaper ran a report on the findings of the cross, and this alerted Enfield Council to its existence. They immediately took steps to make Mahoney hand it over to them. Forty Hall was their property, so any artifact found on this land would naturally belong to the Council. Mahoney refused, and a court case ensued, alerting the Nationals to this intriguing story. A court order to hand over the cross was ignored and this led to the two year prison sentence, much to the dismay of everyone, least of all Mahoney himself.

Making sure that no one, save a rightful heir, would be able to possess the cross, "Arthur's Cross", Mahoney buried it. Obviously he intends to retrieve it at a later date, but for now, no one is to know where it lays. Mahoney's family ardently support him, and are no doubt campaigning for an early pardon for their son. Latest news was that he has now been transferred to an open prison, awaiting the next move in this extraordinary saga.

The story has been featured twice on television, on the BBC's "Nationwide" programme, and one would think that public outcry would itself be strong enough to get an early release for Mahoney. Never-the-less the Country, in particular the Earth Mysteries community await further developments.

I for one am watching the case with some intrigue, as in many ways, it echoes the situation I was personally involved in where possible valuable historical artifacts were found. Most of you will know what I'm referring to! The sword, found with Graham Phillips, in 1979 bears Mary Queen of Scots personal insignia and an inscription in her name. It was discovered on land owned by the Earl of Coventry and the legal ownership of the sword has been the subject of some concern. I have written personally to his Lordship on the matter, submitting a copy of "The Sword and the Stone," the booklet outlining the circumstances in which it was found; but as yet have received no official reply. Obviously I don't want to find myself serving a two year prison sentence, so I am playing the situation very carefully.

Anyway, back to Arthur's Cross. I have been fortunate in finding someone, an ASSAP investigator named Dr. Michael Lewis of Barnet, who was willing to look into the story. He, quite uncannily, knew a neighbour of the Mahoney family and was able to compile a short article on the affair. This is now used in full and gives us a much clearer view of the situation surrounding the finding of the cross.

DEREK MAHONEY AND KING ARTHUR'S CROSS

By Michael Lewis

Coincidentally, I visited Forty Hall in early May on a Church outing. The house itself was not open to the public that day, but from the outside it seemed unprepossessing; the grounds are laid out as gardens and parkland which is quite extensive. In front of the house is a large duckpond, from which I presume the cross was dredged. It seems a most unlikely spot for such a momentous discovery!

An acquaintance of mine who lives in the same road as the Mahoney family (which comprises mother and two sons) and knows them quite well has provided much useful information. It appears that Derek Mahoney was recently made redundant and spent some of his time walking around Enfield. He became interested in pond-clearing operations at Forty Hall which he observed on one of his walks. This interest would appear to stem more from idle curiosity than from any knowledge of archaeology, and the Telegraph's description of him as an amateur archaeologist is merely journalistic licence. DM first of all noticed some old bricks in a wall and took a specimen home after photographing the wall. On another occasion he found a knife, and the cross in question in the mud at the edge of the pond. He again photographed these items and spoke to the foreman, but, as on the previous occasion, the foreman showed no interest in the matter and said the objects would be thrown into the skip. (The photographs have been viewed by my informant). No objection being raised, DM took the objects home.

Subsequently he had the cross examined (possibly by the British Museum) and was advised as to its probable origins. The matter came to public knowledge when he wrote a letter to the Enfield Gazette, which alerted Enfield Council. DM refused to hand over the cross to the Council, preferring to use the publicity the affair was generating to highlight a long-standing grievance the family had against the legal profession. Briefly, this relates to the sale of a property the Mahoneys used to own in Somerset: the allegation is that the auctioneer declined to place a reserve price on the property, which was then purchased for not much more than half the expected sale price by a plant. Apparently they were unable to obtain redress through either the Building Society concerned or their solicitors, and since then have conducted a campaign against corrupt practises by solicitors; this has entailed Ron, the younger brother, studying law, and the circulation of leaflets urging the public to refrain from employing solicitors.

By Easter the Mahoneys had decided that God had given them the cross; they were not interested in money and were concerned to find it a proper home. The family, including the brothers' elderly mother, became obsessed with the cross, although attempts were made by other members of the family to persuade Derek to surrender it and avoid jail.

DM is now in an open prison, and has lodged an appeal against sentence. His case was featured on TV recently (Nationwide), and his early release seems possible. The latest development is an attempt by Mr. George Byron of New Southgate to discover the whereabouts of the Cross by psychic means (attached Press cutting refers). Mr. Byron, who has a number of aliases including (unbeknown to the Local Advertiser!) Sean Manchester, achieved notoriety some years ago in the sage of the vampire in Highgate cemetery (!) He can safely be classified as a member of the lunatic fringe and his efforts to locate the Cross disregarded.

* * * * *

I would be interested to here more on the results of the psychic search for the cross. The date they propose for this exercise is intriguing, probably one of the most notorious in mystical lore.

HISTORY OF THE CROSS

Perhaps it would not go a miss to give a brief history of the so-called Arthur's Cross, as passed down to us by the proliferators of the Avalonian saga.

During the latter part of the twelfth century, the subject of King Arthur and his noble Knights had become a centre piece in European literature. For hundreds of years he had been the legendary hero of the Welsh who exalted him as their idealistic spiritual figurehead. Prophecy said he would rise again one day to lead the Welsh against the English. This the English King of the time, Henry II despised. He, it seems, sought to seal the myth of King Arthur as a British hero, thus dispiriting the Welsh claim to his totally Celtic status.

The question of Arthur's burial place was obscure. In Geoffrey of Monmouth's "History of the Kings of England," a fanciful literary piece on British Monarchy, Arthur, after his death at the hands of his son Modred in 542, is carried off to Avalon. The exact whereabouts of this mythical land was a matter of speculation, although some suggested it was Glastonbury in Somerset.

STONE TAPE REALITY

With these problems in mind whilst journeying in Wales, Henry apparently learnt from a Bard that Arthur's grave was sited in the burial grounds of Glastonbury Abbey, which was already the site of many past great Christian Saints. Excavations were planned, but in 1184, the Abbey took a terrible blow - it caught fire. Little remained but ruins. Henry eventually came to the rescue, producing the necessary funds for it's restoration.

