

A BRAND NEW MAGAZINE ON UFOLOGY & ALTERNATIVE THINKING

# SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

WHERE YOUR SEARCH FOR THE ANSWERS BEGIN

**TOP 10**  
UFOLOGY  
MOMENTS  
Lazar, Arnold  
& Rendlesham

**ISSUE #1**  
**NOV/DEC 2017**



## THE WELSH TRIANGLE

Celebrating the 40th  
Anniversary of the  
Pembrokeshire sightings

## NICK POPE

From civil servant to the  
MoD's UFO investigator

## TO THE STARS

Rockstar Tom DeLonge  
is shaping our future

## DYATLOV PASS

The mystery deaths of  
nine Russian hikers in 1959

## SNOW WHITE

Does the beloved princess  
have Egyptian origins?



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## THE PIRI REIS MAP ENIGMA

Could this medieval map really show an ice-free Antarctica?

## MICHAEL CREMO

Why human origins may go back further than we thought

Plus more great interviews and features inside!



# WELCOME!



“Something inside me has always been there... - then I was awake, and I need help.”

**T**he above quote was featured in the trailer for the upcoming *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*, which finds our hero Rey searching for guidance in helping her make sense of her recent ‘awakening’. The line stuck in our minds as we were compiling this very first issue of *Shadows Of Your Mind* magazine, and it seemed pretty apt as interest in what were previously fringe topics is on the rise.

This magazine is aimed squarely at the novice ufologist, the armchair archaeologist and the generally curious. A magazine dedicated to those standing on the precipice of the rabbit-hole, unsure whether to free fall like Alice or back slowly away, fearing whatever it is down there or indeed what may come up from below. We don’t blame you in the slightest if it’s the latter, we once stood exactly where you are.

It just feels right to be launching this magazine at this particular moment in time. There was something deep inside us that kept screaming “DO IT! DO IT NOW! COME ON!” with a Schwarzenegger accent - and who are we to argue with Arnold? There’s been a perceptible increase in global consciousness. People are slowly becoming aware to the fact that there is something more to life than

feeling your IQ drop in front of the television and smartphone watching mind numbing talk shows and the endless plague of vacuous ‘reality’ celebrities. And that’s what the title itself refers to, the dark hidden corners of the subconscious that recognises there is a vast amount of information hidden just out of view. Our hope is that *Shadows...* will act as the catalyst that fires up the synapses and instigates further personal investigation, wherever it may take you. Believe us when we say this is your introduction into a fantastic world of hitherto unknown knowledge.

We hope you enjoy this first issue, packed with great interviews and features. From mysterious deaths in the Urals and encounters with extra-terrestrials in the Nevada desert to your guide of the best radio shows and podcasts and an alternative view of a most beloved fairytale.

So take those first steps in to a wider world of alternative research, consciousness, the paranormal and ufology, and don’t be afraid to get involved. Join us on Twitter, Facebook and elsewhere, write to us and suggest a feature or even write one for us! But, most importantly of all, talk about your interests with others, it’s the perfect way to learn.

## Editor Bio

With his interest in UFOlogy dating back to flicking casually through a copy of Carl Sagan’s *Cosmos* as a child, Dave has already been down and back up the rabbit hole more than a few times. Having decided to return to the murky depths of ancient knowledge and UFOlogy he has created *Shadows Of Your Mind* to share his discoveries and uncover the biggest mysteries.

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We LOVE a good debate, and really enjoy hearing from you. If you have an idea for a feature, or would like to contribute and write for *Shadows Of Your Mind* then contact us.

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Haven Fort Hotel © Andrew Green via Flickr / Snow White via Wikimedia



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# NEWS ROUND-UP

## GET INVOLVED

Have an opinion on any of our features? Is there a topic you want to see covered? Get in touch below



Our round up of the biggest news stories to hit the alternative community.

## EX-BLINK 182 FRONT MAN LAUNCHES TO THE STARS ACADEMY

Rock star Tom DeLonge announces an exciting new project alongside former high ranking officials.

**R**emember the date **October 12th 2017, mark it down now because one day we could be looking back and say that's when it all began.** Having teased his Twitter followers and alternative news community for months that he had a 'huge announcement', Tom DeLonge, more recognisable as the singer with rock bands Blink 182 and Angels & Airwaves, finally broke his silence in an online live-streaming press conference.

The project, To The Stars Academy of Arts & Sciences, aims to make public the kind of projects and information that the US Government has kept hidden from the world for at least the past 70 years - notably the existence and acknowledgment of the unidentified aerial phenomenon and extra terrestrial visitations to Earth.

Anyone who has been paying at least the minimum attention to what Mr DeLonge has been up to since he 'retired' from Blink 182 in 2015 is probably aware that this is the moment he has been building up to. If you aren't aware I suggest you acquaint yourselves with two of his recent books (see panel right). *Sekret Machines: Chasing Shadows* an action-packed collaboration with science fiction author AJ Hartley, and *Sekret Machines: Gods* the first in a trilogy



**Concept illustration for a craft that will erase the current travel limits of distance and time. Said to mimic the capabilities observed in unidentified aerial phenomenon using a drive system that alters space-time metric.**

of non-fiction books, which was written with the assistance of occult historian and author Peter Levenda.

Mr DeLonge has quite the impressive team working alongside him, having recruited a group of like-minded individuals from the US Intelligence community who are frustrated by the secrecy and the lack of public progress in the fields of alternative energy, research and scientific breakthroughs which would benefit humanity rather than the privileged few on unreported military operations and 'dark' projects, a shadow government if you will.

The project is split in to three separate components: Science - examining the best use of modern physics and human consciousness; Aerospace - finding breakthroughs in propulsion and energy; and Entertainment - aiming to educate and inspire creativity and ignite curiosity.

👉 We shall be featuring To The Stars in a future issue but in the meantime visit <https://dpo.tothestarsacademy.com> for more information or click on the image above for the press conference video.

## SEKRET MACHINES

**Tom DeLonge has been busy**

### CHASING SHADOWS

An engaging sci-fi thriller involving secret projects, shadow corporations and a lost diary mixed with a sprinkling of historical fact.

### GODS

We are all familiar with the gods of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome but what do you know of what or who came before that? And how have they influenced the world today?

# THE UNITY PROJECT: A NEW HUB FOR RESEARCH INTO ALTERNATIVE TOPICS

A new Wiki-style hub of information launches featuring all things paranormal and alternative.

**F**inding relevant information on the internet on a number of alternative topics has always been hit and miss.

However a new co-operative and community website **uniwiki.org** was launched a couple of months ago with the aim of being a resource centre for anybody who has the slightest interest in UFOlogy or the paranormal.

*UniWiki* encourages unlimited participation by researchers and the public alike who have an interest in alternative and fringe topics and are keen to impart knowledge which they think should be made available to benefit the public. The website states: "The Unity Project's goal is to empower the individuals, organizations and campaigns who seek positive change. At the moment, this community is loosely defined by separate names, such as: paranormal, ufology, consciousness, wellness, healing, environmentalism, sustainability, holistic, magick, and spirituality. We believe that we all share some fundamental beliefs and goals."

Launched in conjunction with the folks at *Fade To Black* radio (see p28), and the people behind *Modern Masters* - a mystical game platform for co-creative spiritual learning, and teaching - UniWiki will feature hour-long podcasts alongside user created pages as part of an open-source project.

Speaking back in August Jimmy Church, host of *Fade To Black*, explained "This [project] is about unifying - not only the community - but gathering all of our information, in a positive way. Getting it all centralized, with the correct contributors. And not go negative! This is the positive side of it, and unifying all of the knowledge. Because it is out there, the community is out there. We need a central depository of all of this knowledge, and that's what Uniwiki is all about."

