

LANTERN SPRING 1975

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INTRODUCTION

In this edition of Lantern we offer you a variety of articles which, it is hoped, will provide more 'food for thought' than usual.

Firstly there are details on a case of 'psychic photography', also known as 'thoughtography'. A subject which, although it seems to have been in existence for many years, still comes in for abject criticism. Unfortunately the 'photos upon which we report were not produced under 'controlled' conditions and so it is impossible to pass any real comment on them one way or the other at the moment. Secondly there is a fascinating account of the discovery of and research into the apparent planning of ancient sites in East Suffolk with regard to their direct relationship to each other.

Phantom airmen, aeroplanes etc feature in our main article ghostwise, while in another we offer evidence that a popular local legend might just be more than a legend. On top of all this most of our usual features can be found, while 'News Round-up' brings you up-to-date with what is happening within and without B.S.I.G.

As ever we are always pleased to hear from readers and we always welcome material for Lantern in any form. The address to write to is below.

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REVIEW ONE

Since the publication of the last edition of LANTERN, two issues of THE NEWS have appeared. No.7, amongst other things contains notes on ghosts and poltergeists, Leys and 'black dogs', phantom helicopters and much more. No.8 contains notes on mock suns, meteorological curiosities, swarms and migrations, occult crimes (from which the first item in 'local curiosities in this magazine is borrowed), and as always much, much more. THE NEWS is a bi-monthly miscellany of Fortean news and notes, affiliated to the International Fortean Organisation (INFO). Published by R.J.M.Rickard, 31 Kingswood Road, Moseley, Birmingham. Annual subscription is £2.10, single copies 35p plus postage.....

GHOSTS OF THE AIR

The reader will probably smile when he reads the above heading. Airmen, he will think, are practical, hard-headed, modern-minded people, who have no truck with such things. And he will be entirely wrong. The ghost-lore of aviation is as abundant as that of any other profession, and some of it is far more dramatic.

In December, 1918, Lieutenant David E. McConnel, RAF, was asked to take a Camel scout plane from Scampton Aerodrome to Tadcaster, a voyage from which he was never to return. He was accompanied by a Avro 'plane which was to have brought him back, but this made a forced landing before they reached their destination because of fog. About the time he was due to return to Scampton a brother officer, Lieutenant J.J. Larkin, was in a room reading, when he heard McConnel approach the door, which he opened with his usual greeting of "Hello, boy!" Larkin made the usual enquiry as to whether he had had a good trip, and received an affirmative reply. He noticed that McConnel was wearing the cap of the old Royal Naval Air Service, of which he had once been a member, although when he left he had been wearing his flying helmet. At the time this happened McConnel was lying dead in his crashed plane. The account is well attested and the possibility of mistaken identity is ruled out by the distinctive cap, which it would seem had been assumed by the apparition for the purpose of identification.

In 1953, Sir Michael W.S. Bruce wrote a letter to a London evening paper in which he described how, shortly before D-Day in the 1939-45 war, he was sent from Larkhill, Wiltshire, together with three other officers and a RAF Warrant Officer, on an exercise to select gun sites. As they were going along the road which runs past Stonehenge, they saw a very small aeroplane dive straight into a small wood beside the road. They rushed to render assistance, but there was no 'plane; only a cairn commemorating the first death from an aeroplane accident in this country in 1912. There are one or two inaccuracies in the letter. The 1912 accident was not the first fatal crash, that was in 1910, and the so-called 'cairn' was in fact what is known as The Airmen's Cross, situated at the junction of the A344 and the B3086, two miles west of Stonehenge, but the fact of the accident is well established.⁺

One of the most disastrous air crashes of our time was that of the airship R101, which came down near Beauvais in France in 1930, with the loss of the entire crew. Two days afterwards Harry Price held a seance at his National Laboratory for Psychical Research, during which the 'spirit' of the airship's captain, Flight-Lieutenant H. Carmichael Irwin, communicated through the medium, Mrs. Garrett. He gave a highly complicated and very technical description of the cause of the accident, and he did this in a fluent manner with no hesitations or groping for words. The information could not have been obtained from press reports, as very little had been published at the time. In 1946, the BBC proposed to broadcast a programme based on the seance, but it was dropped after protests. In some ways this was a pity as it might have elicited comments and additional facts.