Six years later Arthur's apparent grave was unearthed by the monks of the Abbey at the exact position the Welsh Bard had indicated. At a depth of seven feet they came across a stone slab, with a lead cross set into it's underside. Upon this was an inscription in a Saxon style of script which read: HIC JACET SEPULTUS INCLYTUS REX ARTURUS IN INSULA AVALLONIA. 'Here lies buried the renowned King Arthur in the Isle of Avalon.'

At a depth of sixteen feet a colossal coffin, a hollowed oaken log, set at a slight angle was found. Inside were the bones of a huge human form, male, and those of a female, whom a scratched name on the wood, claimed were those of Arthur's Queen - Guinevere.

Our main account of this dramatic, and possibly startling discovery, comes down to us in the writings of Giraldus Cambrensis who allegedly visited the site and viewed the bones shortly after their exhumation.

That the cross existed is seemingly beyond question. It was on display at Glastonbury for some considerable time. As Geoffrey Ashe in his "King Arthur's Avalon" states "Leland saw it at the Abbey in the reign of Henry VIII. Camden, about 1607, drew a picture of it. It has been traced to a Mr. Chancellor Hughes of Wells in the eighteenth century, and possibly is still lying unnoticed in some family lumber-room." Or in the bottom of a lake in Enfield, Middlesex?

It has been suggested that, although the cross was in the style of West Country crosses of the Dark Ages, it may not be genuine. It was nine feet above the level of the coffin to start with. And why include a place-name? As Geoffrey Ashe points out: "Anyone visiting the grave would presumably have known where he was." But of course the reference to "Avallonia" obviously clinched the relationship between Arthur's legendary burial place, and Glastonbury.

Some believe the cross, possibly even the coffin itself, was a total fabrication of the monks of Glastonbury who desperately needed funds for the upkeep of the Abbey. It would be an attraction for visiting pilgrims, church authorities, and future Kings of England. It would also seal Glastonbury as the spiritual centre of Britain.

Ulterior motives are present in the story of the discovery of Arthurs cross and tomb. Whether the bones were those of Arthur, the sixth century Celtic warrior, is open to debate. It is even more doubtful that the cross was genuine. Even so, it can never be ruled out that the monks were right.

Whether the Arthur's cross found by Derek Mahoney this year is an seventeenth century replica, an item made by the monks of Glastonbury Abbey during the twelfth century, or something far older - it is priceless. What becomes of it remains to be seen. His family believe he was inspired "by God" to find it and that it should remain his possession until a "rightful" inheritor can be found. If this is the case, then "God only knows" what will finally be the outcome of Arthur's cross.

Under the headline of "Listen! Walls do have ears," the Evening Echo of 24th August ran the following item: "Walls really do have ears, say scientist Alan Jenkins and electrical engineer John Marks. They claim walls can record noises and keep them for hundreds of years.

After sending electrical impulses into the wall of a Mid-Glamorgan pub, out came organ music, voices, footsteps and a clock ticking, they say. Now the pair want impartial observers to try again and a language expert to translate what they think is medieval Welsh."

Instantly I read this I shot over to the newsdesk and asked where they got the information, to which they said the "mail that morning." Here the story was covered in more detail, or so I hear, and included a quote by Nigel Neale, the writer of a television play called "The Stone Tapes" which was screened during the sixties. He, if you recall, wrote the various episodes of "Quatermass".

The play centred upon a group of scientists who believed that ghosts were the result of stored thoughts and impressions of the past, which were somehow encaptured in the fabric of buildings. The scientists follow up a ghost report and attempt to use electronic equipment to "trigger off" the stored impressions and "release" the ghost into visual form. Needless to say they succeed in the end. I recall seeing the play in my younger days but found it too technical, confusing, and uninteresting. The "stone tape" idea was way beyond me, but to others, eminent parapsychologists of the period, it was a thought-provoking concept, in absolute contrast to the existing "spirits-of-the-dead" idea to explain ghost phenomena.

Many started to consider the idea of "place memories" - impressions of the past being stored in inanimate objects, building structures, and the landscape. At certain times, when the right conditions prevail, and under the correct circumstances, these impressions would be released and picked up by an unsuspecting recipient in the vicinity at the time. The brain would then interpret these into sensory impressions, including visual images. Tina Powell, of the Rhine Institute, worked heavily on the "stone tape" theory during the early seventies. She came to the conclusion that there existed a relationship between different types of building material and the presence of both ghost and poltergeist phenomena. Yet long before this the author, psychic, and dowser Tom Lethbridge had presented his concept of "place memories," the ability of various places to produce a memory field holding an image of the places past.

For further information on the "stone tape" idea I suggest you read "The Supernaturalist One" - and the article "Ghosts - the not so romantic truth?"

Exactly what scientist Alan Jenkins and electrical engineer John Marks have actually found is difficult to know until they submit a paper on the topic in question to the parapsychological community. What I do know is that if their findings are as remarkable as they seem then we had better prepare to completely revamp the general public's view of just what ghost phenomena is all about.

A GHOST STORY

The story, and that is all it is - a story, is included mainly to illustrate the ideas put forward in the "stone tape" idea looked at earlier in this issue. It is also a potentially interesting case and exemplifies the boundaries of what we term "haunted house" phenomena.

The case involves a series of incidents experienced by a Mrs. Heather Hammond, aged forty one, of Plymouth, Devon who wrote to me some time ago. The story is taken from a neatly typed account of the incident, and further telephone conversations made with Mrs. Hammond to help verify and ascertain the full extent of her claims. She has kindly consented to the use of her experience in this publication.

WITNESS BACKGROUND

Mrs. Hammond is happily married and leading a normal life as a housewife to her husband, who is a naval officer. Since a very young age she claims to have experienced a number of incidents concerning psychic activity and paranormal experiences, including telepathy, precognition, psychometry, clairvoyance, and astral projection. All of which she felt natural to everyone, as she was aware that her mother had also experienced similar incidents during her life.

However, as she grew older she began to realise that those around her did not share her open thoughts on paranormal abilities, so she became very reticent about speaking of her experiences. For this reason the following series of incidents have been mentioned to only a few, yet from her own point of view she holds them with reverence, and is happy to relate what apparently occurred to those whom she feels will accept her claims with sincerity.