👉 *Click the monitor above for more information on this exciting project.*



## STARDUST RANCH UP FOR SALE

**Notorious E.T. hotspot priced at \$5million**

Fancy buying a spacious working farm where the neighbours are a bit more out of this world? Stardust Ranch, a 10-acre property in Buckeye, Arizona, US, has made mainstream headlines due to its reputation of being a popular haunt for extra-terrestrials. The owners, John and Joyce Edmonds, who run a horse-rescue centre on the ranch, have been trying to sell the property for eleven years, exasperated by the strange goings-on. Amid talk of animal mutilations by the 'Greys', John claims to have killed around 18 of the alien beings, who apparently dissipate upon being struck down, using a samurai sword.

# TRUMP RELEASES FILES RELATED TO JFK ASSASSINATION

US President sticks to his promise over 1992 law.

**I**t's probably one of the greatest, if not the greatest, conspiracy topics of our time, who shot JFK? While the official explanation has always been pointed squarely at a certain patsy by the name of Lee Harvey Oswald, the evidence indicates that may not be strictly true. Sure, it's been confirmed that Oswald did fire off three shots from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository overlooking Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963. Whether all, one or indeed *any* of those shots hit President Kennedy has been a constant

source of debate for over five decades. The release of these files by President Trump aims to put to bed some of the myths associated with the event, but interestingly they also divulge other secrets involving Cuban plots, call-girls, the KGB, Frank Sinatra and the merest suggestion of a cover-up by party or parties unspecified at this time. At the behest of the CIA & FBI not all files have been released - the usual "interests of national security" line being put forward. So, while we wait, we suggest you read *Crossfire* by the late, great Jim Marrs.



## ECLIPSE DATA COULD LEAD TO A REVISION OF LIST OF PHARAOHS

Recorded Biblical solar eclipse accurately dates reign of Rameses II.

**R**esearchers at Cambridge University are said to have discovered the specific date of the first recorded solar eclipse. They believe that an erroneously interpreted passage in the Old Testament Book of Joshua, which had previously baffled scholars, can pinpoint the celestial event precisely to a date of October 30th 1207 BC. In a report released with astrophysicist Graeme Waddington on October 1st 2017, Sir Colin Humphreys, a Professor in the Cambridge Department of Materials Science & Metallurgy observes that the King James translation of Joshua 10:12-13 *“Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon. And the Sun stood still, and the Moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies.”* rather than suggesting they sun and moon literally stopped moving is actually recording an annular eclipse. Correlating this new data with the Merneptah Stele - a granite block

which recorded Pharaoh Merneptah's defeat of the Israelites in Canaan, now housed in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo - has given an accurate date for the reign of Merneptah (1210-1200BC) and his father Rameses the Great (1276-1210BC) plus or minus a year, three to four years than previously thought.

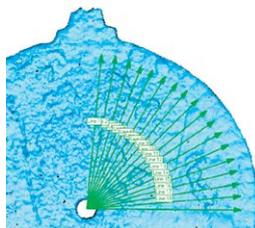
This isn't the first time this theory has been posited however. In 1918, linguist Robert Wilson also made this suggestion based on his reading of Babylonian cuneiform tablets but the calculations involved at the time were deemed “too laborious” to confirm his hypothesis. Now thought it looks as though Wilson's interpretation was correct and it should only be a matter of time before mainstream Egyptologists start to revise the pharaonic dates.

👉 [Click here](#) for the full report in the *Astronomy and Geophysics Journal*

## WORLD'S OLDEST MARITIME NAVIGATION DEVICE FOUND

Bronze astrolabe discovered in 16th century shipwreck.

**A** diving exploration of a shipwreck dated to 1503 off the coast of Oman has resulted in a rare and exciting discovery. According to various reports the Portuguese ship Esmeralda sank while returning along the trade route to India and was part of Vasco de Gama's fleet. The astrolabe bears the seal of King Don Manuel I, who acceded to the Lisbon throne in 1495. Its discoverer David Mearns, sent it to Professor Mark Williams at the University of Warwick for comprehensive scanning and dating and laser scans revealed a series of worn marks equally spaced every 5° around the circular surface. For more information read the story on the University of Warwick website [here](#).



## GOVERNMENT SUED OVER LACK OF BIGFOOT RESEARCH

British Columbia authority faces civil lawsuit in Canada.

**I**n an unprecedented move the Ministries of Fish & Wildlife and Environment are facing court action over “dereliction of duty”. The Vancouver Sun reports that Todd Standing, a researcher and documentarian of the legendary Sasquatch, has accused the provincial government in British Columbia of not doing enough to prove the existence of and protect the ‘wildman of the woods’. According to Standing he has video evidence to back up his claims, (which you can watch at [www.sylvanic.com](http://www.sylvanic.com) for a nominal fee) as well as photographic, genetic and footprint analysis and eyewitness testimonies. Unsurprisingly his claims have amused the provincial Attorney General David Eby, who when asked about any cover up said “I can't talk about it. It's top secret.” See opposite for our tribute to the notorious Pattinson Bigfoot footage which turns 50 this year.

## N-BRIEF

### FEAR OF SNAKES OF SPIDERS INGRAINED FROM BIRTH

A new study at the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig, Germany has suggested that the natural human apprehension when it comes to our eight-legged and no-legged nemeses may be linked back to our evolutionary ancestors. In co-operation with the Uppsala University in Sweden scientists at the MPI found that images of spiders and snakes invoke a ‘stress reaction’ in infants as young as six months. They concluded by saying this fear could have been hardwired into the human brain due to our elongated co-existence with those particular animal groups spanning millions of years. [Click here](#) for the full report.

### HIGH SPEED CRAFT FILMED AT ECETI RANCH

At the end of September, footage of a high velocity unknown object was taken at the UFO hotspot of ECETI ranch in Washington state. Located near the foot of Mount Adams and owned by contactee James Gililand, ECETI has had it's fair share of mysterious goings on, ranging from apparitions, orbs, Bigfoot sightings and some of the best reported UFO activity ever recorded. [Click here](#) to see the incredible footage or visit [www.eceti.org](http://www.eceti.org)

**TOP SECRET**

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

*The Patterson-Gimlin Bigfoot footage*



It is considered one of the best pieces of evidence for the existence of Bigfoot and celebrated its 50th anniversary in October. So what is the story behind the footage? Or was it just a man in a cheap gorilla suit?

**W**hile out in the northern California woodlands Robert Patterson and Bob Gimlin had an encounter which appeared to put the question of whether the legend of Sasquatch was real or not, to bed. Having already embarked on a few Bigfoot hunting expeditions based on reported sightings and footprints, the ranchers headed to the Six Rivers National Forest with a 16mm Kodak movie camera and a couple of horses. As they rode through the area of Bluff Creek the camera was already rolling, filming Gimlin riding a little further ahead up the canyon. When he panned back round Patterson saw a large humanoid creature walking near the opposite bank, around 30m away. He got down from his horse and stumbled momentarily as he tried to get a clearer picture. Regaining his composure he managed to focus on the evidently female creature and one of the most famous pieces of film was shot, lasting under a minute before she disappeared into the woods.

Stills from Robert Patterson & Bob Gimlin film via YouTube

A video of original footage - click [here](#) to see it - shows the sighting in context. Around two and a half minutes in, a large bipedal hairy creature around six feet tall is seen coming out of the trees appearing to be unperturbed by the cowboys presence as it walks calmly away. The money-shot is undoubtedly where the creature turns to look straight at the camera and even at that distance, facial features are recognisable.

Patterson posted the film to his brother-in-law for processing and called scientist Donald Abbot who wanted nothing to do with the footage, as did most other scientists who called 'hoax', disputing the creature's movements and suggesting it could be a well-orchestrated stunt using an man in a suit. Sadly, Robert Patterson died in 1972 from cancer, but Bob Gimlin has always maintained that what he saw that day was the real thing. "I know what I saw," he told reporters "and I know it wasn't a man in a suit. It couldn't have been."