A ghostly aeroplane was seen in 1922 by the coxwain of the Barmouth, Wales, life-boat and a companion, a Mr. William James. They watched it as it fell quite slowly into the sea, and saw it clearly enough to distinguish details. They then rushed out in a motor-boat to see if there was anything that they could do to help, but found nothing, nor did articles in newspapers and aeronautical journals mention that any aeroplane was missing.

Ghosts on airfields are not uncommon. The site of the old Croydon aerodrome, now the Roundshaw Housing Estate, was haunted by the inexplicable sound of community singing, and also by a ghostly motor-cyclist, who alarmingly has no face! Legend has it that he is one of the Battle of Britain pilots who was killed when his 'plane crashed at the end of the runway. The old Bircham Newton aerodrome, near Kings Lynn, Norfolk, is said to be haunted by the ghost of a man in RAF uniform, and unexplained noises, those of a bucket being placed on the floor, a workshop, and a woman's voice were also heard. These were recorded on a tape-recorder and were broadcast on Jack de Manio's radio programme in 1972. A recent news item recorded that night cleaners at Heathrow Airport were refusing to work because a 'ghost' had been attacking them, and holding them down by the throat and arms!

Miss Joan Forman, in her interesting book 'Haunted East Anglia,' records the case of Mrs. Hilda Richmond-Hughes, a lady who was in the habit of giving talks and lectures in the Bishops Stortford area. She had gone to give one at a nearby village and was left for a short time in a room at her hostess's house. After a while she became aware of a presence in the room, and heard a voice with an American accent say, "It's kinda cosy, isn't it?" Turning round she noticed a tall man in a grey-green uniform standing behind her, she noticed particularly that he had grey eyes. She turned away in a fit of shyness and when she turned again to speak to him, he had gone. On going into the hall she noticed his photograph on the wall and her hostess explained to her that he had been killed on an early morning raid during the last war.....

(*I am indebted to Mr. Bernard Little, Divisional Librarian at Salisbury for much help with this case.)

THE BURIED GODS.....

Cokayne Publishing of Cambridge have produced a little booklet under the title of 'Gog Magog', which reprints the first paper in which the late T.C. Lethbridge described his discovery of three huge hill-figures at Wandlebury in the Gog magog Hills near that city. The figures consist of a 'Moon-goddess with her chariot and horses and with, on each side of her, gods of the Day and Night. Only the central figure was excavated and a good photograph of this is reproduced. The outlines of the others were found by probing with an iron rod and altogether between 30,000 and 50,000 of these soundings were made! Lethbridge subsequently elaborated his theories in a book called 'Gogmagog' (Routledge, 1957) and the pamphlet includes a rather sceptical review of this by Sir Thomas Kenrick, Director of the British Museum. Nevertheless it is a book which should be read and studied by all who are interested in antiquities.

This booklet is a very useful introduction to the subject at a moderate price (40p), and it deserves a wide circulation. Mr. Lethbridge had a mind of quite exceptional quality, and he wrote nothing which does not show originality and depth of thought.

W.J.C.



The Moon Goddess



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AND ITS ACTIVITIES

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3 DUNWICH WAY
LOWESTOFT



for further details



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Single copies 16p each inc. postage or
all 4 issues for 55p inc. postage.....

A CASE OF PSYCHIC PHOTOGRAPHY?

'Psychic' photography is not a new phenomena, it having been known about almost as long as photography proper. I have in my possession a book written by Conan Doyle in 1920 in which he refers to psychic photography as 'a well established fact.' Also, in a recent edition of LANTERN, reference is made to an 'extra' appearing on a photograph taken at the entrance to Borley Rectory. A study of associated literature in the public library will reveal many similar cases.

In 1961, a group of people, of which I was a member, got together in Chelmsford.



We were, for the most part, employees at Marconis Wireless Telegraph Co. Ltd., as the firm was then called, and we had a common interest in psychic events and their implications. We used to meet to discuss these matters, there being about twelve of us. I must point out that I took a very minor part in this, being, at the time, very sceptical and ignorant of such matters.

