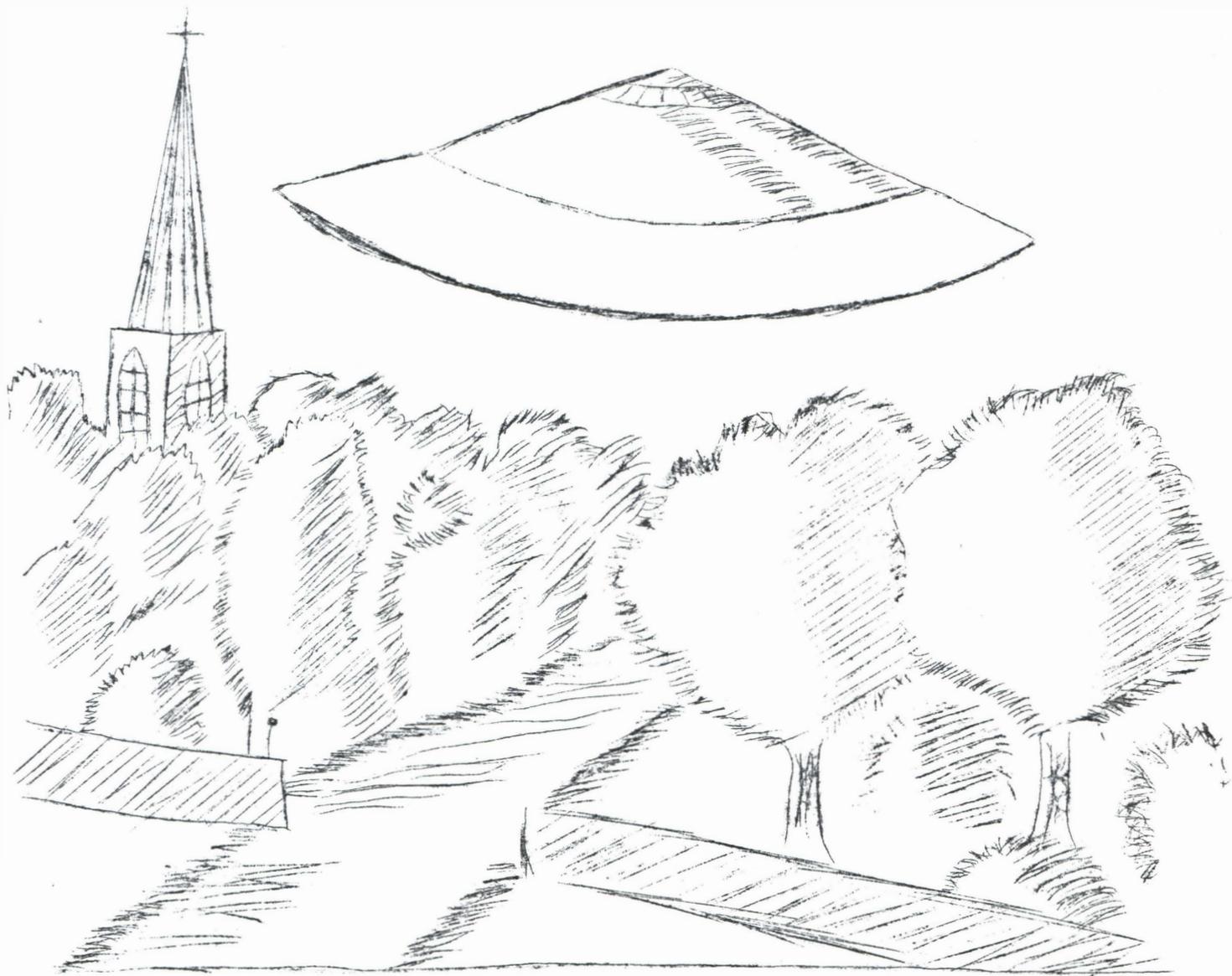


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NEWSLETTER OF INTERNATIONAL SKY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION (U.K.)

Current Sightings and Activities

Burnham member sees UFO.

I.S.S. member Douglas Chaundy, of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, sighted an object in the sky over Highbridge town at approximately 8.00 p.m. on January 2. The object, which was stationary when first sighted, appeared as a red dot. After about 1½ minutes Mr. Chaundy looked again and noticed that the object was moving across the sky in a north-westerly direction. He observed the object for about fifteen minutes and it was still visible when he left for home.

Big Wheel over Salisbury.

While driving along the Downton-Salisbury road, Mr. Barrington Hawkins of Laverstock, Wiltshire saw three flashes in the sky. Then, about three miles from Salisbury, he saw some red lights over trees ahead. A mile further on he stopped, got out of his car and saw above Salisbury "a complete circle of red lights the centre of which was also red, but all the time moving outwardly into a pattern". The object appeared about five times, each lasting about three seconds. It was clearly defined against a cloudy background. To Mr. Hawkins it appeared to be on a level with Salisbury Cathedral, which is over 400 feet high, and its apparent size was that of a cricket ball at arms' length. He described it as looking like a fairground wheel covered with lights. Finally the red glow turned to white and the object vanished. Several other people on the same road at the same time are said to have seen the UFO.