## FANCY DRESS?

Let us know what you think?

### IT'S BIGFOOT!

The footage is irrefutable. The movement is totally natural and the shakiness and filming speed suggest it's the real deal. The turn!

### GORILLA SUIT!

Patterson was desperate to find a Bigfoot and there are claims he had the suit specially made. He chose a location known for sightings and pulled a fast one.





# The Man from the Ministry

From an obscure MOD department to the UK media's 'go-to' guy for all things conspiracy.

**N**ick Pope has been in the UK media a lot recently, talking about conspiracy theories.

You can almost sense the tired resignation in the printed words as once more he's asked about the existence of Nibiru or Planet X by an increasingly unimaginative UK tabloid press. And when he's not replying to journalist after sniggering journalist trying to make sense of tin-foil hat topics, he can be found embroiled in social media battles debating followers of that great medieval fantasy - flat earth theory - when he's not being mistaken for a Premier League goalkeeper anyway.

Now a resident of the US state of Arizona, Nick Pope left the MOD in 2006 after a distinguished service spanning over two decades. But in 1993, a couple of years into a new post, the advent of a certain UFO and conspiracy-themed tv-show suddenly propelled Nick in to the media spotlight. The unexpected popularity of *The X-Files* saw the MOD inundated with requests for information regarding whether UFO files existed in their archives. Pope was given the unofficial designated role of press liaison which subsequently earned him the public nickname 'the real Fox Mulder'. We spoke to Nick about his MOD career, his writing and his contribution to the release of the UK's UFO files into the public.

**SOYM: When did you first join the MOD?**

*Nick Pope:* I joined the Ministry of Defence in 1985 and served there for 21 years, in a number of different posts, at increasingly senior grades as my career progressed. I was assigned to the MoD's UFO project in 1991 and held this position until 1994, when I was promoted to the next grade up. Before being assigned to this position I had no interest in UFOs and no particular beliefs on the subject. To me, it was just another government job - albeit a bizarre and fascinating one!

**SOYM: How did the MOD approach the subject of UFOs or other unexplained incidents?**

*NP:* There was no official fixed position on UFOs at the MOD - or indeed the unexplained more generally. While most civil servants tend to be quite conservative, and incline towards scepticism, we had to take a neutral position and go into each investigation with an open-mind. It was difficult to lose the 'more likely Russian than Martian' mindset, but we had to go where the data took us. Our focus was looking for evidence of any potential threat to the

TALK ABOUT THIS INTERVIEW AND MORE ONLINE



defence of the UK, or for anything with more general security interest.

**SOYM: Can you remember the circumstances surrounding the press giving you the nickname "the real Fox Mulder"?**

*NP:* The MoD is such a vast organisation that some people weren't even aware that the Department had been researching and investigating the UFO phenomenon since 1953. I was constantly being stopped in the corridors and the canteen by people who wanted to know what I knew about subjects such as Roswell, and Area 51. Colleagues nicknamed me Spooky - Mulder's nickname - as soon as *The X-Files* aired on TV, but I don't think the media started referring to me in this way until my first book, *Open Skies Closed Minds* was published in 1996, which is when I became a public figure.

At first I was somewhat irritated, because I thought it trivialized my government work, but I came to appreciate it, and indeed I've met David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson and Chris Carter, and have had some involvement with *The X-Files* movies, TV show, and the recently produced *X-Files* audiobooks *Cold Cases* and *Stolen Lives*.

**SOYM: What was your favourite investigation during your time there?**

*NP:* Probably a wave of sightings that occurred over a six hour period on 30/31st March 1993, all around the UK, collectively known as the Cosford incident. A cluster of sightings turned out to be caused by the re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere of debris from a Russian rocket, but others remained unexplained and involved a large, triangular-shaped craft. The UFO flew over two airbases in the Midlands - RAF Cosford and RAF Shawbury - and one RAF officer described how the craft was emitting a low frequency humming sound, firing a narrow beam of light at the ground and then, from a very slow speed, accelerated to the horizon in an instant. This man had 8 years' experience in the RAF and said that he'd never seen anything like it. His voice was still shaking when I interviewed him the following morning. The incident remains unexplained to this day.

“ IT WAS DIFFICULT TO LOSE THE 'MORE LIKELY RUSSIAN THAN MARTIAN' MINDSET ”

**SOYM: All but three UFO files have now been released in to the public domain, albeit heavily redacted. Do you think the general public will ever be privy to the original un-redacted files?**

*NP:* Most of the redactions are fairly innocuous, and I say that as someone who not only wrote many of the files being released, but also as someone who's been involved in the release project itself, as its public face. The usual reason why material has been redacted is to protect the personal details of witnesses, such as names, addresses, etc. This is a standard part of the UK's Freedom of Information Act, though other exemptions cover areas such as national security and intelligence.

**SOYM: You co-wrote *Encounter in Rendlesham Forest* about the 1980 incident (see p15) with two of the USAF Officers stationed there at the time.**

*NP:* Yes, John Burroughs and Jim Penniston. The book is really the synthesis of all my research into these extraordinary events. The Rendlesham Forest incident is certainly the UK's best known and most compelling series of UFO sightings. As with the Cosford incident, mentioned earlier, the incident remains unexplained to this day, despite exhaustive official investigations. The various Rendlesham sightings occurred before my time on the MoD's UFO project, but I conducted a cold case review in 1994, reviewing all the USAF and MoD documentation, and met and interviewed all the key witnesses. I remain interested in the case, and stay up with developments.

**SOYM: You've spoken at Contact in the Desert in Joshua Tree, California (annual UFO conference) on a number of occasions, are you able to spend any time watching the other speakers or go on the night sky watches?**

*NP:* Contact in the Desert is a great conference, and there are lots of interesting speakers. I try to catch as many of the other presentations as I can and enjoy listening to people like historian Richard Dolan, and the incomparable Linda Moulton Howe, even if I don't always agree with their views. But that's the whole point - to expose oneself to new information, and different viewpoints. I've even been on the odd skywatch, sometimes with the naked eye, other times with night vision goggles. It was interesting and fun, but sadly, I've never seen a UFO.

**SOYM: Recently the UFO community seems to be over-saturated with various self-publicized 'whistleblowers' claiming secret**



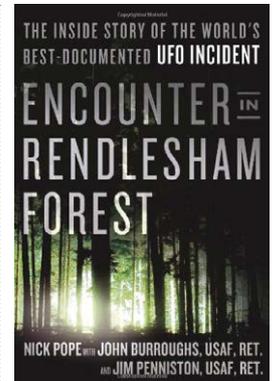
Nick Pope: at the forefront of the push for the release of UFO files

**space programs and interaction with a multitude of extra-terrestrial species. Most of our readers would no doubt find this talk incredulous - are you of the same opinion?**

*NP:* Let me start by saying that as someone who spent much of my government career handling classified information, I don't agree with whistleblowing. The reason I say this is because in almost every case I've seen, the whistleblower wasn't in a position to make an informed assessment of the damage to the national interest done by compromising the information. There's a certain arrogance about someone other than the SME (Subject Matter Expert) setting themselves up as the judge and jury on what the public has a right to know. People seem to forget that when they disclose information, it's not just being exposed to the media and the public, but to foreign governments, as well as to terrorist groups. That said, UFO whistleblowers are invariably fabricators, telling tall tales that can't be verified. Richard Dolan wrote a very good essay about this recently, in relation to some of the increasingly bizarre stories being told about the secret space program. Is there a kernel of truth there somewhere? Maybe, but probably only in the sense that some space missions - such as those involving the launch of classified CIA/NSA satellites - aren't publicized.

