

Ness Information Service
Nessletter No 6.
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Loch Ness Investigations

By now many of you will have received the last newsletter sent out by the L.N.I. After a long silence, this finally ends operations, it is rather sad but it does make the situation clear. It also gives N.I.S. a mention, and I hope we can continue to keep the L.N.I. spirit alive.

Frank Searle,

Inverness County Council has moved Frank Searle off his camp site at Balachladaich Farm Dores. This action was inevitable in the long run, especially since Frank had made his whereabouts public. Problems with planning permission and traffic are the reasons for this, the same reasons were given when L.N.I. was refused permission to stay on at Achnahannet.

Loch Ness on Television,

The programme sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution (See N.I.S. 4) was shown on 25th November. I hear it was very interesting, about 20 minutes given to each of the subjects, the Yeti, the Bigfoot and Nessie, but the general tone was sceptical. There were plenty of pictures used, and it was indicated that Searles pictures were probably fakes.

Sightings,

In early November two boys from the Abbey School reported seeing a head and neck about 6 feet tall some 400 yards off shore near the canal entrance; no further details as yet.

A very good report came from someone who wishes no publicity, therefore, a "local resident and his wife", wrote "On September 30th at about 1-30pm, we had just finished luncheon when glancing through the window I saw a large black and glistening object coming slowly up the Loch on the far side and just below the Horseshoe, knowing that Tim was in the area I thought at first that this must be his boat as it was in the area where he regularly cruises but this did not seem to fit as the object appeared black and was too big for his boat which we know well, so we got the glasses out, X 10. mag. and had a good look. I suppose that the distance was about one mile and what we saw was a large and irregular hump which I estimated to be about 10ft high and about 25-30 ft in length. The object had now ceased to move and stretched out in front of it, or possibly astern! was a long writhing neck or tail creating a considerable disturbance in the water. In that area of the loch it was flat mirror calm but over on our side, the water was dappled, I am sure that there is no doubt that this was a monster of great size and possibly feeding. My wife and I watched alternately for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour when a pleasure launch came down slowly and quietly on this side of the Loch, we took our eyes from the animal momentarily and on looking back there was no sign of anything, no wash or ripples or anything. We assume it submerged vertically. I do not think that I could give you a more accurate description of it than the illustration given in Tim's book, Loch Ness Monster, paper back, on page 32 except that the body was more square and much more irregular and one had the feeling that it was an animal of an extremely primitive type and caused a feeling of revulsion to both of us".

And added a P.S.

"Visibility good - sunshine

At one time I thought that the single large hump had become two smaller ones with water in between. After a time, the glistening black colour became a dull grey or black"

Then I have a report from Sgt. John Keay who is an army career advisor in Inverness. On Wednesday 16th October 1974 just after 1100 hours about 2 miles south of Invermoriston he had a brief sighting.

"I was driving along the road doing 20mph and looking out across the Loch through the trees.

I came to a clearing in the trees and it was then that I saw the black domed shape, I immediately stopped the car, got out and ran back to the spot and half way down the slope I heard a big splash and the ripples, it slowly disappeared. I waited around for about ten minutes and there were no further sightings".

Loch surface, very calm. Weather, sunny day, no wind. No boats in sight, object was stationary 20 to 30 feet from edge of the road. Black shining dome shape, 4 to 6 feet long, about 1 foot out of the water, in view about half a minute. Sgt. Keay gives his reaction to the sighting as 'stunned.'

Two very different episodes but both very interesting.

WANTED

Fergus Mack, 10 Reform Street, Tayport, Fife, is compiling information for a thesis on the monsters of Ness and Morar.

He has had no problems with books but would like photographs, reports, surveys. Anyone who can help in this respect please contact Fergus at above address, he will refund postage etc.

Thats all for now, may I wish members all the best for the New Year.
And please remember news and views are welcomed.

Rip.