After a time it became evident that one member of the group had clairvoyant powers, while another discovered that he was able to achieve a 'trance' state at will and, more important, to revert to normal again.

'Psychic' photography was discovered during an experiment involving a camera loaded with infra-red film and controlled by a temperature sensitive switch. We soon discovered that IR film and gadgets were not necessary to obtain results. Also, that the presence of the 'trance medium' chap greatly enhanced the probability of obtaining 'psychic' photographs. Photographs were obtained without his presence but with many more failures occurring. Various members of the group took photographs and, altogether, I suppose at least 100 are in existence. I personally took 18 photographs under the following conditions:

Camera: Twin Lens Reflex.

Film: Verichrome Pan, f11 at 1/25 sec. (Box setting).

Venue: Indoors, nighttime, 60 watt bulb for room lighting.

Method: The camera was simply pointed to the centre of the room and the shutter operated. No flash or other devices were used.

The film was developed by myself in front of all concerned, using a black bag for transferring the film to the developing tank. Results from the film: 9 recognisable pictures of people's faces, animals and scenery, none of which were in the room of course.

2 pictures showing bubbles or smudges of light.

1 picture completely blank - as would normally be the case.

Results from the second film: 5 recognisable pictures; 2 showing bubbles and smudges of light; 5 completely blank.

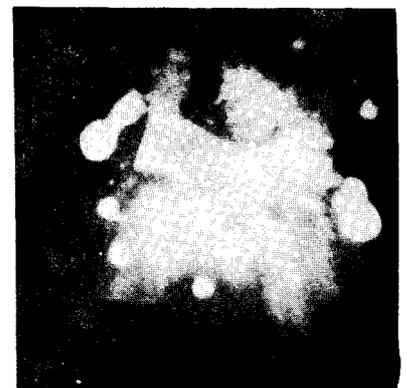
The third film was completely blank.

It is interesting to note that the negatives containing information were exceedingly dense - as if they had been exposed to a brilliant light. This contrasted markedly to the blank negatives which, of course, were completely transparent. Of all these photographs, none were recognisable or had any significance to any of the people present.



One of the photographs shows a clock tower and acting on a clue given by a BSIG member, I have recently discovered that this tower is situated in St. Albans. However, the matter is still under investigation and will form the subject of a future article.

As I mentioned before, many of the photographs were obtained, some of a most remarkable nature. They included colour prints, X-ray like photographs, engineering drawings and one which we



INCREASED POSTAGE RATES:

Unfortunately we are forced to pass on the new postal rates which came into effect on 17th March. The rates for postal customers of LANTERN can be found on page I. The increases will not effect already existing subscriptions until they become due for re-newal. New subscribers will, unfortunately have to pay.

dubbed 'The Martian' which certainly unlike anything that we know of on this earth!

This then, is a brief summary of the events which took place during the period of 1961 - 1963 in Chelmsford. Of course other things occurred, which one tends to forget about as time moves on. In fact it would be very easy to dismiss it all as imagination - after a lapse of some ten years - were it not for the negatives I keep safely in the loft!

Editor's Note: We apologise to readers for the poor reproduction of the photographs in this article. Unfortunately the printing process used to produce this magazine did not lend itself to the reproduction of ordinary photographs, all the same we took the gamble, which as you can see did not pay off (you can't win them all!). However, should any readers wish to see the originals and would like to contact the editors, arrangements can easily be made for them to do so.

COMMENT

in due course. Unfortunately, as the photographs were not made under strictly controlled conditions, nor has any independent, corroborative proof of their authenticity been established, it is impossible to offer any real comment on them. Except to say that Mr. Self has been completely open and frank about the photos and has freely made all the negatives and prints available for study and examination, and there seems to be no doubt in his belief in their authenticity. But, as already stated, without further proof as to how they were obtained, the matter must be left open.