**SOYM: Which is more harmful to the UFO community in your opinion, ego or fabrication?**

*NP:* Fabrication certainly. There's



**“ I’VE BEEN ON SKYWATCHES, WITH AND WITHOUT NIGHT VISION GOGGLES, SADLY I’VE NEVER SEEN A UFO. ”**

nothing wrong with a bit of ego, as admirers of great historical figures such as Winston Churchill know. Arguably one needs a strong, forceful personality to navigate the sea of charlatans, nut jobs and haters who poison this field of study, often overshadowing the efforts of the genuine researchers and enthusiasts. Frauds and hoaxers are a huge problem in ufology. Look at the amount of time wasted, for example, on the Roswell Slides hoax (see box right), or the Larry Warren fraud. About the only benefit of hoaxing is that it keeps researchers on their toes, but that's a pessimistic view, and it's essentially just trying to find a silver lining in a very big cloud.

**SOYM: Do you think the general public is drip fed information through television and movies? Are there any examples which you think are close to the truth?**

*NP:* I've written two science fiction novels [*Operation Thunder Child* and *Operation Lightning Strike*] myself, and worked with various Hollywood film companies on some of the biggest sci-fi movies and TV shows ever made. I don't believe there is any truth to rumours that the film and TV industry is part of a conspiracy to drip-feed UFO/alien information to the public as part of an acclimatization campaign. Hollywood is simply about telling stories, entertaining people and making money. As for what's closest to the truth, we can't avoid taking an anthropocentric view of this, and perhaps the truth is unknowable until we see it. However, the two movies that probably handle the extraterrestrial issue best in terms of how things might unfold and what issues would arise are *Contact* (1997) and *Arrival* (2016).

**SOYM: There's a lot of talk about 'disclosure' being imminent. Do you think we are any closer to any sort of official acknowledgement of ET contact,**

**THE ROSWELL SLIDES HOAX**

**The tale of how a blurry photo fooled UFO investigators**

In 2014 the world was teased with the release of undeniable proof that the Roswell crash of 1947 had contained bodies of alien entities. UFO researchers had been privy to pre-release information and Kodak historians had allegedly verified the date of the film to 1947. The eventual public release was hyped for months. Finally on May 5th 2015, and at a cost of \$20, two grainy images were disclosed to the public, through a tremeptental online event. The focus of these images was a small mummified body in a glass case. When it was noticed that it appeared to be a museum setting alarm bells were immediately raised. Within 48 hours the whole display had been deemed a farcical hoax and this was confirmed a few days later when that conveniently blurry placard that lay with the exhibit was disclosed to read 'Mummified body of a four year old child'.

**deep space travel etc.. than when you worked at the MOD?**

*NP:* Disclosure is like tomorrow: it always seems to be just around the corner, but it never comes! I don't think it'll ever unfold quite as the UFO community hope or expect. Ultimately, this will be events-led. I suspect the most likely scenario is that things will happen in small steps. First, maybe we'll discover microbial life in the solar system, perhaps on Mars, Europa or Enceladus. Then, perhaps, we'll detect a signal from another civilisation, via a radio telescope. After that, who knows?

**SOYM: What was the last book on Ufology, or similar, you read that grabbed your attention**

*NP:* In a field where people continually make false claims about having worked on the subject, *UFOs: Myths, Conspiracies, and Realities* by John Alexander is the real deal. Indeed, there are similarities between the work he did in the US and work I did in the UK. So, if you want an insight into how government, the military and the intelligence community view and handle this subject, I'd highly recommend John's book.

**SOYM: Are you currently working a follow up to Operation Lightning Strike?**

*NP:* I'm working on various different projects at present. I've just completed a thriller about counter-terrorism in the UK, and I've co-created a TV drama series about fringe science which I hope will go into production shortly. Also, I'm consultant/political adviser on another TV drama (nothing to do with UFOs!), as well as doing a steady stream of TV documentaries. I hope I can get around to writing a follow-up to my two sci-fi novels at some stage, but this isn't something I have time for at present, due to the pressure of other commitments. And if I return to this, my priority would be to get the first two novels made into a movie or a TV series.

**SOYM: Finally, what piece of personal work would you recommend as a starting point to interested readers?**

*NP:* Of my five books I'd recommend *Encounter in Rendlesham Forest*, not least because it's the most recent. While the focus is on the Rendlesham Forest incident itself, there's enough background information on the MoD's UFO project and on other cases to make it a good introduction to the subject more generally. 🌱

👉 If you want to find out more about Nick and his work on the UFO phenomenon visit [www.nickpope.net](http://www.nickpope.net)

Arrival © 2016 Paramount Pictures



Oscar-botherer movie *Arrival*. Is this how contact with an alien specie would pan out?

# TOP 10 MOMENTS IN UFOLOGY

Words: Nick Cracknell

Like ghosts and vampires, UFO's have captivated the public for generations - we look at the some of the pivotal moments in the modern era of ufology.

**U**FO sightings (or if you prefer, unidentified aerial phenomena - UAPs) have captivated humankind for decades, centuries even, recorded as far back as the Biblical era and beyond. With 2017 being the 70th anniversary of the introduction of the term 'flying saucer' we really couldn't have contemplated anything else for our first issue than the stand out moments in modern UFO history.

It wasn't easy mark you, this could easily have been the sort of top 50 moments you'd see on sunday evening television. Eventually, after much deliberation and more than a few arguments we agreed to disagree on certain events - such as the 1897 crash in Aurora, Texas, or the MJ-12 documents, leaving them for another day.

These are the events that shaped UFOlogy as we know it today and while the top entry may not come as a surprise, a few others on the list may well do. So let's start with the famous sighting over Mount Rainier in Washington state, USA that kicked everything off back in June 1947...

## Author Bio

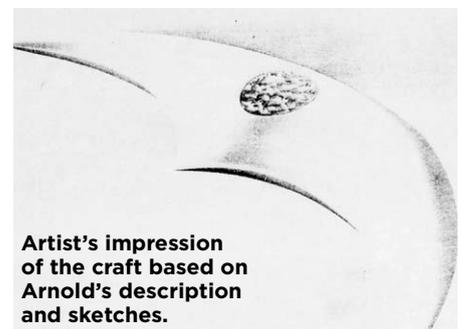


Nick Cracknell is a British author and voice over artist. A journalist for 20 years, before turning to voice acting and writing full time, he has just released his debut novel *Island Zero*, and is currently working on several other novel projects. Nick lives in Devon with his wife and two children, and a number of chickens.

## 10 Kenneth Arnold UFO sighting

Mount Rainier, USA June 24th 1947

If it weren't for a downed Marine Corps C-46 aircraft six weeks previously, the term 'Flying Saucer' might have never existed. Kenneth Arnold was a private pilot with over 9,000 flying hours - many of which were as part of Search and Rescue Mercy Flyers. On his way to a business meeting in Washington, USA, he learned of a \$5,000 reward for discovering the crashed C-46 and diverted towards Mt Rainier. Suddenly out of the clear blue skies he saw nine "pie-plate" shaped objects whizzing by in formation at 9,000 ft and at what he claimed to be at least twice the speed of sound, around 1,200 mph. It was the first viral story of the modern age, and the press leapt on Arnold's story and coined the objects 'flying saucers'.



Artist's impression of the craft based on Arnold's description and sketches.