THE INCIDENTS

The incidents referred to occurred during 1973 when Mrs. Hammond was in her early thirties. At the time she was courting a local man, whom we shall refer to as John Bardman. Her sister Susan was going out with John's friend Steven Rayland (pseudonym), and as can be imagined, the four were very close and spent much of their time together, as each had similar tastes, likes and dislikes.

During early October that year John invited Heather and the other couple to stay at his parent's Plymouth home, as they were away on holiday. The house itself is set within a terrace, with the family using the topmost flat. John's bedroom was in the attic, as it was in here that he and Heather intended sleeping. The other couple were to spend the night in the bedroom next door which was parted from John's room by a wall and door.

The others accepted the offer and during the first evening the foursome played scrabble, eventually retiring to bed shortly after midnight.

Heather started to hear what she described as a strange humming noise, which she at first assumed was something to do with the other couple in the next bedroom. As it increased with intensity she mentioned the noise to John, who was apparently relieved to find that she could also hear it, as, according to

her story, he had been experiencing the noise since the 1st of that month, in other words, for over two weeks.

At this point John's dog Kim, became restless, whining and panting just outside their door on the landing. As the noise increased Heather likened it to monks chanting. Then, apparently, the couple in the other bedroom shouted "What are you doing?" confirming that they could also hear what was going on.

Heather became terrified as the "chanting" filled the bedroom. So loud was it that their speech became completely audible. John then, at a loss to comprehend what was happening, left the room to go into the other couple's room, leaving Heather alone, sitting upright in bed, her knees under her chin, too afraid to turn on the bedside light.

With an intense, piercing scream the chanting stopped, leaving the room in silence once more. Then, apparently, Heather said she distinctly heard a music box playing from across the other side of the room, despite their being no music box in the house. For her this was the final straw, and in fright she exited the room to join the others.

Once again the chanting began as before, as together the four, rather frightened figures, listened in bafflement as it reached a peak, appeared to fill the room, then cut off suddenly, after the same high pitched scream. All four noted that the air in the room was seemingly colder, and making them shiver. Heather described the sensation of a swirling 'current' in the air, which along with the apparent drop of temperature, seemed to wane after the sounds stopped for the second time.

Feeling a little more comfortable Heather and John returned to their own room and eventually all four were able to get some sleep. The following morning the girls got up early and attempted to find some logical explanation for the events of the previous night. They searched the house from top to bottom but found nothing. To them it was a complete mystery.

That had been a Tuesday night. On the following Saturday, John again invited the others to stay the night at his parents home. The girls accepted, having convinced themselves that the strange events of the previous Tuesday had to have some mundane and logical explanation.

The four retired to their respective bedrooms around a similar time, and, according to Heather, the chanting began again only seconds after she had got into bed. Immediately all four assembled in the other's bedroom and listened carefully, awaiting the anticipated climax. Just as before, the chanting increased with intensity until it seemed to fill the whole room, drowning any speech. Then came the scream, just as before. However, this was followed by the sound of footsteps on the uncarpeted stairs leading to the attic. They seemed to be shuffling, and over which was heard what seemed like asthmatic breathing, and a hand sliding against a wall as if using it for support.

The series of sounds ceased momentarily on the landing outside the room they were in. John apparently wanted to open the door but, not unnaturally, was persuaded not to by the girls. A soft scuffling was then heard, and the footsteps started again, now inside John and Heather's bedroom.

What happened next, I will leave to Heather's account:-

"The next part is difficult to describe, but it was like the dividing wall between the rooms had been removed. My sister and I both saw the same scene with only minor differences or observations, but as far as I am aware, the two men saw nothing.

Where John's bedhead stood, there was an open fireplace. As you face it and to the left, was a rocking chair. A woman sat in it. In her hand she held an open musical box and in her other arm a baby slept as she rocked. The woman wore a green, plain, high necked dress. Her hair was dark and pulled into two 'wings' either side of her face. I didn't see her face properly, but the impression was of a youngish person ... early twenties maybe.

With his back to the fire, stood an elderly man. He was about 5 feet seven or eight, grey haired and his clothes looked like the pictures of the Quaker dress. The woman seemed afraid of him. She jumped up, dropping the box which stopped or broke. Then everything was 'normal' again."

COMMENTS

As the 'ghost' story is purely a subjective testimony an evaluation from a research point would be impossible. Of course, it is hoped to follow up Mrs. Hammond's claims at some later date, and to perhaps visit the Plymouth building involved. A study of its history would be implicably useful for our purposes, additionally to discover whether it even existed during the seventeen hundreds: the apparent period to which our 'ghosts' belong.

But for the moment we have only the account of the ghostly incidents, and just from these it appears we have a good example, to support any 'stone tape' idea, provided we primarily accept Mrs. Hammond's claims as genuine, unexaggerated, and representative of what actually did take place in that house during October 1973.

Mrs. Hammond says that the first indication of the ghostly experience taking place was when the humming noise first began only minutes after the two couples had gone to bed. We must assume this was audible to each of the four, affirming immediately that the phenomena was external in origin. The dog also reacted by whining and showing general unrest, implying that it too was in some way aware of something unusual afoot. The noise grew with intensity until it was said to be filling the room and resembled 'chanting monks', introducing at this point, the possibility of past human personalities creating a sound that was being 'heard' through paranormal means.

Naturally, all percipients immediately assumed some mundane cause for what was happening, yet still the sound persisted, making their own speech inaudible. Suddenly, the chanting ceases, as it reaches an apparent height, and a 'high scream' is heard, indicating, again, some past human sound of an intense emotional nature. All four percipients heard this, although the sound that followed, the musical box was only reported by Mrs. Hammond.

So far the account is of a typical paranormal or 'ghost' - like incident, yet then with all four percipients together in one room the same sequence of occurrences happen for a second time; as before, commencing with the humming noise and ending with the scream. No musical box was heard, although Mrs. Hammond was, it must be remembered, in a different room on this occasion.

Both times the events were the same, certainly supporting the idea that the sequence was in some way sparked into action like a tape recording. We also find out that John, Mrs. Hammond's boyfriend, had also experienced the same sequence of events everynight for nearly two weeks, since the first of the month in fact. Never before though.