Another Southampton sighting.

On January 12, while travelling between Leckford and Nottisfont on the way to Southampton, Mr. Brian Jeans noticed two rotating red lights in the sky above a small hill. Two or three miles further on he noticed the lights again, this time across a valley. They hovered for a few seconds, then travelled in front of the witness's van for five or six miles. The van was travelling at 30-35 mph. After 15-20 minutes Mr. Jeans got out of the van and watched the lights across a field. They hovered for a few seconds, then disappeared. There was no sound from the lights during the sighting.

The sighting, which was also witnessed by Mr. Tony Boyce of Exford Avenue, Barefield and Mrs N. Thatcher of Harley Hill New Town, Micheldever, was reported to Southend Airport and an account appeared in the Southern Echo.

Bradford sighting.

On January 28, ISS member Philip Montgomery saw an object in the sky which was round in shape, white, and larger than an ordinary star. It moved erratically across the sky with varying speed, finally becoming dimmer and vanishing overhead. It was seen for about one minute and made no sound.

Sighting from Birmingham organiser.

Mr. Philip Instone, organiser of our Birmingham local group, was looking out of his bedroom window between 6.00 and 8.00 on January 15, when he saw what looked like a large white star. Two minutes later he looked again and saw that it had split into two small stars which started to move towards the house. Mr. Instone took his telescope into the garden to get a better look at it. The lights were getting nearer and he saw that there were three red lights underneath which flickered a few times as it disappeared over the houses to the north. The object was observed for three and a half minutes; there were four other witnesses.

Blackpool UFO explained: Robert Couttie, Assistant Editor has found evidence to suggest that the UFO seen by Mr. Mrs. Cropper, reported in a previous ISS publication, was in fact a satellite re-entry.

PLANET POSITIONS

by Bill Trotter

MARCH

Mercury:- A morning star after its inferior conjunction on 4th. At Western Elongation on 31st but its too bright a sky to be seen in Britain this month.

Venus:- An evening star, becoming steadily more prominent in the western sky after sunset and visible beyond end of twilight by end of month.

Moon near on 13th.

Mars:- Still morning star, is visible as prominent red object in the later hours of night. In the East. Rising soon after 8pm. at end of March. Moon near 27th.

Jupiter:- Very conspicuous object, visible high in south-west during large part of night. Second only in brightness to Venus in the Planets. Moon near on 20th and 21st.

Saturn:- Becomes a morning star after its conjunction on 23rd. In too bright a sky for observations this month.

Uranus:- On the borders of Leo and Virgo, becomes an evening star after its opposition on the 13th.

Neptune:- a morning star in Libra.

Moon: Last quarter 3rd. 9am. New moon 11th, 4.am.
First quarter 19th, 9 a.m. Full moon 26th, 3.a.m.

APRIL

Mercury:- Morning star during whole of April, in too bright sky to be observable in Britain.

Venus:- Very Brilliant object in Western sky in early evening, setting more than 3 hours after the sun at Beginning of April and 4 hours after at end of month. Moon near on 12th and 13th.

Mars:- Becomes evening star after its opposition on the 15th. Visible all night as Brilliant object, reddish in colour. Moving westward in western part of Virgo not too far from Spica. Moon near 23rd.

Jupiter:- Prominent object in S and SW in early hours of night setting about 1.30am at end of April. Moon near on 17th.

Saturn:- morning star, but rises in too bright a sky to be observable this month.

Uranus:- evening star at eastern end of Leo.

Neptune:- is morning star in Libra.

Moon: Last quarter 1st. 9pm. New moon 9th. 10pm.
1st quarter 17th. 9pm. Full moon 24th noon.

National Skywayches

The following are national skywayches, at which we hope as many ISS members as possible can watch between the hours of 3.00 and 10.30 p.m. Please send details of anything seen to Keith Palmer, 68, Ellenborough Road, Wood Green, London N. March 18, April 21, May 6 (will also be a Warrinster Watch), June 24th International F.S. Sighting Day), July 22, August 26, September 23, October 21, November 18th, December 16th. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope for details.

Warminster Skywatch 18th-19th February 1967.

This mammoth watch of about forty people was organised by Keith Palmer, our Membership Secretary. James Thatcher very kindly took me there in his car. It was not at Warminster, however, that we saw our first, and in my opinion most conclusive UFO. We were in fact in Hendon, N. London, when everyone in the car (Mr. V. Spiteri and his son were also travelling with us) noticed a bright orange-golden light high in the sky. It hovered motionless for about two seconds, then went out without moving. We were travelling in a north-westerly direction, and the object was directly in front of us. The time was 10.20am. Hendon, like Warminster, is very close to the base-line of Philip Meselson's Great Isosceles Triangle of leys.