Psychic Photography or 'thoughtography' is by no means a new phenomena, and two very interesting books are available which go a long way toward supporting its existence. The first, 'Clairvoyance and Thoughtography' was published in 1931 (Rider & Co.), and contains details of experiments conducted by Tomokichi Fukurai, a professor at Tokyo University, between 1910 and 1913. His experiments were probably the first scientific investigations into the subject. In this brief comment it is impossible to even begin to discuss his thorough and detailed experiments, except to say that they consisted of transferring thought images onto sealed, dry, photographic plates under apparently well-controlled conditions. The pictures obtained ranged from simple geometric shapes, to simple Japanese characters, to human faces and buildings. All the results were obtained by recognised 'mediums' with already 'proven' clairvoyant abilities.

In more recent times, the American, Ted Serios, made much more of an impact with his thoughtographic pictures, precise details of which can be found in the book 'The World of Ted Serios' by Dr. J. Eisenbud who, over a 3 year period (1963-66) made an exhaustive and detailed investigation into Serios's ability to produce pictures in sealed cameras, simply by concentration. Eisenbud proves beyond reasonable doubt that Serios did have this ability, and during the period of the investigation did in fact produce hundreds of these pictures, ranging from buses to space vehicles and from landscapes to people. Many of them were obtained when he was many feet away from the camera with which he was never allowed psychical contact. Some of the photographs reproduced in the book bear a very marked resemblance to those produced at Chelmsford. Once again it is impossible to go into details here concerning Eisenbud's investigations, save to say that he proves that the ability to produce recognisable pictures on photographic paper does almost certainly exist.

It would be rash to jump to any conclusions over any similarities in the above cases and the case presented by Mr. Self, although some of them are very striking. We must just lament the fact that the pictures were not obtained under verifiable conditions.....

Psychical Research Section, B.S.I.G.

REVIEW TWO

THE LEY HUNTER, is a bi-monthly periodical and the only one in the country dealing specifically with Ley Lines, dragons folklore etc. The current issue, No.62/63, includes interesting articles on Bristol's Leys and Solar Serpent Temple, a mathematical approach to Leys, and some of the strange sites of Cornwall. There are several book reviews, including one on Paul Screeton's work 'Quick-silver Heritage'. THE LEY HUNTER is available at £1.50 a year (inc.p&p) from: Paul Screeton, 5 Egton Drive, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS25 2AT.....

More than a legend?.....

Standing on the very edge of the river Bure at Horning, Norfolk, is the Ferry Inn. The present structure is the third inn bearing this name to stand here. The first and original was destroyed by fire many years ago. The second was bombed out during World War II. The original building was said to date back to the 15th century, when it was used as a mead store by the monks of nearby St. Benet's Abbey. It is not surprising to discover that such an ancient place has its legendary ghost, or perhaps, as we will see later, a ghost that perhaps is more than just a legend.

The original story dates right back to the time when the building was the monks' mead store. The tale goes that one night two young monks were working in the store and it would seem, unable to resist divulging in certain pleasures of the flesh, they were soon blind drunk! In their drunken state they seized a young girl, raped her and then, perhaps realising what they had done, got rid of the 'evidence' by murdering her and dumping her body in the river close to the inn. Traditionally, the ghost of this unfortunate young lady, in the form of a glowing white figure, haunts the river bank around the inn. Some versions of the story say that she wears a green cloak, whilst others assert that she only appears once every twenty years.

In 1972, I received a letter from a Mr. W. Robinson of Norwich, in reply to a letter of mine which appeared in the Eastern Evening News, asking for ghost stories. The writer said that in 1928, when he was 14 years old and a very keen fisherman, he went on an all night fishing trip on the river Bure almost opposite the Ferry Inn. Describing what happened, he went on to say:

"...it was a lovely summer evening and I was having some good sport and was completely alone. Not a soul about, no boats, no lights anywhere. The evening passed peacefully, I was catching some good fish and huge water rats kept hurrying past me.....It was about half past one, early hours of Thursday morning, I was fishing on the bank opposite to the Horning Ferry Inn, a few yards to the left of the old ferry boat which was tied-up on the Woodbastwick side. I glanced to my right and there stood a young girl, all in white and glowing. She proceeded to walk across the river to the other side where she disappeared at the side of a small boat house. I was not frightened, only flabbergasted, and carried on fishing in the peace and quiet of the early morning...."