Also interesting is the fact that during the pattern of events, the room temperature appeared to drop, leaving Mrs. Hammond and John shivering, an effect that ceased only after the second time the events occurred. This, as many paranormal investigators will know, is something often reported in 'haunted' houses and can be physical in nature. However, it has also been suggested that this coldness effect could be another by-product of released energy from, in particular, quartz based structures, effecting the nervous system directly and making the brain believe a drop in actual body temperature has taken place.

Mrs. Hammond also reported a kind of 'swirling' of air currents around her while the events were taking place. This too could quite well be another non-physical effect of the release of the stored imprints or energies.

The percipients still searched for some mundane explanation to account for what had taken place, but found none. No neighbours or people in the vicinity of the building at the time of the occurrences, came forward to confirm that the phenomena was audible from anywhere else aside from the rooms in which the witnesses were in.

That had been the Tuesday night. On the following Saturday the four convened at the house again under the same basic conditions, still feeling that the previous visit's strange occurrences could, in some way, be logically explained. The four retired to bed at a similar time, and almost immediately the same pattern of events began to occur. The humming noise, followed by the chanting, then the high scream. Again the sounds were audible to all involved, and this time they assembled together in one room for, what is assumed, some mutual reassurance.

This time though, instead of the sequence recommencing, a sequel began to take place. Shuffling footsteps were audible on the stairs leading up to the attic, accompanied by what appeared to be asthmatic breathing and a hand sliding against the wall, as if for support. This then implying the audible sounds of a person climbing the stairs. As the door to the attic was closed nothing was seen, but from the sounds heard it seemed as if the 'person' reached the landing outside their room, paused, and then entered the room next to them, Heather and John's bedroom.

At this point the account becomes somewhat intriguing as both girls, yet not the men, see the attic as it may have appeared some time in the past; without a partition between the rooms; an open fireplace where John's bed stood; a woman sitting down on a rocking chair; and an elderly man standing with his back to the fire. The scene that totally replaced their current environmental view is vivid, shared by both girls, and is apparently set in the seventeen hundreds judging from the description given.

The woman is holding a musical box, quite possibly the one heard in that room by Heather the previous Tuesday. She appears afraid of the man, an act of extreme emotion. She jumps up, drops the box which brakes or stops, ending the vision, and returning the girls perception back to normality. Once again the swirling air is noticed until the paranormal occurrences finish.

From that point onwards no further incidents of a paranormal nature occur at the house; that is as far as Heather is aware.

It must seem feasible to suggest that the percipients to this case acted as catalysts to release into motion stored vibrational emanations held within the electrical fields of the building; and that in varying ways, they acted as receivers and interpreters to those released energies. Energies that were triggered into existence primarily by John on several consecutive nights, and then, collectively by all four during the final two nights.

In this case we are apparently dealing with all the various constituents of a haunted house, yet their does appear to be some semblance of order in what occurred, more so than many cases of a similar nature. Because of this repeatability we can quite openly speculate on a cause that does adhere to logical deductions; taking us away from the individuality of some reported actions of supposed 'ghosts' or hauntings; the factor that invariably supports ideas of semi-intelligent personalities of discarnate entities at play.

The recurring pattern of events also lends weight to the 'stone tape' theories being the cause of hauntings, much more than many such cases. In fact, as previously mentioned, Mrs. Hammond's account can be cited as a very good example to support the hypothesis in every way.

The case also shows quite clearly that we are dealing with phenomena that can effect more than one period, in the form of sensory impressions that suggest some external stimulus at work. All four percipients 'heard' the sounds. All apparently felt the drops in temperature. However, it was only the girls who had any form of visual impressions to accompany the proceedings; and in a way far beyond the usual norm of "ghost" phenomena. Most witnesses to ghostly manifestations only perceive key factors, such as a person, or the centre of attraction, overlaying, yet independent, of their naturally perceived environment. Yet in this case their whole visual environment changed to accord with the paranormal manifestations, letting them see, we must summarize, the environmental situation at the point when the assumed imprints or energies were left by the transmitter(s).

Such instances are by no means unusual in paranormal lore, yet are invariably catalogued as different to the appearance of ghostly manifestations. They are known in this league as "time slips" or distortions of reality. It seems that the viewing of a ghost is merely the primary version of such "time slips".

The fact that only the two girls actually saw anything implies that their sensory faculties were more open or sensitive than those of the men: indicating that their brains were more able to 'pick up' or translate the released energies involved. Lending thought as to why only certain people are apparently able to see ghosts, whilst others in their presence see or feel nothing. In Mrs. Hammond's case this may be reflective upon the other supposed psychic and paranormal experiences.

So accepting the "stone tape" theory as the root cause of the percipient's experiences in this case, we must question why they occurred in the first place. It seems possible that they were, on each occasion triggering into motion the stored impressions left at the house, or at the position of the house, sometime in the past. The musical box sounds, the person walking up the stairs, as the visual impressions of the girls seem

inter-related, and could well stem from an incident that occurred at the house during the 'seventeen hundreds'. The woman seen did appear to be 'afraid'; an emotion that is commonly associated with hauntings. The scream, too is an act of high emotion, which as yet unfortunately we have no reason to link it to the seventeen hundred's scene.

The chanting monk-like sound is truly out of context with the other recorded occurrences, and may well stem from another period and situation altogether. Such chanting, coupled with the appearance of ghostly ecclesiastical figures is very common, especially at the sites of churches, priories, abbeys, etc., and could relate to the emotion of absolute contentedness through religious devotion. (It may even be that our Plymouth Building was built over the site of a past Holy place.) However, it must be recalled that Mrs. Hammond says the noises only sounded "like" "monk's chanting".

In conclusion, we can see that Mrs. Hammond has provided us with an account that, if correct, has proved to be a potentially interesting case at face value; one that helps support the transmitter/receiver ideas. Yet a lot more work would be needed to cite the case as actually proof of any theory, and that hopefully, is something for the future.

EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS continued from back page

UFO RESEARCH REVIEW - Bob Morrell's NUFOIS (Nottingham UFO Investigat Society) produce this very critical and influential journal. His words on any matter of interest are always highly delighting. 25p from NUFOIS 443 Meadow Lane, Nottingham.