As we had some time in hand, we decided to visit the Everleigh Barrows, near the small village of Everleigh (on the Salisbury Plain), on our way. These are very important mark-points on the same Base-line (LS) mentioned above. We found them to be an impressive group of tumuli, with a ditch around each. In close proximity to them was a large circular depression in the ground of greater diameter than any of the barrows, but only about a foot deep. All around this, for some reason unknown to us, there were aluminium poles, each with a six pointed aluminium star on the top of it. One of the stars that I inspected bore the cryptic letters "R.L.F. 1964" and an upward-pointing arrow. I have no idea as to what this means. One of the barrows which we climbed was covered with empty brass cartridge-cases.

After seeing these we continued to Warminster, and soon went up to Cradle Hill, where most of the watchers were by that time. However, very soon after this a high wind sprung up and made it almost impossible to pitch our tent. This was followed by heavy rain which lasted from then until midnight. The soil was too soft to hold the tent pegs, so very soon we were forced back to the car.

However, despite these conditions, some lights in the sky were seen. They looked very similar to car headlights on neighbouring hills (of which we saw a lot), but appeared to be higher in the sky, and not moving. However, due to the extremely bad observing conditions it is impossible to say whether or not the lights were in fact UFOs.

At midnight the rain stopped and the sky cleared but no further unusual lights were seen.

Publicity given to the Sky Scouts was well deserved. The watch was announced on Britain Radio, good write-ups appeared in most of the local newspapers and the Daily Express and Sun.

ISS member L. Norman was filmed by Westward TV using his parabolic-reflector whilst other members, under the careful navigation of Secretary K. Rogers in the Sunday Telegraph lead car, tried to get underneath one of the UFOs without success.

Organiser K. Palmer appeared on the BBC Westward Home service concerning the watch on Cradle Hill. As well as the witnessing of what could have been an unidentified flying object, members were made acquainted with the night sky.

We would like to thank all the members who attended the watch. It was a pleasant meeting to them all, especially those who travelled all the way from the Birmingham local group.

South London group meeting.

Mr. Ronald Booth, organiser of the South London local group, called a preliminary meeting on Saturday February 11. It was well attended, and the main decision reached was that South London should be split into two groups for skywatching purposes. Also an exhibition was mentioned after which discussion turned to general UFO topics.

Western Expedition.

Dates for this week-long ley-hunting and skywatching trip into the West Country have now been fixed for May 21-28. We will be starting from Salisbury railway station. For recognition purposes, my father's car will be flying a small pennant with the words "ISS WESTERN EXPEDITION". We will then proceed across Salisbury Plain, visiting interesting sites on the way, and watch from Cley Hill at Warminster the first night. Then we could go to Glastonbury and spend two days there, skywatching at night from the centre of the Somerset Zodiac if possible. Other areas we will probably visit are the Angersleigh (near Taunton) area, the Porlock area, and the Dunkery Beacon area. We may visit Scorrilton, where Mr. Bryant claims to have contacted a Venusian. All the above areas are rich in leys and skywatching from various points should prove interesting.

If this trip is to come about, however, we need more cars. Most of the people who have expressed interest in the trip so far have no cars, so we need more to accommodate them all. If you have a car, please think seriously about coming on the trip, and if you do decide to come, I would be grateful if you could contact me as soon as possible.

As we will be skywatching, we will of course be camping during the trip, so if you have camping equipment (tent, sleeping bag, stove, etc.) it would be as well to bring it, though if you do not there will probably be room in someone else's tent. Food arrangements will probably consist of each carload-group being responsible for its own food.

If you are coming, please let me know as soon as possible, or at least a week beforehand. This will enable us to wait for you if you happen to be late.

Jimmy Goddard.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Sky Scouts interested in the pleasant music of the Space Age:- Ray Coniff, his orchestra, chorus and singers. Why not join Ray's Club for a full insight into his music. Full details from Miss Lois Hollands, 99, Hurst Rd., Erith, Kent.

UFO PHOTOGRAPHS available to SKY SCOUTS. Details and price list from W.J. Trotter 3, Osterberg Road, Temple Hill, Dartford, Kent.

SKYSCOUTS HANDBOOK: A must for all ISS members. Covering all aspects from SKYWATCHING, UFO RESEARCH to LEYHUNTING. With introduction by Hon. Brinsley Le Poer Trench; only 3/- including postage from Jimmy Goddard, Wynchlands, Walton Bridge Road, Shepperton, Middlesex. (To be published shortly).

INTERPLANETARY NEWS is a magazine on general space subjects brought out by the Interplanetary Space Travel Research, 13, Stewart Road, Leyton, London, E.15.

BOOK REVIEW

Flying Saucers Are Watching You by Joan Sherwood (Saucerian Publications, U.S.A.) is a very useful factual record of the recent Michigan flap, in which Professor Hynek figured largely. It is a pity the book included the Fogl photo, now known to be a fake, to compare with the Michigan UFOs; however, this is a small point and does not change the fact that the incidents are objectively reported and will prove a useful reference to compare with future flaps. A good addition to any Sky Scout's UFO library.

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Tel: Walton-on-Thames 24814. Published by International Sky Scouts Association (U.K.). News and comments from members and friends welcome at any time.

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