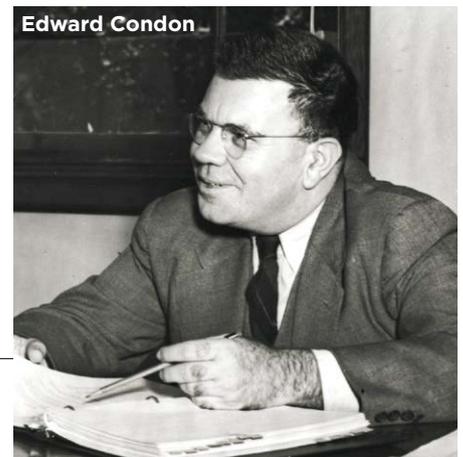
Such was the hype and the volume of subsequent sightings all over the States that the US Army launched an investigation (Project Sign), ultimately dismissing the sightings as a mirage. Arnold himself became a minor celebrity and spent years defending his claims in books and interviews until his death in 1984.

## 9 Condon Report released

USA, January 1969

Such was the level of public UFO fever in the 1960s that the US Air Force decided to launch an official investigation into the possibility of their existence. Led by an outspoken nuclear physicist, Dr Edward Condon at the University of Colorado, the notorious report took three years to compile and ran to almost 1,000 pages in length. Condon ultimately came to the conclusion that there was nothing to be learned from the study of UFOs, drawing criticism that he had been of that opinion all along. The report also signalled the death knell for Project Blue Book, the military's own UFO bible that had examined over 12,000 sightings since the early 1950s. Project Blue

Book's main aim was to determine whether UFOs posed any threat to US national security, but following the Condon Report it was shut down and the majority of UFO sightings were broadly dismissed as mass hysteria or publicity-seeking hoaxes, a stance that continues to this day.



Edward Condon

## 8 Washington D.C. UFO flap

USA, July 22-29th 1952

In 2005 a program called *UFO's The Secret Evidence* speculated how the craft may have flown over Washington with a bit of CGI - which many believe to be genuine footage!



UFO fever reached its peak in 1952 when there were over 300 unexplained sightings in the first six months of the year. But it crescendo'd in July when for two weeks all eyes were on the US capital as air traffic controllers and jet pilots picked up a series of strange, repeated phenomenon on their screens in what became known as the Washington Flap. Controller boss Harry Barnes described the odd blips as "completely radical compared to those of ordinary aircraft," and they were so fast that

radar lost sight of them. However, two stayed long enough to hover some 1,700ft above the White House prompting President Harry Truman to take notice. The next evening they were back performing extraordinary "gyrations and reversals" at over 900 mph. Despite eye witness testimony from Air and civilian pilots in the air, the blips were ultimately explained away as temperature inversions on the radar screens during unusual weather conditions, but it did not quell public talk of an alien invasion.

## 7 Foo Fighters

skies over mainland Europe, 1942-45

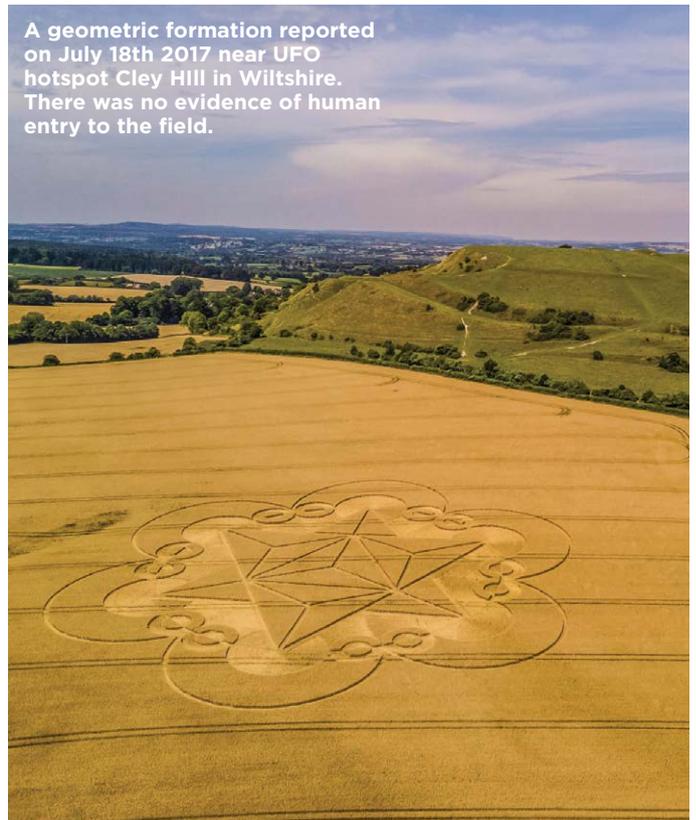
Before rockstar and all round good guy Dave Grohl launched his band, making the term even more famous, 'Foo Fighters' were originally a series of odd bright balls which seemed to pursue fighter planes during the Second World War. Initially both warring sides thought the other had developed a secret weapon, and many flyers described being followed by highly polished silver objects without wings and which moved with a slight wobble. The strange lights seemed to mimic any evasive moves the planes made, even at over 200 mph, which led pilots to believe they were intelligently controlled. Anti-aircraft guns from the ground also proved ineffective. After the war both RAF and CIA-commissioned investigations concluded that they had to be comprised of plain light as they were never detected on any radar. Sceptics claim the pilots could have been hallucinating with fatigue, a theory the pilots roundly rejected. There is still no official explanation other than electrostatic discharges or reflections from ice crystals.

## 6 Crop Circle Phenomenon

Worldwide

Some say they are the work of aliens, some elaborate hoaxes, even electrically charged currents from underground. But crop circles, patterns created by the flattening (though not breaking) of, er, crops, have been reported since the 17th century. Most appear overnight, and in the UK at least, many are found in close proximity to sites of ancient cultural heritage like Stonehenge and Avebury, prompting many UFOlogists to speculate that they are actually messages of communication from alien civilisations to one another. The so-called 'Galaxy' formation remains the largest ever recorded - measuring over 900ft in diameter and was made up of more than 400 separate circles! In the 1990s, at the behest of the UK tabloid media, two pranksters named Doug Bower and Dave Chorley claimed to be behind their construction and demonstrated how in front of the amused press using planks of wood and lengths of rope. That doesn't explain the fact that they still appear all over the world from Australia to Russia to this day. Science has also failed to explain the molecular changes of crops *within* non man-made formations and also the meanings behind complex astronomical or mathematical patterns. For a plausible theory we recommend you watch the excellent *Crop Circle Diaries* by Patty Greer.

A geometric formation reported on July 18th 2017 near UFO hotspot Cley Hill in Wiltshire. There was no evidence of human entry to the field.



## 5 Betty & Barney Hill Incident

New Hampshire, USA, September 19/20 1961

The mystery surrounding flying saucers took a sharp turn towards reality in 1961 when a married couple from the US claimed to have had a very personal interaction with one in rural New Hampshire. Betty and Barney Hill were driving back late at night from their vacation in Canada when they realised they were being tailed by a “white star.” Stopping by the roadside, Barney pulled out his binoculars and saw what appeared to be a banana-shaped aircraft with a group of people in black uniforms staring at him out of its window. Panicking and screaming at Betty to get back in the car, they then both experienced an altered state of consciousness and when they came to they were 35 miles down the road. Two hours later than expected they arrived home in a daze. The following day they noticed a series of strange, magnetized gouges in their car’s paintwork, and when Betty reported the sighting to the local air force base the military confirmed they had picked up a UFO on their radar. Both Hills began having strange dreams, and during regressive hypnosis they

independently confirmed that they had been taken on board an alien aircraft, describing their captors as “bald-headed alien beings, about five foot tall, with greyish skin, pear shaped heads and slanting cat-like eyes.” They claimed the beings had told the Hills not to fear them, but a series of experiments were carried out on their bodies including sperm samples and anal probes. Barney died in 1969, but Betty continued to go on UFO vigils for years afterwards until she passed away in October 2004. Despite evidence to the contrary psychiatrists later suggested that the abduction was an hallucination brought on by the stress of being an interracial couple in the early 1960s.

