

# NORTHERN UFO NEWS



NORTHERN UFO NEWS: Monthly newsletter of the Northern UFO Network (NUFON)  
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 and the Livingston CE 3 (attempted abduction)

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL; from Jenny and Paul

EDITORIAL: "Project UAP"

In NORTHERN UFOLOGY (Oct) I outlined a proposal for a new research study to get us out of the present rut we seem to be in. I had previously suggested this in writing to half a dozen UFOIN members, and also discussed it in my paper at the NUFON meeting. This has all produced an interested team of four (Martin Keatman, Peter Warrington, John Watson and myself).

This low response neither surprises nor perturbs me. The size of the project team is almost irrelevant. Rather it is the calibre and dedication of those within it which is paramount. However, I will give another opportunity for others (inside or outside NUFON or UFOIN) to come forward. The project is to begin in the New Year.

I, personally, do not know what UFOs are (nor, I suspect, does anybody) However, we all tend to make gross presumptions. I do not deny for one minute that the possibility exists (and it is not a remote one) that some UFOs are perhaps related to unknown intelligences (possibly even commensurate with the fairies and demons of the past) However, it should also be obvious to any unbiased thinker that many of the lights and alleged aerofoms reported are probably natural phenomena (although little understood or even novel ones).

Ufologists do not have good reputations, and those of UFO groups are even worse. In a sense this is justified by our lack of objective honesty. I believe project UAP (Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena) would be the first step towards this honesty and would by inference (although this is a project for individuals and not groups) enhance the reputation of our associated bodies.

Basically I am proposing that a team of about 10 select a couple of high strangeness cases each per year. If no new cases occur then classics from the past could be profitably reappraised. Each case would be evaluated by as many leading contacts in directly or indirectly relevant fields as each individual could persuade. In this way the team would build up its own system of none-ufological advisors.

After two years this would give a stockpile of well investigated and evaluated cases. These would have been collated with the specific intention for each case of forming a value judgement from the relevant evaluatory advice. If all the cases appear to have acceptable solutions in current fields then we would be justified in concluding that EXOTIC UFOs do not exist. Whilst we must be prepared for this possible outcome, it is equally feasible that a significant residue will remain. The combined evaluatory talents may then have led us towards the probable areas for fruitful continuance of the search for solutions.

As all this goes on each team member will conduct a personal research project. Each member will be aware of the others and can call on all the available facilities. These projects will be individual and varied, but coordinated in the sense that they will each in some way attempt to answer whether certain aspects of the phenomenon are exotic in origin or not (by exotic I mean related to a totally new branch of study or not)

After two years the final results will be pooled together by the team and published in a book. It is hoped that this might act as a signal to science (both physical and psychological) that there are serious ufologists. Then, perhaps, they might consider doing their own project with the greater facilities available to them. At least we will have shown the way.

We may learn little. We may learn a great deal. At least we will be trying. Are you willing to face such a challenge?

NORTHERN UFOLOGY - JAN 1980 - ARTICLES ON THE THEME "British Ufology" - How should it be organised?" accepted up to Christmas.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1980..... If an X appears in the box your subscription is due and this is the last issue you will receive. 1980 issues of this newsletter and NORTHERN UFOLOGY cost £3.60 (to NUFON please).



The meeting on Saturday, November 24 was a great success, and thanks are due to Les Hall and Bob Morrell of NUFOLS for hosting the event at the HQ. In fact there was such a good attendance it was a squeeze fitting everyone in. Present were representatives from CHRYSIS (Cleveland), CUFORO (Coalville), HAPI (Hinckley), MUFORA (Manchester), NLUFOIG (Morecambe), NUFOIS (Nottingham), PARASEARCH (Wolverhampton), SKYSCOPE (Kidderminster), SUFORS (Scunthorpe), UAPROL (Leicester), UFOSIS (Birmingham) plus several individual UFOIN members, including Shirley McIver from York. Apologies were received from 4 of the 6 remaining NUFON groups due to distance (mainly from Scotland and Ireland). A CONTACT UK observer was also welcomed.