As he made no reference to knowledge of the legend of the Ferry Inn, I wrote to Mr. Robinson and sounded him out on this matter. His reply was emphatic: "...my story was completely true, and will live in my memory forever as if it was only yesterday. I never knew that there was a legend until you told me."

There seems to be no reason to believe that Mr. Robinson was not telling the truth. He had nothing to gain by doing so save perhaps ridicule and scorn from certain sceptical quarters.

Assuming then that his story is true, it would seem that the so-called 'legend' of the Ferry Inn at Horning is not quite so legendary after all and that, under the right circumstances and conditions, the apparition of the unfortunate girl is still to be seen. Perhaps the final paragraph of Mr. Robinson's letter sums up his experience, he said; "I will never forget my experience 44 years ago. Was I dreaming? They say dreams fade away, this is as if it happened yesterday."



FERRY INN - HORNING - NORFOLK.

WANTED: YOUR OWN PERSONAL STRANGE EXPERIENCES.....

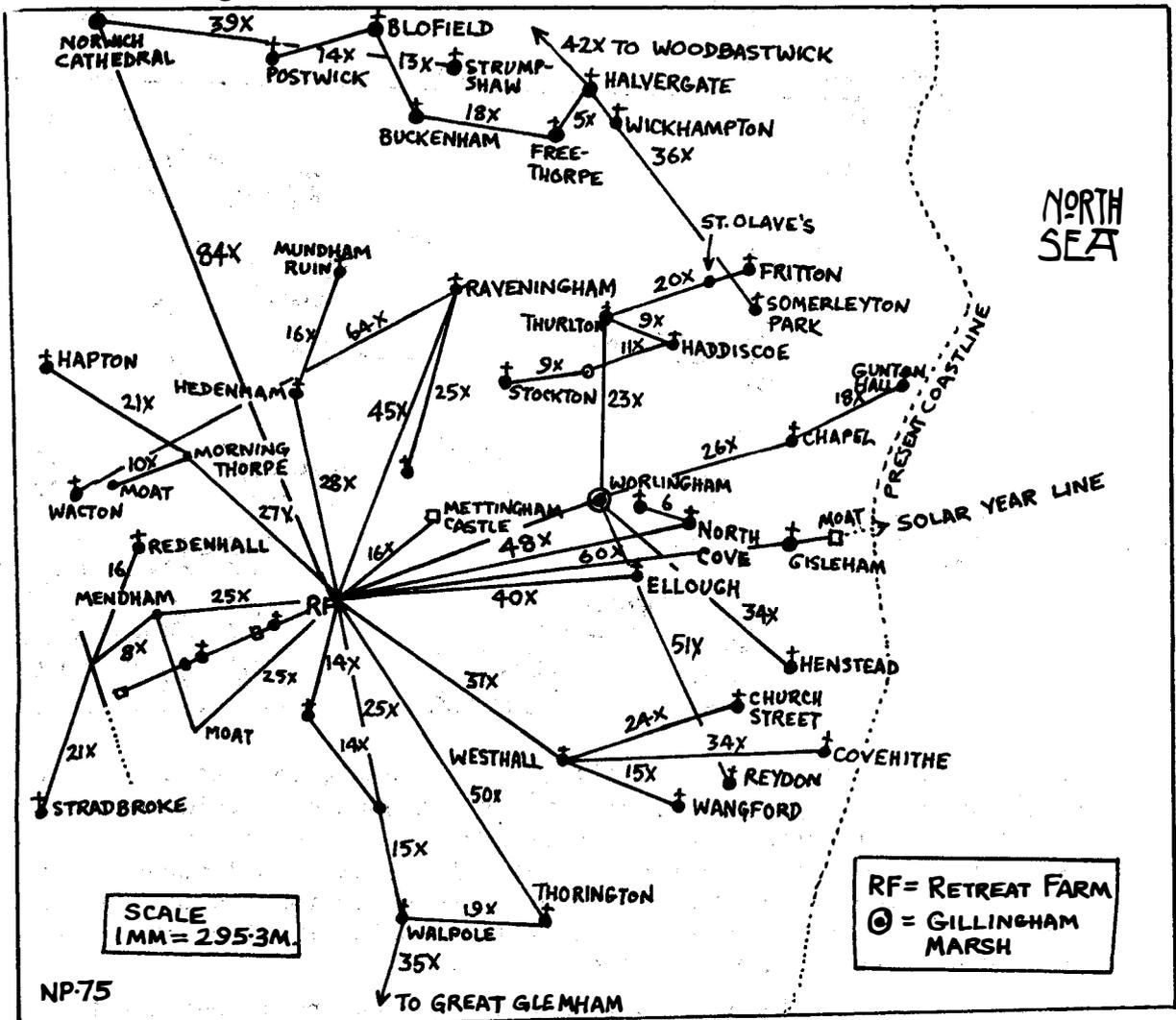
HAVE YOU EVER HAD A STRANGE EXPERIENCE FOR WHICH YOU HAVE NO EXPLANATION? IF SO, WE THE BORDERLINE SCIENCE INVESTIGATION GROUP, WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT IT. PLEASE WRITE TO:-