In 1975 a TV movie was released called *The UFO Incident*, an adaptation of John G. Fuller’s book *Interrupted Journey*, starring James Earl Jones and Oscar-winning actress Estelle Parsons as Barney and Betty. While it’s difficult to find an original copy on DVD or Blu-Ray, less than passable quality versions of it can be found YouTube.



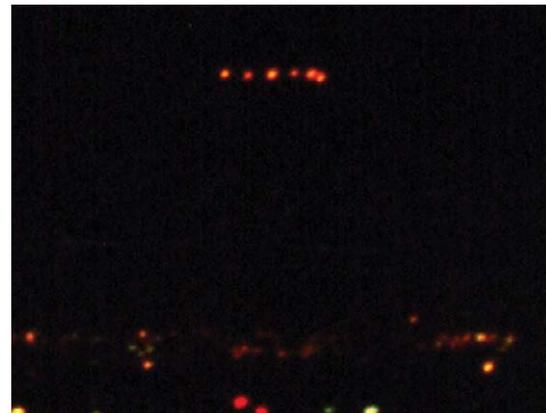
via Wikimedia

## 4 The Phoenix Lights

Phoenix, Arizona, USA, March 13 1997

Up until 1997 most UFO sightings were reported by lone individuals without corroboration. But on March 13th that all changed with the first mass sighting of unidentified flying objects in the skies. Thousands of people reported seeing equidistantly spaced bright lights in huge triangular, V and boomerang formations that glided at low altitude throughout Arizona for over a dozens hours on March 13, 1997 (and on many occasions since, see [thephoenixlights.net](http://thephoenixlights.net) for more). Witnesses also claimed to have seen an actual spacecraft, black or gun-metal coloured, with reports coming from as far away as Las Vegas, New Mexico and California. The most common theories range from an extra-terrestrial flyover to a new super craft developed by the military. Strangely, the event didn’t receive much publicity until

over three months later, and many witnesses claim to have been affected by temporary amnesia immediately afterwards. There is no shortage of footage of the events, captured by many different amateur photographers and camcorders. Eye-witness testimonies say that the orange-red lights seemed to indicate “running lights” along the leading edge of a large craft estimated to be as large as a mile in diameter. The US military has always insisted that they were merely flares set off during training exercises at an air force range south of Phoenix. Arizona Governor Fife Symington however, who also witnessed the event, argued on CNN, “As a pilot and a former Air Force Officer, I can definitively say that this craft did not resemble any man-made object I’d ever seen. And it was certainly not high-altitude flares because

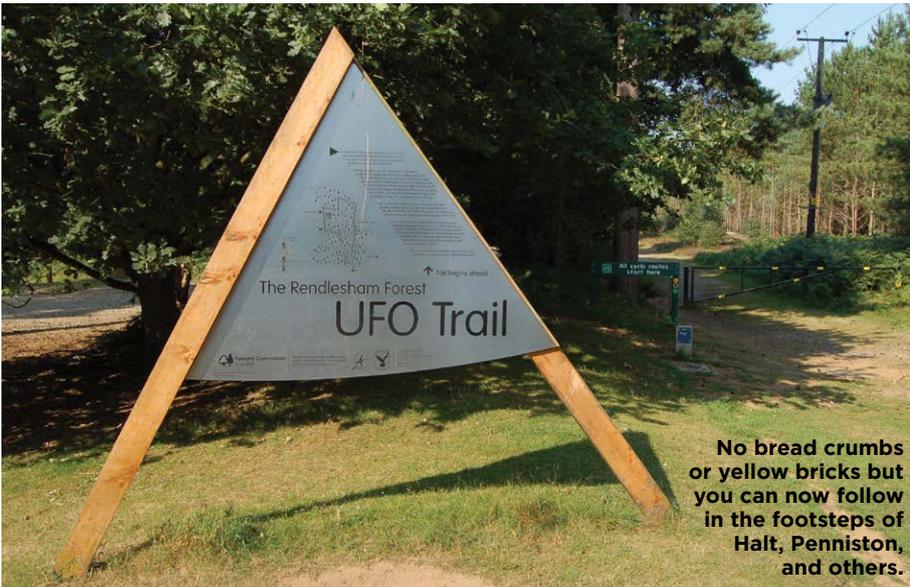


flares don’t fly in formation.” Further similar sightings have been reported since but twenty years later the Phoenix Lights remain a mystery...

**Above pic: This V shaped anomalous aerial phenomena was reported by air traffic controllers at Sky Harbor IAP. It appeared at an altitude of 1,000ft over Class B restricted airspace on 23rd January 1997 and again on 13th March during the mass sighting.**  
© Dr Lynne Kitei/thephoenixlights.net

## 3 Rendlesham Forest case

Rendlesham Forest, Norfolk, UK December 25th 1980



©Draco2008 via Flickr

Britain's very own 'Roswell Incident' occurred over several nights during Christmas 1980, when US Air Force men reported a series of strange lights in the forest outside two RAF stations in Sussex. Around 3am on Boxing Day security personal at RAF Woodbridge observed lights descending into nearby Rendlesham

Forest, and on investigation saw "a light that looked like a large eye, red in colour, moving through the trees," according to base commander Colonel Charles Halt. At the time soldiers claimed military bosses had sworn them to silence due to escalating Cold War tensions with Russia and the fact that nuclear

weapons were rumoured to be stored at the base. But several have since spoken out, convinced that they saw and even - according to Sgt. Jim Penniston - touched a glowing, metallic alien spacecraft. Upon revisiting the area the next morning a triangle of three small impressions was found as well as burn marks and broken branches on nearby trees. Sceptics claimed it was either a hoax or beams of light from a lighthouse around five miles away, but Halt gave a signed statement years later in which he asserted that the British government had covered up an extra-terrestrial encounter. The MoD in response has consistently dismissed claims of a cover-up saying there was no threat to national security, and that it was most likely a series of nocturnal lights. In 2005 the Forestry Commission used National Lottery cash to set up a UFO tourist trail through the forest.

**Want to listen to the audio of Colonel Halt's investigation that night? Then click [here](#).**

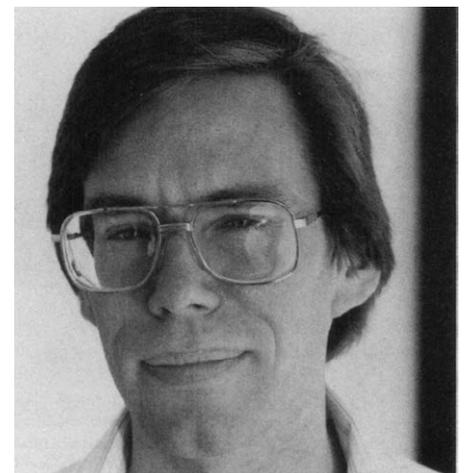
## 2 Bob Lazar interviews

Las Vegas, Nevada, US May/November 1989

Ask any layman what the most famous secret UFO base in the world is and nine times out of ten they will say Area 51. This is mostly down to one man, a young physicist named Robert Lazar, who blew the UFO world apart in 1989 with his claims that he had worked for five months on a secret project to reverse-engineer alien spacecraft technology in remote Nevada. It all started when Lazar gave a now famous televised interview to a local Las Vegas TV station\*, claiming that he had worked for the US Navy at S-4, a hidden hangar complex built into the mountainside just south of Area 51. He claimed there were at least nine flying discs which were tested and stored at the site which could generate their own gravitational field, powered by what he called Element 115 (now known as Moscovium on the periodic table which was 'discovered' in

2003), and which had technology hundreds of years more advanced than human. He even revealed he was told that the aliens came from a remote binary stellar system called Zeta Reticuli 2 - the same system mentioned by Betty Hill. Unfortunately, his credibility suffered when he claimed to be an alumnus of two prestigious universities, but no records of him exist at these establishments. Naturally, Ufologists leapt on the story, but because S-4 is a restricted area nobody was able to confirm or debunk his story. Lazar rarely gives interviews and lives in remote Michigan, but his story was so richly detailed, including information about the craft, the site and his co-workers, that many find it hard to disbelieve to this day.