The meeting lasted from 1.30 to 4.30pm. Following a short break approximately one hour each was devoted to two recent primary cases. Andy Collins and Martin Keatman presented a report on the Livingston CE3 (see P.6), and Stephen Banks an illustrated report on the Jean Hingley CE3 case from the West Midlands. Both cases involved severe post reactions (to humans and animals) and physical traces. They precipitated lively debates from both the physical and psychological standpoint and some interesting ideas emerged from these discussions.

At the meeting itself the following points of importance emerged:-

- 1: NUFON FORMAT It was decided not to alter the format of NUFON in any way. No committee was to be elected and no sub-regions created. Jenny Randles was urged not to resign as secretary by unanimous vote, and it was similarly stressed that the network was perfectly happy that nobody was in possession of any power. Following this Jenny Randles agreed to continue in this honorary position.
- 2: OTHER NETWORKS It was decided that NUFON should not attempt to foster further networks (eg in Scotland and the South), but keep an eye on the situation so that if local people did initiate one a coordinated policy could be devised.
- 3: GROUP DIRECTORY It was agreed to immediately implement this on an annual basis. The first edition to be published Jan 1980. ALL NUFON GROUPS should submit to the Secretary (by Jan 1st) the following information:-  
 Full name, when formed, contact address and phone number, any publication (if so type of contents and frequency of publication), meeting nights (when and where), any specialist fields or current research, specialist equipment and if available for use in cooperation with others, any contacts prepared to offer advice.
- 4: UFO ABSTRACTS It was decided that NUFON should lead the way in the production of an annual publication abstracting all UK magazines for UFO articles. Dr Morrell agreed to act as editor. ALL groups are urged to submit to him (at 443 Meadow Lane, Nottingham, NG2 3GB) lists of any UK magazines they receive (with addresses) plus full 1979 back issues of their own magazines (if the HQ has not already received these) It will be litho printed and the first issue, for 1979, will be issued a.s.a.p. free to NUFON groups and available to all others.
- 5: PR CAMPAIGN All groups were asked to consider launching a major P.R. campaign with local media and the police. They should stress their serious intent and try to give witnesses confidence to come forward ("many witnesses need help and do not know who to turn to" is the theme to be stressed) A vast pool of untapped close encounters exists. We are grateful to the advice of a Radio Trent producer who was at the meeting and interviewed several people for a series.

There were also discussions on prospective liaison with the SPR, standards of submitted reports and the MAUFOG network. The support of the former was endorsed, a UFOIN standard report format was unveiled, and no action was considered necessary at the present time on the seemingly amorphous MAUFOG scheme.

Considering the valuable decisions that were taken and the success of the joint evaluation/discussion of specific cases it is to be hoped that we can maintain this format and the high attendance for all future meetings. The next one should be due in early Spring (date and venue now open to suggestion from you)

#### NEWS ROUND-UP

:: UFORA Staffs have asked me to note that due to being subjected to criticism because of actions of past members (no longer with the group) the two existant members have decided to continue working as individual investigators.

:: UAPROL have a new hotline number with robophone answering service  
LEICESTER 311666

:: The phone number of CUFORO (Coalville) is now Mark Brown c/o  
COALVILLE 31178.

UFO RESEARCH REVIEW Autumn 1979 contains several Notes and Derby cases plus a review of the BUFORA Conference, commentary on the James Oberg "New Scientist" article on UFOs (winner of the Cutty Sark prize) and official handling of UFO data. NORTHERN EARTH MYSTERIES from Hull has issue 2 out. Articles on EM research and their plans for a travelling exhibition. ANCIENT SKILLS & WISDOM 7 contains reviews on books and a special section on UFO magazines. MAGIC SAUCER Oct/Nov is still an excellent read for all youngsters. Seems to be going a little esoteric, but some interesting childrens sightings and stories of the recent sighting of fairies in the UK. UFO INFO (Warminster) continue their series of large size data sheets, including two of photos. However, "part of a sequence of a small UFO preparing to land" is all one is told of an incredible (if genuine) photograph of a disc shaped ufo landing. OCCULT WORLD is a new magazine just out (30p quarterly from 303 Cauldwell Hall Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 5AJ) Covers things such as astrology, reincarnation and UFOs (David Rees is UFO Advisor and has an article in the first issue on child witnesses)

THE FEBRUARY 24 MYSTERY- UFO or F 1-11?