THE EDITORS (LANTERN),
c/o 3 DUNWICH WAY, LOWESTOFT.

SUFFOLK LANDSCAPE GEOMETRY

At the 1938 International Congress of International Geography in Amsterdam, a paper was read by Dr. J. Heinsch, in which he published his findings on 'Prehistoric Sacred Geography'. In this, the culmination of many years research, Heinsch described how sites of Antiquity (eg. Stone Circles, churches, menhirs etc) stood in alignments with significant fixed azimuths. (ie angles measured from the North/South line) and occurring at distances in exact numerical relationship with one another. Alfred Watkins's work on Leys is well known and, in 1973, Michael Behrend, a Cambridge mathematician, decided to verify or disprove

Heinsch and Watkins. During his work he discovered two constant units of length which occur in the landscape relationships of ancient sites, moats, churches, castles, stone circles, crossroads etc. These units, referred to as X and Y are 295.3metres and 465metres, which he verified to occur in the Cambridge area, Aberdeenshire, Lincolnshire and the Netherlands. In an independent assessment of Behrend's work, I have studied the area to the south of Bungay in Suffolk and have discovered some exceptional geomancy. In Behrend's system, sites are linked by whole-number multiples of X and Y and numbers obtained by multiplying combinations of 2, 3, 5, and 7, are found everywhere, eg $27 = 3 \times 3 \times 3$; $28 = 2 \times 2 \times 7$; $30 = 2 \times 3 \times 5$. On studying maps of the area around St. Margaret South Elmham, it soon became apparent that a centre of great importance lay at 'Retreat Farm' with 30 or more lines radiating from it to churches and moats.



For a few examples:	Retreat Farm to church at St. Margaret South Elmham:	6X.
.. .. .	.. .. . Ilketshall St. Margaret:	8X.
.. .. .	.. .. . moat at 'The Lay':	12X.
.. .. .	.. .. . to church at St. James South Elmham:	14X.
.. .. .	.. .. . to castle at Mettingham:	16X.
.. .. .	.. .. . to church at Mettingham:	20X.
.. .. .	.. .. . to church at Alburgh:	20X.



If any readers of LANTERN have any information on UFO sightings, ghost reports or legends associated with 'Retreat Farm', I would be very grateful to have details of them. Connexions between geomancy and legends of giants and heroes are common relics in the folk-memory. The ancient geomancers who laid out the countryside must have had extremely advanced surveying techniques, lost by the early middle ages, when the Christians built their churches on already existing sacred sites. The occurrences of such geomantic metrology is far beyond chance, yet written records are lost and the purpose of such lay-

outs is as yet undetermined. Research still continuing at present in Cambridge is attempting to solve this riddle.

(Readers wishing to contact Nigel can do so through the address on page one. Ed.)

FOOTNOTE: Since the compilation of this article, a visit, albeit brief, has been made to Retreat Farm. It would appear that the present farmhouse only dates from 1875 (this date appears on a plaque on the building), at which time it was known as 'Cooper's Farm'. However, enquiries at the farm solicited the following information: A much older building, now long since demolished, stood about 200 metres away down the road on the site of the present out-buildings. This farm, so we were informed, was called 'Retreat Farm'. The present owners of the farm changed the name of the present building in keeping with this. Unfortunately they did not know the origin of the name.