*\*The interviewer was Emmy-Award winning journalist George Knapp, now of Coast To Coast AM fame.*



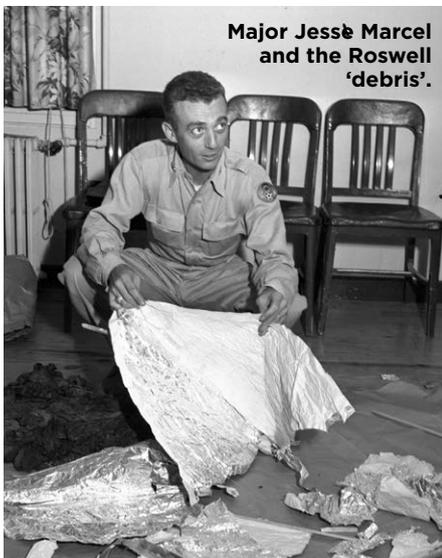
Area 51 image ©Doc Searls via Flickr

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## Roswell Incident

nr Corona/Roswell, Nevada, US, June/July 1947

Did little green men actually crash their craft near the town of Corona in July 1947? And are they still here? If so, where are they and their wreckage being kept? Chances are that even if you have only a remote interest in UFOs you will have heard of the Roswell Incident and the conspiracy theories that claim it is the most startling alien discovery of all time. It started when a rancher named Mac Brazel discovered a pile of strange debris on his employer's land south east of Corona, New Mexico, a mess of metallic poles, plastic chunks and foil reflectors. The discovery came just three weeks after the Kenneth Arnold sighting (see #10) when flying saucer fever was at its dizzy post-war heights, and rumours started to circulate that it was the remains of an extra-terrestrial craft. Following a preliminary investigation, an excited Major Jesse Marcel spoke with Colonel William Blanchard, commander of The Roswell Army base, who instructed base spokesman, Lt. Walter Haut to release a hastily drafted press release describing the wreckage as a "flying disk" thus stirring up the mother of all hornet's nests. The statement was quickly retracted and the theory put forward that it was in fact a crashed weather balloon by General Roger Ramey at Fort Worth in Texas who cajoled Major Marcel to pose with some tin foil and balsa wood. Debris which the General said had fooled Major Marcel.



But it was too late. UFO fever had gripped the nation, and the world. Then like Keyser Soz , the story vanished, for a while anyway. More than 30 years later after the release of the book *The Roswell Incident* by Charles Berlitz and William Moore conspiracy theories started to abound that the whole thing had been a government cover up. Many theories suggest that a craft and alien remains had in fact been recovered and secreted at Area 51 (see #2) in Nevada.

Up until his death Major Marcel always insisted the debris he was pictured holding wasn't the same stuff he'd found while Lt. Haut later admitted to having seen small alien corpses with huge heads and an egg-shaped craft about 15 feet long at the base shortly afterwards. Multiple other witnesses have stepped forward claiming to have seen, and held, the wreckage of the craft. Some theories even suggest that there were two craft, with bodies being recovered at a second crash site north of the original site. Local Roswell undertaker Glen Dennis also recounted how he had been asked for a number of child-size coffins and been asked some curious questions about preservation methods by unknown military persons. Hype peaked in 1995 when a film was released that purported to show actual footage of an autopsy being performed on an alien from the crash, but the film was later revealed as a fake. But speculation increased as signs started going up at the government's most secretive of sites threatening use of deadly force against trespassers...

Nevertheless, the Roswell incident has become known as "the world's most famous, most exhaustively investigated, and most thoroughly debated UFO claim." Today, the town of Roswell (although nearly 60 miles from the alleged crash site as the crow flies!) has naturally cashed in on the incident with the International UFO Museum and Research Centre, and you can't walk down Main Street without being confronted by toy aliens and flying saucers in every shop window.

**NEXT  
ISSUE**

We'll be asking a Roswell novice for their honest opinion next issue in the second of our *One Small Step* series

## 5 Honourable mentions

- **WOW Signal discovered**  
Strange radio signal received on August 15th 1977 by Ohio State University's 'Big Ear' radio telescope in the United States, supposedly came from the constellation Sagittarius.
- **George Adamski**  
First of the so-called 'contactees' of the 1950s, who claimed to have met friendly Venusians and flown with them to the Moon and other planets.
- **Battle Of Los Angeles**  
US forces launch a barrage of anti-aircraft missiles in to the skies above Los Angeles on the night of June 24-25th 1942 directed at an unknown object.
- **Travis Walton**  
American logger who went missing for five days in Arizona on November 5th 1975 and claimed to have been abducted in a flying saucer by short bald alien creatures on his return.
- **Shag Harbour Incident**  
On October 4th, 1967 multiple witnesses filed a report with the RCMP in Nova Scotia of an 'aircraft' crashing into the lake. A rescue mission was organised within the hour but no debris, survivors or bodies were ever found.

Did we miss something glaringly obvious? Or included something we shouldn't have? Let us know by clicking one of the icons below...



**NEXT ISSUE:**

Top 10 Haunted Locations

# SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

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# THE WELSH TRIANGLE

Between 1976 and 1978 a small corner of Wales became a UFO hotspot with reports of sightings, landings, giants and even bovine teleportation!

**D**avid Davies was just your average pupil at Broad Haven Primary School, but on 4th February 1977, while out playing football in the school field, a glint of silver in the nearby trees caught his eye and caused him to stop and watch. He described seeing a cigar shaped craft rising then descending behind some nearby trees. He wasn't the only one either, other play mates also saw the object but by the time one of them had run in to the school to fetch a teacher, it had gone. The headmaster at the time, Ralph Llewellyn, sat the children down inside and under exam conditions, asked them to draw what they had seen. Each picture showed a variation of a semi-elliptical craft with a red flashing light on top of a small raised dome, while some pictures even had a silver-suited occupant descending from the craft. Estimates of the size averaged around 45ft long. The story made the national news and even the famous *John Craven's Newsround* a popular children's television programme. Hugh Turnbull of the local *Western Telegraph* was first on the scene to talk to the pupils along with local vet Randall James Pugh who knew some of the children. They also took a look at the area where the children had said the craft had landed but the ground was extremely muddy and there was no way of distinguishing if anything had landed. They did notice however that a nearby telegraph pole had been damaged near the top, the

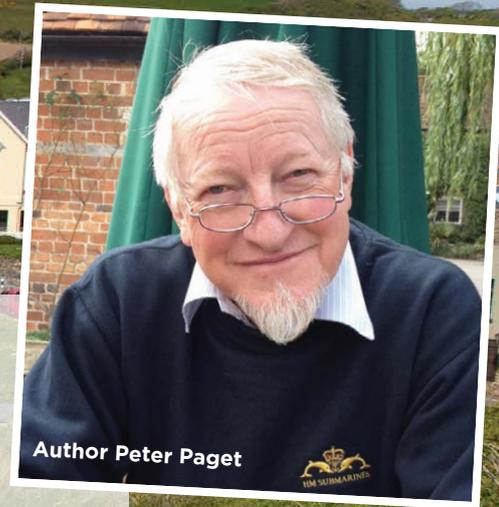
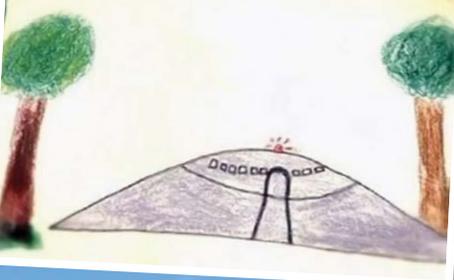
metal cross-T-piece bent out of shape. Sceptics claimed that the children had just seen a helicopter or a chrome tanker from the local sewage plant not far from the school, however upon checking the plant said no tankers arrived that day. Turnbull then justified that by remarking that "these are children from a farming background, they know what a tanker looks like." One of the school teachers, Mrs Morgan, disclosed that she too had seen the craft out of the window followed by a little whirlwind of dust that came across the playground as it ascended.