If ever a sighting existed that proved the need for NUFON this is it. Unfortunately the group who produced most data on it (BUFOIB from Crosby) are one of the few who have to date not agreed to participate in the network. Had we been able to correlate all the data, and work, at the time who can tell what we might have found.

It began for me at 2.01am on February 24 when I received a call from Mike Sachs, a self employed tailor in Stacksteads, Rossendale, Lancs. He advised that he was off to his brothers since he had a camera and he wished to try to photograph an object he, his wife and son had just seen land in a quarry. (He had my number via Jodrell Bank following a previous sighting) Investigation of the case by MUFORA and DIGAP revealed that he claimed to have seen a slow moving domed saucer with a flickering red underside which poured light into the bedroom of his son (who was up ill at the time) The UFO hovered and then seemingly descended into the quarry. On return with the camera at about 02.40 no trace was found in the quarry but two policemen were there. Subsequent investigation revealed the probability that the object had simply passed over the hillside and had not landed.

The two policemen had apparantly been parked nearby in their panda car when at 02.35 they had seen an orange ball of light pass over heading SW. It moved slowly and faded out once, then back in, before finally vanishing after about 2 minutes. It was a perfectly clear, still, mild night but no sound at all was heard. They felt the object was very high and were not especially impressed (although they could not explain it) They were interviewed by MUFORA member Norman Collinson (himself a Detective Inspector in the Greater Manchester Police).



Meanwhile Brian Fishwick of MIGAP discovered a connected case. A taxi driver and his passenger at 02.45 had observed a flickering ball of orange flame stationary in the N which had moved away to the S before just switching off. They were at Bryn, Wigan, Greater Manchester (25 miles SW of Rossendale). Again no sound was heard although they got out of the cab to watch.

Now to the Merseyside data added by BUFOIB. In a UFO INFO report they refer to several sightings at around 02.45 of an orange ball of light from witnesses in the Ormskirk area (although there were reports from Liverpool itself and one in Wallasey) Accompanied with all of these was a roaring sound and an explosion. Houses were said to be shaken by it. Two policemen also followed it in a police car. Their investigation via the MOD revealed that an exercise using F1-11 jets on low level flights had occurred on a 24 hour basis between Feb 21 and 24. Using an afterburner it would look orange and it is possible it may have broken the sound barrier. Is this what we have? Did such a flight come from the north, cross Wigan and then break the barrier over the coast near Ormskirk? Peter Warrington of MUFORA has several contacts who may be able to help and he is checking this out.

LOW DEFINITION ACTIVITY

78-247	Jan 1	(07.35)	Balsall Common, W Mid	W&R LITS	10m	UFOSIS	C	Insuff
7986	Aug	(20.00)	Acocks Green, W Mid	2 W LITS	1m	UFOSIS	C	Insuff
7990	Sep 7	(15.20)	Rawtenstall, Lancs	W LITS	2/3m	NLUFOIG	F	Insuff