LOCAL CURIOSITIES

The Daily mirror carried the following intriguing report of an incident which took place on February 12th, 1974: 'Police answered a burglar-alarm from the home of Mr. Kenneth Broadhead in Ashill, near Thetford, Norfolk, and they found the house supernaturally secure, with nothing stolen. But what did make their hair stand on end was the single row of footprints - all made by the same foot - across the floor of a room ending up against a solid wall. Then the ghost apparently dematerialised through a door and set off a burglar-alarm. A senior police officer mentioned the tradition of a one-legged Jesuit priest ghost at the house, but added "Why set off an alarm when you can just melt through a door?"

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At the beginning of the 16th century, a hideous dragon described as being between 12 and 15 feet long, covered in scales, complete with a large mouth, strong teeth and enormous wings, terrorised the people of Ludham, Norfolk. The creature lived in a tunnel between The Street and the corner of the churchyard. Every morning the villagers would block up the entrance with bricks and stones but the dragon always got out. One night, a huge boulder was placed over the entrance and the dragon was unable to return to its lair. In a great fury the creature dashed over the marshes to St. Benet's Abbey and disappeared into the vaults beneath, never to be seen again.

+++++

A recent story in the East Anglian Daily Times reported the re-erection and unveiling of a stone at Mersea, Essex, known locally as 'Deremy's Stone.' This had been found by a local antiquarian by probing the spot where it had been buried for many years with an iron rod. It is said that it marked the boundary between East and West Mersea, being erected in the 11th century. From the picture that accompanies the report it looks like a typical rough markstone. The name 'Deremy's' is very puzzling, but it is perhaps significant that one of the names of the Celtic god Mabon was 'Diarmid.'

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NEWS ROUND-UP

'GHOST' SEEN NEAR SNAPE? SUFFOLK.

Recently the Psychological Research Section of BSIG received details of an 'apparition seen on the Snape to Sternfield Road. On Sunday, 22nd December, 1974 a husband and wife were driving along this road after a concert at Snape Maltings. At approx 6pm, just as they were passing under some power cables that cross the road, the husband slowed the car almost to a stop and both he and his wife saw what they later described as 'a grey figure, adult height and roughly this shape, move from the centre of the road into the hedge and vanish! The figure crossed the road from right to left. On the right-hand side of the road is a rough track leading to a small wooden barn. According to the witnesses there was no clothing or features to be seen, just the dark-grey shape which seemed to be made of 'solid smoke'.



The lady witness said that although she was not conscious of any feeling of fear, she went icy cold and and felt that every hair was standing on end.

At the moment the PRS is still investigating the case.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...

OXFAM-SHOP TAPE RECORDINGS.

The Psychological Research Section have at last managed to find someone to analyse the mysterious tape-recorded 'voices' which were obtained at the ghost watches in the Oxfam HQ, Norwich. (see News-Roundup, Lantern 8). EMI Tape Laboratories have very kindly consented to examine the tapes to give their opinion. Although, as they point out, they will probably

be able to tell us what the 'voices' are NOT rather than what they are.

At the time of writing we are still awaiting their report, but details of it will be published in the next edition of LANTERN.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...

CATALOGUE OF UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA BEING COMPILED.

In the last month the Borderline Science Investigation Group has embarked on a somewhat ambitious project; namely cataloging and listing details of ALL unexplained phenomena in East Anglia.

Basically the catalogue will consist of a card index file; a separate card will be prepared for every separate item, sometimes more than one card will be prepared when an incident involves more than one type of phenomena.

Each card will contain short but precise details of the phenomena, the location, and references where further details can be obtained. Where necessarily cards will be cross referenced. The subjects covered will range from Ghosts to Ley lines; and from Fairies to U.F.O.'s.

When complete, it is hoped that the catalogue will provide an invaluable source of information to researchers.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS....

STOP PRESS....

At the time of going to press reports are coming in of Unidentified Flying Objects which have been seen in the vicinity of the Nuclear Power-station at Sizewell in Suffolk. The Summer edition of LANTERN will contain full details of these reports.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...



the SUMMER EDITION of "LANTERN" will be available IN JUNE... DON'T MISS IT!..