WALRUS AND THE TEMPLAR - Two great Earth Mysteries publications from the "Prince of Geomancy" - Nigel Pennick. "Walrus" is guaranteed to be full of topical, zany, and important articles on everything. from masonic conspiracies, through to nuclear bunkers and underground trains. £2.25 (3 issues) from the Institute of Geomantic Research, 142 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8SD. "The Templar" is somewhat more down-to-earth. It purports to study the origins, lore, geometry, geomancy, architecture and symbolism of circular sacred buildings. It also looks at the Knights Templar history and wisdom. Well recommended. £3.25 p.a. (4 issues) from the I.G.R. at the above address.

THE SUPERNATURALIST - Issue one (210 copies) is now out of print. Issue two - The Sword and the Stone - has only a few copies left. Reprints are expected, and details will be announced soon. Issue three is entitled THE RUNNING WELL and is the most adventurous project so far. It is a fascinating account of the legends, superstitions, and hidden history of an Essex village named Runwell. As the story gradually unfolds the mysteries of its past deepen and suggest a long forgotten "secret" of the landscape. A "secret" held within a mystical design associated with the Parish and seemingly alluded to in a strange book written by a past Rector of Runwell.

THE RUNNING WELL traces this apparent "secret" in an almost detective like fashion using investigative research and psychic work. The findings prove to be both monumental and controversial. Yet will, in time, perhaps play a crucial part in our understanding of the Neolithic race and their influence upon history and religion in Essex.

Price £1.75 including postage and packing from The Supernaturalist, 19 St. Davids Way, Wickford, Essex. SS11 8EX.

BOOK REVIEWS

Critical and enlightening reviews of old and new books alike will appear in Earthquest News. They will be like articles unto themselves, containing more than just a dialogue of the books contents.

EARTH LIGHTS by Paul Devereux (Turnstone Press 1982)

Like many within the Earth Mysteries I'd heard Paul Devereux's "Earth Lights" talk before the book. On the first occasion I was stunned in amazement at the implications of his findings and decided he'd got the final answer. I still believe this not because it was Paul Devereux who discovered these "secrets of man," but because he was the first to set them down and get them published.

In short, Paul's book puts forward the theory that UFO's, or "Earth Lights" as he terms them, are the result of seismic activity in areas of high faulting. Additionally, these areas are linked integrally with abnormal meteorology, forteen phenomena, histories of strange happenings, and the presence of the megalithic culture. It suggests a relationship between the human consciousness and UFO phenomenon, and that ancient man knew how to harness and utilize the natural forces of the earth and the heavens.

The UFO enigma has been treated in a very biased way ever since its introduction into modern day society in 1947. Immediately "flying saucers" were alien spaceships, and nothing else. Since then the argument has either been for or against the probability of UFO's being extra-terrestrial in origin. They have become virtually a modern day belief system, with thousands of cults across the world today believing that UFOs are piloted by the "space brothers" who are about to save our planet from some major catastrophe and bring about unilateral peace.

UFO research and investigation has also been strongly biased towards the extra-terrestrial hypothesis (ETH). Only in the last ten to fifteen years have we begun to see some of the other sides of this strange phenomena. For instance, we can see that UFO's reflect our own technological advancements and concepts of what a spaceman should look like. We have seen there exist patterns in UFO witnesses, suggesting a certain link between certain types of people and the phenomena seen. There are obvious psychic overtones, since nearly half of all genuine sightings involve subjects with a history of psychic experiences. When we come to "close encounters", this rises to seventy-five per cent. We have learnt to distrust contact and abduction experiences; and nearly all UFO, researchers and authors would deny ETH explanations; openly at least.

Our next little piece comes from the distant past. It is a note on the idolatrous practice of revering ancient sites; in particular Holy Wells. Written by the Rev. Philip Morant in 1816 it appears as a footnote on page 115 of his "History & Antiquities of Essex." Seeing he was a noted antiquarian of this County, having written this, the most definitive work on the history of Essex, this footnote caught my eye. It bemuses me and, in terms applicable to the early ~~eighteen~~ fourteenth hundreds, sums up the situation regarding the persistence of well devotion.

It is included for no other reason, than to baffle people by showing the Rev. Philip Morant within the contents page. Thought it might make a few scratch their heads!

The Foolish Art of Well Worship **THE REV. PHILIP MORANT**

The worship of Springs and Fountains was of a very ancient Original, as appears not only from the ancient Heathen Authors but also from Christian monuments. For 'tis observable, that long after our Saxon ancestors had embraced Christianity, yet they retain'd the observation of many idolatrous and superstitious customs relating to Springs and Wells, as may be inferred from injunctions and canons made to forbid them. Thus in Constitutions made in 967, under K. Edgar, we find these words. 'We teach, that Priests shall abolish all Heathenish superstitions; and forbid the Worship of Wells ... and of Trees and Stones' By which two last are understood Groves, and Altars of Stone erected in the fields: of which Field altars there are remains to be found in several places. In another Canon in the forefaid Penitential, there is a Prohibition against vowing or bringing alms or offerings to any wells, or fountains, or tree, or to any other creature, but only in God's name to God's church - Also in a Saxon homily of Bishop Lupus, mention is made of fomes, who being seduced by the devil, in their afflictions vow their alms, either to well, or fountain. And in another homily, he cautions men against worshipping Wells or Trees. This foolish custom of worshipping and bringing offerings to Trees and Fountains, continued after the Conquest, as appears by a Synod at London in 1102 by the Constitutions of Walter Bishop of Worcester in 1240 and the injunctions of Oliver Bishop of Lincoln in 1280. which two last forbid the worshipping of Cerne, and Rolls-well; St. Edward's well near St. Clement's at Oxford, and St. Laurence's well near Peterburgh. Concil Mag. Britain - The superstitious veneration paid to St. Winifred's well, is also well known.

The idea of UFO's and other anomalous phenomena being integrally linked with seismic activity and fault lines is not new. I recall back in 1977 Barry King, alias Paul Grant, in my "Paul Grant Affair." mentioning such a connection. Psychically he was "told" that lake monsters, like "Nessie," and those of the other Lochs of Scotland and Ireland, were the product of electromagnetic anomalies resulting from deep faulting. During 1979 Graham Phillips, Martin Keatman, and I made an extensive study of Loch Ness and it's surroundings, for a proposed T.V. series. We eventually concluded that Loch Ness was a "window area" of strange phenomena of all types. This included everything from strange lights, foratean happenings, odd disappearances, out-of-time animals, bizarre synchronicities, and various psychic experiences. Such areas were it was felt, due to the strong presence of electro-magnetic anomalies, and which we named EMANIC fields (fields of electro-magnetic anomaly), stating that: "A great many of these emanic areas fall on geographical fault lines."