Cases 3      Insufficient data 3      UFO NIL

MEDIUM DEFINITION ACTIVITY

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Investigation</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
7232	Mar 30	10.20	Runcorn, Cheshire	NAPRA	C	Insuff data (White bell shaped object seen hovering in E. Faded out after several minutes)
76-164	Apr 19	22.15	Widnes, Cheshire	NAPRA	C	Ball lightning (14 yr old saw red hexagon hover over house making a screeching sound. Then moved off NE with no sound. In view 40 seconds. Weather was warm)
NONE	Aug 76	02.00	Tennerife, Spain	M. Keatman	B	Insuff data (Middle aged woman on holiday could not sleep due to heat. Saw grey triangle of large mass swoop in from sea, do a 360-degree circular loop and fly off over hills)
78-258	Nov	23.50	Marston Green, W Mid	UFOSIS (E Westley)	B	Ball lightning (Woman & 3 others in house heard rushing of air displacement, rattling open sliding lounge door. On floor in hall was fuzzy yellow ball size of football. There 10 secs then vanished with no traces. Doors/windows shut. Cool, clear night.)
7984	Jan 8	15.00	Livingston, Scotland	David Sydeserff	C	Insuff data (3 boys in school saw 4/5 orange domed saucers hovering in S over some hills. After 5 seconds they just vanished)
7985	July	late	Markfield, Leics	CUFORO (M&G Rennocks)	D	Insuff data (Young couple saw amorphous domed mass of diffuse red and green lights over a quarry. Two white LITS dispelled - sped away. Mass swayed from side to side and faded. Seen next two nights. On third night after 5 mins the two stars returned before the object faded out)
7988	Aug 28	18.00	Handsworth, W Mid	UFOSIS (W Knight)	A	Balloon (Petal shaped silver object with red tinge seen to hover for over an hour very high in sky. Shape seen through binoculars. Several neighbours saw it)
7992	Oct 12	07.30	Halifax, W Yorks	BUFORA (T Whittaker)	C	Aircraft (8 sets of witnesses around Halifax report an oval or cigar like object with red sparks or flares in the NE. Seen for several minutes. Ties in with aircraft which departed Leeds/Bradford at 07.27)
7993	Oct 13	19.45	Tamworth, Staffs	Gary Lanham	B	Electrical (7 witnesses observed orange oval with red edge rise from ground. Seen for seconds. Lightning in area at time)
7994	Oct 24	07.20	West Lothian, Scotland	David Sydeserff	B	Meteor (Multiple sightings, including policemen in West Calder and Linlithgow and pilots approaching Glasgow airport. Firey tadpole shape moving SE. Tracked by RAF Kinloss moving very fast. Some reports said whirring sound heard. Duration 5 seconds)

RADAR CONFIRMATION FOR A MIDLANDS UFO? Aug 13 1979 Aldridge, W Mid UFOSIS

Four women at work at 15.20 observed an object like two saucers stuck together. The bottom one was dark and the top one silvery. This object was moving from the S to the N without making any sound. It was sawing from side to side as it moved. Cloud ceiling was 500' and it was raining. Object viewed for 1 minute before tilting at 45 degree angle and climbing up into cloud and vanishing inside a few seconds. Witnesses spoke to several sources in an attempt to identify it. No aircraft were in the area. Birmingham ATCC told them that they had picked up an unexplained radar image at 15.30. When the investigator checked some days later he was advised there was nothing in the log and so this was not possible. When he asked to speak to the person who had talked with the witnesses he was refused with a repeat of 'There is nothing in the log' Shades of a cover-up?

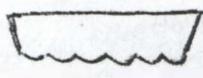
SHAPE CHANGING UFO RETURNS TO ALDRIDGE Oct 29 1979 Aldridge, W Mid Patricia Austin

A further visit to Aldridge by a UFO was paid at 17.10 on this date. A 45 year old engineer coming out of his factory saw a blinding light (much brighter than Venus) skipping about below cloud. It then went into cloud and re-emerged much larger. "It was like a gas explosion", he explained, expanding into a disc shape. It was steady but ghostly in outline. In size it was the equivalent of 15 inches at arms length! It then turned on its side or changed shape into a flatter image and shot off. Total duration was only seconds as nearby workmates failed to reach his vantage point in time to get a view of it.