Devereux gives ample evidence to support his hypothesis. Earth Lights he says are formed as a byproduct of tectonic stress below the surface of our planet using piezo-electric affects (the producing of energy through rocks being put under a great pressure). He compares them with so-called "earthquake lights" seen before, during, or after earthquakes. All this being written before the announcement, last year, that American scientists have now been able to create globular light forms in a laboratory by crushing rocks at a great pressure. This "icing on the cake of confirmation" was undoubtedly a feather in Devereux's cap. That, I believe, no one can deny (see also review of BBC "Horizon" programme on UFO's elsewhere in this issue).

From the point of view of the Earth Mysteries community this book is a landmark in our understanding of the subtle processes of the earth, and not just from the UFO prospective. This book gives a working system of reasons to explain what megalithic man was doing erecting huge monoliths and heaps of earth across our landscape. In scientific terms he has outlined our necessity to deeply study and re-evaluate the knowledge possessed by our neolithic ancestors. No longer does a genuine Earth Mysteries enthusiast have to give some meaningless, subjective reply to questions about telluric energies and the ebbs and flows of nature's rhythmic cycles.

From the point of view of the UFO enthusiast "Earth Lights" is another nail in the coffin of the ETH explanation, adding to those already forged by the likes of John Keel, Jacques Vallee, Jenny Randles, Alvin Lawson, and Carl Jung. Each of whom saw way beyond the accepted barriers of belief instilled within the general consensus of opinion regarding "flying saucers" and the UFO enigma. For this reason it will be hated and rejected out of hand by many. Not least of all by the members of BUFORA who ironically supplied Devereux with much of the statistical material on which he based his findings.

In argument against Devereux' evidence, those supporting the UFO/ETH explanation will cite the fact that he has used cases which fit his theories. Indeed, I could suggest a great many such cases which quite obviously do not fit the "Earth Lights" theory. Other researchers could quite easily do the same. This is because the

the theory is merely one facet of a multi-faceted jewel. At no time could one ever see it in its true prospective.

From the point of view of scientific orthodoxy this is the natural science of tomorrow. Yet when that tomorrow will arrive is unclear. Alongside the works of Thom, Critchlow, Michell, Brennan and Tom Graves, the Earth Mysteries science will gradually sink into the path of orthodox thinking. Last year archaeologists admitted the existence of "alignments" of prehistoric sites, while paleontologists admitted that Neolithic man was "as intelligent" as us. These are major advancements. Next year a few more speculative ideas will fall to orthodoxy. What will they be? Who knows, only time will tell.

To Joe Public "Earth Lights" will probably go way beyond their comprehension. To them UFO's will always mean "little green men", "spaceships," and the possibility of life on other planets. You try telling them UFO's are the by product of seismic activity deep below the earth using piezo-electricity. It is easier to believe in "men from outer space." It will take far longer to convince them otherwise. Try it on your friends and relatives and see what happens, go on.

To me "Earth Lights" comes closer to the truth about UFO's than any of the other hundred or so books on the topic I possess. It is in a language I understand and spells out the theories it puts forward. Certainly it ranks in the top five books I have ever read on the subject. At £9.95 it is a bit steep on the 'ole pocket and for those poor and starving, there is always the library copy. Whatever, read it as it is going directly onto my compulsory reading list from now on.

UFO/IFO: A PROCESS OF ELIMINATION An Investigation by Scufori & Probe.

UFO investigation can be a very boring and trying subject. Groups and individuals may spend months looking into a case. They may compile an indepth report and submit this to some accepted authority or central body of analysis, only to find it is never published, either in full or in part. They may also have concluded that the phenomenon witnessed was none other than a misidentification of a known object. So disheartening, and seemingly pointless in many ways. Worst of all one may find your case used in some well known authors latest literary work supporting their latest theories. Such is life.

"UFO/IFO: A process of Elimination" is an attempt to create a real end product, a satisfying masterwork of two highly respected UFO investigation groups. This being Probe of Bristol and Scufori of Swindon. It is a 44 page, A5 format, production in offset-litho, with photographs and artwork. Such publications, I know, cost a lot of time and money. Compliments must go to Ian Mrzyglod and his team, who also produce the excellent "Probe Report" magazine.

Inside is a collection of articles by both Probe and SCUFORI members alongside some more familiar names, such as Ian Ridpath and Dr. Sue Blackmore. There are various case reports with illustrations and down-to-earth conclusions. The rest of the articles comprise of a brief review of what UFO's aren't. Ian Ridpath speaks about the misidentification of astronomical phenomena. Sue Blackmore reveals the nature of misperception, while Ian Mrzyglod explains photographic errors.

The case reports are mundane, although necessary, and act as very good examples as to the current trend of UFO investigation. It really is good to see quite logical and mundane explanations for extraordinary reports. I was heartened greatly by the attitude taken by Geoff Bird in evaluating the Mr. P case from Withywood, Bristol. By using the psychological and historical background of the witness he completely invalidates the case by interpreting the UFO in symbolic imagery. It is good, healthy stuff which shows a new face of UFO investigation today.

A new, hardline image is sweeping British UFO research. As Ian Mrzyglod quite rightly observes: "The cultist viewpoint, although still very evident in some quarters, is dwindling and fast being replaced by a methodical and rational approach, enforcing an objective attitude to all UFO events." As stated before, the sooner we get off this "UFOs-come-from-outer-space" kick the better for everyone.

At 80p "UFO/IFO: A process of Elimination" is well worth every penny. It is obviously not particularly topical for the casual armchair audience, but the rest of you should make it a success.

Obtainable from PROBE, 16 Marigold Walk, Ashton, Bristol. BS3 2PD. Also from SCUFORI at Swindon.



NEWS BRIEFS

EVENTFUL SUNDAY All in all I would say Sunday, 17th October was rather an eventful day from the point of view of our subject. Firstly, I decided to visit St. Mary's, Runwell, to take some photos of the Devil's Claw and the Prioress' tomb. After obtaining the key I let myself into the vestry and went through the door leading to the nave. This I closed only to realise it possessed a lock which would require a key to open. This I did not have. Thus, I was locked into St. Mary's with no escape route. Both the north and south doors were bolted and none of the windows opened. For an hour and a half I patiently awaited the arrival of someone, yet already I considered that I might have to wait for Evening Song at half past six; over five hours away!

Eventually, after studying the church's interior several times, I realised that the west door, covered by velvet draping, might be open. It was, and so I made my exit. The whole affair seemed absurd - being locked into the most haunted church in South-East Essex, and one that I am presently compiling a book about. It was an act of "bad luck", even if it was my fault. It almost appeared as if the church was holding me, an act often associated with ancient and mystical sites. Particular "bad luck" connected with researchers is commonplace and implies the workings of some guardian-like personality protecting the site. Researchers are in a sense, robbing places of their "secrets" and thus may trigger off the guardian, or defence mechanism of a magical site.

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Once I'd returned the key, the woman there spoke to me about the apparent desecrations of the church. She said that for some years a number of strange events had gone on in the church, much of it without logical explanation. On one occasion three dead blackbirds

were found placed around the font. On another one of the candle holders went missing over night, and more than one communion plate had vanished. Each occasion no forced entry was found, and so baffling the wardens as to how "they" got in. Could they possess a key, or indeed, access to a key? From the presence of these desecrations, and there are others, along with the words of local, police. I feel there is an active witchcraft coven in the area. For some reason, they focus their attention on St. Mary's, Runwell, probably because of its rich devil folklore.

I'm wondering now what sort of "hornet's nest" I will stir up with the eventual publication of the booklet on Runwell and it's mysteries.

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To finish the day, I was witness to a remarkable "fireball" at 19.50 that evening whilst driving in the vicinity of Rawreth. Suddenly, descending at a diagonal course towards the ground, I saw a green amorphous mass, with a deep red pulsation, and (I believe) a tail. It was visible for approximately four seconds, during which time it pulsed about four times. It extinguished before it reached the ground.

The event excited me greatly. It is the third "fireball" ^{I've} seen in recent years although it is by far the most spectacular. ^{Its} appearance was so similar to some reported UFO's that I was certain sightings would follow. But none have.

The red pulsation was the most intriguing aspect of the sighting as such an effect is commonly mentioned in connection with UFO's. This, however, was certainly a "fireball".

For those of you who don't know what a fireball is I will give a short explanation. It is a gaseous form of meteorite. It is made of a substance called plasma (nothing to do with the stuff in your body!) and is thought to originate as part of a comet. Pieces break away from the main body, stream through space, and some are caught by the earth's gravitational field. This hurls it inwards, towards the ground, whereat it ignites and "burns up." Most disintegrate before reaching the surface of the planet. There are apparent differences in material content, producing different colours which are viewed by witnesses to this phenomena. Blues, reds, green, yellow, and white being just some of them. They are usually in view for just a few seconds although some pass through the atmosphere slowly, causing much longer sighting durations. Often they are also associated with a noise, usually a fizzing, crackling, or humming.

Quite obviously fireballs are regularly mistaken for genuine UFO's and it is up to the investigator to be able to recognise fireball sightings. People really don't know what they are. It is interesting to see how people embellish and exaggerate descriptions of known phenomena like this, which is why I hope some sightings will result from this aerial display as I know what was there to be seen, that evening.

UFO DOCUMENTARY. The BBC "Horizon" programme on UFO's screened on Monday, 18th October was thought provoking, to say the least. Subtitled "The Case for the UFO" it covered some very well-trodden ground giving logical explanations for everything it touched upon. Under the hammer was Travis Walton and his famous 1975 Arizona abduction, the New Zealand film of New Year's Day 1979 and many other "identified" classics. There was an interview with Philip Klass, the American UFO debunker, William Spaulding of Ground Saucer Watch (GSW) on his photo-enhancing techniques, among others.

The whole programme expressed the attitude that UFO investigation was biased towards finding illogical answers for mundane events. They showed how the UFO enigma has become a virtual modern-day myth as outlined in my "Earth Lights" review. The sad irony of the affair is that it is true. The stubbornness of the UFO media and enthusiasts to look no further than what they want to see has held back any advancements as to the nature and origin of this remarkable phenomena. The sooner people learn that UFO's do not come from outer space the better. It was almost embarrassing to hear Travis Walton recall an "on-board" abduction experience with alien beings. I hated being a UFO researcher at that moment.

The most worthy and important contribution to the programme was an interview with Michael Persinger, one of the scientists working on the "earth lights" seismic activity link. A clear narration, with accompanying re-construction of how "earth lights" are formed was given. Persinger went on to say how the close proximity of such highly charged masses of energy could affect the brain to cause fantasy or visionary experiences, amnesia, and false memories almost like religious experiences. He explained both Travis Walton's abduction and the Fatima visions in this way.

Following Persinger's theory of "earthquake lights" the programme then supported this by showing the work of Dr. Brian Brady, a Canadian psychologist who has been working with rockbursts. This is the compression of rocks under intense pressure until they explode. He has found that just as the rock shatters, mysterious spheres of light suddenly shoot out from the forming breaks and cracks. These would fly around, split into two, follow the line of the break, or return back to the rock. They were filmed at a tremendous high speed but Brady and Persinger believe that on a giant scale, this is how "earth lights" are created.

EGYPT The plan for a two week holiday in Egypt for Earth Mysteries enthusiasts next September is STILL ON. Several people have shown a serious interest in joining the venture provided that the costs do not exceed the £450 mark. I must know of anyone else interested as soon as possible, as I want to approach an airline regarding block bookings. As mentioned in the last issue the holiday will involve purchasing a plane ticket only. The rest will happen out there when we arrive. Sites to be visited will include Cairo, Sakkara, Luxor, Thebes, and possible Tell el-Armana (the site of Akhenaten's city). It might be a risky affair, but as I know the scene out there following my visit to Egypt last year, there shouldn't be too many hassles. Out of interest, a number of prominent Earth Mysteries researchers have shown an inclination of interest in this trip. So it may become quite a national affair. Can I ask editors of other E.M. Journals to give this a mention somewhere. Further details from A.C.