MED Definition: CASES 12' Insufficient data 4 Ball lightning 2 Balloon 1  
 Electrical Phenom 1 Aircraft 1 Meteor 1  
 UFOs 2 (16.7%)

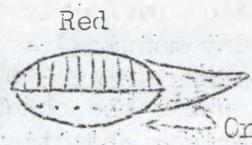
UFO PHOTOGRAPHED OVER BIRMINGHAM SUBURB INST/P Sept 7 1979 Acocks Gr, W Mid

45 year old Jacqueline Duffy is an experienced amateur photographer with a good SLR camera. At 19.10 on this date her 17 year old daughter Theresa was in her bedroom when she observed a black object in the east at about 30 degree elevation. She thought no more, presuming it to be a bird, and resumed changing clothes for an appointment she had in a few minutes time. However, 2 to 3 minutes later she glanced back and the object was still there - perfectly still. The weather was warm and overcast. She called her mother who observed the object also as a trapezium shape with a wavy bottom, the apparant size of a pea at arms length. At this point she called her other daughter (aged 15) and her twin sons (aged 12) who all came to watch the object whilst she brought her camera. There was only one shot left on the film and she took this of it, using a 405mm (telephoto lens) and a setting of f3.5 and a forty-fifth of a second exposure. The object had moved away slightly whilst she was away, but had now returned to its original position. There was no sound at all, but two aircraft were seen to pass over during the 10 minutes of observation, clearly lighted in the dusk sky. Eventually the object disappeared by descending down behind the rooftops opposite. The film was sent to Kodak for processing, but they 'lost it' for a period before finding it again and returning it to the witness. By the time investigators saw it, therefore, it was already too late to make several checks (although the witness claims she called Birmingham ATC and they could not account for the object) The picture and negative were examined by John Ledbetter for UFOSIS. He found no signs of retouching or fakery. The image of the object is clearly present, but even with significant enlargement on a projector does not appear to show any great detail. The investigators feel that this case must be regarded as Insufficient data. (What about the possibility of a weather balloon?)



UFO RESPONDS TO TORCHLIGHT SIGNAL CE1 Psycho Lev A Sept 11 1979 Sedgley, W Mid

What began as an innocuous LITS case has been turned into a 37 page UFOIN report by UFOSIS investigators Ted Horton and Bob Taylor (RCM=37 MS) The location is OS Ref 139/ 946917, time 21.15. This is an area of greenbelt near the town centre where 8 children (1 girl, 7 boys) all aged 14 or 15 were playing. One of these witnesses reported the incident to the press and it is interesting, in view of comments made on surname coincidences, that he was called Stephen Rees. All witnesses have either been interviewed or completed standard forms. They were playing a hide and seek game using powerful torches to 'catch' those hiding. At about 8pm they had talked very briefly about the possibility of seeing a UFO, but dismissed it. Stephen and one other boy had an interest in but minimal knowledge of the phenomenon. A boy called Wayne Westwood was the first to spot the object, immediately bringing it to the attention of the others. It was in the NE in the direction of Beacon Hill at an elevation of 45 degrees above trees but an unknown distance beyond them. In size it was a two or five pence piece at arms length (all eight estimates are of either of these) Shape was consistantly described as oval with a top half red and a bottom half orange and a very sharp dividing line. At the rear was a tail or surrounding gaseous haze of orange. The object moved from bearing 023 westwards to a final bearing of 000 and elevation 80 degrees (approx) It moved as if it were going 'up and down hills in the sky' and seemingly covered about 5 or 6 of these during its flight. These waves were sinusoidal and very distinctive. One of the boys with a torch (Paul Farmer) flashed it at the object using the morse signal P.H. (People Here) The beam had a range of at least 300 feet. Immediately this was done the object stopped abruptly and shot straight up into cloud to be obscured. All witnesses were so frightened they fled. Stephen Rees's parents attest to the severe after effect in that he hardly slept that night. This was heightened because on retiring to bed at 22.30 the bedroom wardrobe fell towards him and he had to physically prevent it falling on top of him. Stephen also claims to have had several precognitive dreams and once saw the face of a man at his upstairs bedroom window (there were no ladders!) All witnesses consider the duration of the sighting was about 3-5 minutes despite a fast speed. They say the area went very still and quiet during the encounter - a typical CE associative effect. The investigators are forced to leave this case unexplained.



November 9 1979 10.00 Livingston, W Lothian, Scotland

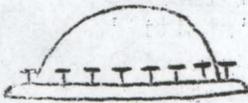
News of this amazing case reached the national newspapers on Sunday November 11. It was immediately obvious that it was of importance and UFOIN asked Martin Keatman to immediately visit the site and do a full investigation. On Tuesday he travelled there with colleague Andy Collins and they spent three days, living with the witness and evaluating the evidence. They were in fact the first investigators to speak to the witness and the only ones to do so within a week of the sighting.

61 yr old Bob Taylor works for the forestry department of the Livingston Development corporation. Part of his duties is to patrol an area of woodland near the M8 (Edinburgh - Glasgow) motorway. At 10.00 on this Friday morning he parked his van and walked with his dog to inspect the area for straying animals etc. The dog was running around behind him loose in the grass when he rounded a corner into a clearing and confronted the wierdest object he had ever seen.

It was a dome shape with a rim on the middle containing flanges with what he called propellers (but look more like aerials). It was metallic looking and about 20 feet high and wide. After staring in astonishment and being within 26 feet (measured subsequently from the traces) the bottom part faded out and the background could be seen through it. Then two spherical objects like landmines -

about a foot wide and grey in colour - came towards him. They had six spikes on the side and rolled/bounced towards him making a sucking noise as they imbedded into the wet soil. Within seconds they had encircled him. Simultaneously he felt a tugging at his trousers and both smelt and tasted a foul stench (a gas?) He seemingly passed out,

face forward onto the ground. He recalls nothing until coming to (seemingly just a few minutes later) with his dog excitedly and agitatedly jumping about beside him. He was covered in mud, and felt so weak he could not stand. He also had a pounding headache and a severe thirst (these are very common post-anaesthetic symptoms) He dragged himself away, noticing that marks had been left by the now vanished object and reached his van. He radioed home base but was not believed. He tried to drive off but was so uncoordinated he drove into a ditch. Eventually he managed to stagger the mile distance home.



At home he had a bath and noticed that his very thick, police issue, trousers were ripped at the hip on either side. His boss was called and simply advised he had been attacked. He came round and then went to the site and saw the marks. A doctor was then brought in who examined Bob and advised him to have an X-Ray, although he was now feeling better. He went to the hospital, stayed 3 hours but refused a full medical (apparently not out of character). The police had been called and had fenced off the area of the marks and taken Bob's trousers. They were very serious.

Andy and Martin did a very thorough job, and even got into the police forensic lab in Edinburgh to see the trousers. They appeared to have been ripped by a pincer of great strength and also had maize starch all over them (according to the analysis). The witness has no idea where this came from! As for the traces these were unfortunately covered by snow on the Monday, but this in fact preserved them. With the help of the forestry workers the snow was cleared and the marks seen found to match perfectly the drawings photocopied from the police notebooks (made on the Friday morning) A circular area where the object had been was in evidence, plus drag marks about 8 feet long where the witness seems to have been dragged part way towards the object. Between the two are 20-30 holes which fit the spikes of the spherical objects that bounced along. One of these was dug up in toto for analysis and other traces are presently being analysed for UFOIN by Leeds University. The witness suffered scratches on his leg and also went off his food for several days (as did the dog). All checks with family and friends have confirmed his integrity. The investigators believe this to be a singularly important case.

The investigators also found some strange stories in the neighbourhood - including at least one directly cooperative independent sighting at 10.00 and several others later that day. There is also a mystery disappearance of a couple in a car on a short local drive. P 4 indicates that two recent sightings have also occurred in the area (7984 and 7994) and the Borders UFO Research Group is currently tracking down a frightening local case, said to have happened a few days before Nov 9. Here the back leg of a dog was all that remained after it ran towards a landed UFO, which its owner saw take off moments later. We will keep you posted on this wave.