NEXT YEAR Visits and field trips to be planned for next year with pick-ups in Essex and London, include a weekend at Glastonbury, Somerset. This will include staying at a guesthouse and talks on both the Earth Mysteries and the town of Glastonbury. At the moment this is being arranged for spring. Other trips to include the Rollright Stones and surrounding area in March; the sites of Kent in April; a Cambridge trip in June, next year's Ley Hunter's Moot; and another Wiltshire expedition. The last will include a study of Warminster, the UFO "Mecca". Details soon.

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SAMHAIN RETURNING? There seems to be a growing interest in the existence and customs of Hallowe'en. This is mainly due to us adopting the American "trick or treat?" style children's games. Other factors must include the decline in superstitious beliefs generally and the use of Hallowe'en as another celebration day.

Over the past couple of years the Government has become increasingly concerned about the injury sustained through fireworks. Attempts have even been made to ban them completely. Concern over the whole concept of Guy Fawkes night seems to be beginning another trend in the transfer of bonfires from 5th November back to around Hallowe'en. I have noticed various communal bonfires taking place around this time, much to my intrigue. Is there a possibility of Guy Fawkes Night being phased out altogether?

Since the first part of the seventeenth century the old Beacon Fires of the Celtic Samhain which once blazed from hilltops have survived in the 5th November Guy Fawkes celebrations. Could it be that these will at last revert to their proper place on 31st October?

Exchange Publications

With each issue the exchange list gets bigger. Every publication received is worthy of a mention in some capacity. However, as all editors know, it can get a little too much both space-wise and in sending exchange publications out. This is especially so when dealing with foreign items, most of which must contain some excellent work, if one were to speak that language. For these reasons exchanges must be vetted; mentions must be brief, and in the words of the editor. At some time I will produce a special publication just for exchanges, but until then, please bear with me. Special, "one offs" will be treated in the book review section.

BUFORA BULLETIN and JOURNAL OF TRANSIENT AERIAL PHENOMENA - Official organs of the British UFO Research Association. The bulletin now has a new editor with finer production. Still hasn't found it's feet yet, but certainly gives an up to the minute account of BUFORA's activities and viewpoints. JTAP is excellent, with fine, objective articles by leading UFO researchers. Subscription to BUFORA is £10 per year. obtainable from Arnold West, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

CAERDROIA - Mouthpiece of the Caerdroia Project, brainchild of Jeff and Debbie Saward, leading Earth Mysteries researchers. A5, litho production with 44 pages, including photos and illustrations. £3 p.a. from the Caerdroia Project, 53 Thundersley Grove, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex SS7 3EB. New address in Norfolk after the new year.

COMMON GROUND - "Studies at the fringe of human experience," so the cover states. Material from many leading paranormal researchers in the country. Very liberal, very informative; best publication of it's kind around. Highly recommended. It is also the official organ of ASSAP. £1 per issue from Kevin McClure, 14 Northold Road, Knighton, Leicester.

END TIMES BULLETIN - Publication number two from Kevin McClure. Intriguing 16 page journal on prophetic material, religious cults, conspiracy theories. Reminds one of Nigel Pennick's "Walrus." Try it out. 50p from "Common Ground" address.

FORTEAN TIMES - Fine magazine on the paranormal, fortean phenomena, and mysteries of the world. Best around. Hours of reading; up to date articles on all topics. A Bob Rickard Production. £1 per issue from BM - Fortean Times, London WC1N 3XX.

THE CAULDRON - Very objective and topical articles and news on paganism and alternative thought. Recommended. Comes out coincident to major festival dates. 4 issues £1.20 from BCM Box 1633, London, WC1N 3XX.

LANTERN - Old familiar to the subject of Fortean and Landscape Mysteries. If you like "Earthquest News" you'll like "Lantern". Brainchild of Ivan Bunn. £1.50 p.a. (4 issues) from 3 Dunwich Way, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk. Love the street name!

THE LEY HUNTER - Paul Devereux's leading forum for the Earth Mysteries community. Covers leys, ancient and mystical sites, dowsing, psychometry, ancient astronomy, folklore, phenomena and more. A must for E.M. enthusiasts. £3.75 for 4 issues, from P.O. Box 13, Welshpool, Powys.

MAGIC SAUCER - For children, and adults. One I always read right through (shows my mentality?). Covers UFO's, faeries, folklore, psychic abilities, and mysticism - all from a child's point of view. Written by children and some leading names in the field. Highly recommended. 25p per issue from Crystal Hogben, 8 Ely Close, Habberley Estate, Worcester. DY11 6EJ.

NORTHERN EARTH MYSTERIES - A must for all northern E.M. enthusiasts. Objective and subjective views of the subject. £2 for 6 issues. Single copy 45p. From Philip Heselton, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY.

NORTHERN UFOLOGY and NORTHERN UFO NEWS - Assorted data, articles, on the UFO scene up north, complete with case reports and listings. NU comes out 4 times a year and NUFON 8 times. Subscription is £3.60 a year from Jenny Randles (editor), 8 Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 6PQ.

PENDRAGON - A fine, well-produced journal of Earth Mysteries, Arthurian Lore, and mystical traditions, all with a Gaelic flavour. £3 p.a., 50p single issue, from 27 Roslyn Road, Redland, Bristol. BS6 6NJ.

THE PROBE REPORT - A well produced, litho A4 format magazine - Objective UFO investigation. £2 for 4 issues, from Ian Mrzyglod, 16 Marigold Walk, Ashton, Bristol. BS3 2PD.

QUICKSILVER MESSENGER - "Landscape, myth, consciousness" the three colour, A4, cover says. Excellent, topical Earth Mysteries Journal based in Brighton. Very well produced, 28 pages. Brainchild of Chris Ashton. Recommended. £4 p.a. (4 issues) from Garden Flat, 46 Vere Road, Brighton.

RILKO NEWSLETTER - An advanced Earth Mysteries Journal. Finely put together in A4, litho format; very classy. Excellent production from Bob Cowley. £5 for 2 to 3 issues in London, £4 elsewhere. From Bob Cowley, 8 The Drive, New Southgate, London. N11 2DY.

THE SHAMAN - Formerly ASWR. Paul Screeton's review of the Earth Mysteries, paranormal, UFO scene through publication, book, and other reviews. Get this to choose your monthly publications. Other intriguing articles. Recommended. £2 for 4 issues, from Paul Screeton, 5 Egton Drive, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 2AT.

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