We got in touch with Peter Paget, author of the book *The Welsh Triangle*, who spent a lot of time in the area following the incident for further information. He spoke to children at the school in the playing field, 200 yards from where the craft had been spotted. David Davies, Michael Webb, Tudor Jones, Paul Williams, David Ward, Philip Rees and Shaun Garrison all recalled seeing a silvery coloured disc with an occupant holding some sort of camera-sized object. Headmaster Llewellyn told Peter that although personally he was sceptical of such craft himself there was no reason to believe that the children had conspired to produce a "sustained, sophisticated hoax". As it transpired it wasn't the only sighting in the area as Peter soon found out.



## THE WELSH TRIANGLE

Looking out across  
St Brides Bay from the  
village of Broad Haven



Author Peter Paget

He'd been told of an incident at Ripperston Farm, near to the Atlantic coast, which was owned by the Coombs family. Pauline Coombs claimed she had been chased by a football-sized object while driving back home one night. A few nights later her and her husband Billy were watching a late night Western on the television when Pauline noticed a silvery glow outside in the dark. At that point the television started to suffer from interference and Billy leapt up from his chair as he saw something outside the window. As the pair stood clinging to each other, both of them were now staring at a huge spacesuited individual a few feet beyond through the window. They described the 'man' to Peter as over 7ft tall, clad completely in a one-piece silver aluminium-looking suit, capped by a square, solid-looking helmet fronted by an opaque, black square visor. Coming from the helmet was a thick, dark-coloured pipe which went back over his shoulder. As Pauline and Billy stood there too terrified to move, their farm dog Blackie, who would refuse to go out of the house after the incident, circled his tail and whimpered in a corner of the room.

A few weeks later in May 1977, Pauline related to Peter a further incident. From her kitchen window she had seen a landed UFO in a field towards the coast. It was 400-500 yards away and was resting on a tripod configuration. She estimated the silvery craft size to be

about 14-20ft diameter with an antenna sticking out of the top. She reiterated that given her experience with different types of farm vehicles she couldn't possibly have made a misidentification. A little while after the craft had left and flown out towards the Atlantic, Pauline and her husband inspected the field and discovered a burnt circular mark in the grass. The couples children also had their own experiences in a field near to the beach. On one occasion a large silver-suited figure walked past within 12 feet seemingly unconcerned with their presence. The other instance involved the sighting of three hovering UFOs, the lowest of which dropped a metal ladder, which a figure descended, and a bright red fluorescent 'box'. After they had flown off the Coombs'



**“ BOTH OF THEM WERE NOW STARING AT A HUGE SPACESUITED INDIVIDUAL THROUGH THE WINDOW A FEW FEET BEYOND ”**

## THE WELSH TRIANGLE

children ran into the field to locate the box without success. The next day blotchy red patches appeared on the arms and legs of the children who had never suffered from allergies, and often played in the long grassy fields that surrounded their farm.

### DUDE, WHERE'S MY COWS?

These incidents also had an effect on the Coombs' livestock. The two fields where the UFO's had been sighted were now off limits as far as their herd of Fresians were concerned with the anxious bovine refusing to enter either field and their milk yield was down 15%. One night something truly bizarre occurred at the farm. Billy Coombs was tending to a couple of heifers in the milking complex where the cattle were housed for the night, when he decided to pop back to the house for a quick cup of tea. Around midnight, leaving the shed locked and secure with the gates bolted, Billy made his way up to the farmhouse. As soon as he approached the door he heard the phone ringing and went to answer it. On the other end of the line was an irate neighbouring farmer who was insisting that Billy come down to his farm and retrieve his cows who were eating his crops. Amazed at the accusation Billy informed his neighbour that he'd left the cows all locked and secure in the milking shed less than a minute ago so there was no way they were his cows. His neighbour was equally insistent though so Billy told him to wait while he checked on his herd. When he got there, to his utter amazement, all 158 head of cattle, which he'd left contentedly munching hay, had disappeared! The shed was completely devoid of any signs of life. According to Coombs there is no way, in the time it took him to walk from the shed to the farmhouse, that a whole herd of cows could have negotiated not only a locked gate but also walked to a farm a mile away while negotiating hedges and more shut gates. Returning to the phone, a stunned Billy apologised profusely to his neighbour and rallied his sons to help him herd the cattle back to Ripperston Farm.

“ WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE MILKING SHED, TO BILLY'S UTTER AMAZEMENT, HIS 158 HEAD OF CATTLE HAD DISAPPEARED! ”

### RAF BAWDY

Just up and around the coast from Broad Haven was RAF Bawdy, a designated flight training school. Once a Navy base the area was reknowned for bad weather with locals wondering why the RAF would be training pilots in such conditions. Further on was a secretive US Underwater Radar Research Station which was running hundreds of feet of cables under St Brides Bay and out into the Atlantic to detect 'Russian submarines'. A more detailed look at these two bases can be found in Peter's book *The Welsh Triangle*.

Ripperston Farm continued to be a hive of unexplained activity throughout the year but they weren't the only family experiencing something mysterious. Between Broad Haven and Little Haven lies the Haven Fort Hotel which at the time was owned and run by Rose Granville and her family. Their experiences first started in April 1977 when husband Hayden noticed a strange procession of lights over St Brides Bay with some of the hotel guests. "It was just like watching a train in the sky," he later told Peter Paget.

### UFO HAVEN

A few nights later Rose had finished doing her late night checks in the hotel before going to bed around 2.30am. As she walked down the long corridor to the rear of the hotel, the passage was suddenly lit up as day. Rushing to a nearby window Rose was shocked to see a strange craft hovering about 200 yards away lit up underneath by a brilliant white-blue flame. She described the machine as dome-shaped and watched in terrified silence as two huge silver-suited figures emerged wearing a similar dark-tinted visor that the Coombs family had witnessed. These two figures walked a short distance away from the craft and separated before they both bent down as if looking for something on the ground. Moments later one of them stood and looked in Rose's direction who then ran to her bedroom to wake her husband. When the couple returned to the window, the craft had gone. A few nights after Rose again witnessed a strange light having locked up for the night. This time she watched as it moved up and down the coast and to and from the nearby Stack Rocks for forty-five minutes or more. The Granvilles experienced many more sightings with one particularly extraordinary event seen concurrently by Pauline Coombs.

Stack Rocks (not be confused with the formation south of Castlemartin about 20 miles away) is a rugged island, owned by Rose Granville at the time, situated half a mile offshore. It's uninhabited except for local seabirds and the strong currents and heavy swell around the rocks dissuade anyone from venturing out for recreation or exploration. On October 30th, 1977, Pauline Coombs was driving an alternative route back to Ripperston Farm with her mother and other family members so they could appreciate the view across St Brides Bay on the clear autumn afternoon. Without warning a disc-shaped craft, between 40-50 feet, flew over the car and out toward the rocks. In Pauline's words, after the craft went behind the rocks, "...we saw it reappear,



Stack Rocks in St Brides Bay



The Haven Fort Hotel, the scene of many a sighting in the late 1970s

circle the rock and it vanished into the rock between two doors that seemed to slide open!" she continued "We couldn't believe our eyes. We saw it fly straight into those rocks. We winced, expecting an enormous explosion, but nothing happened." Pauline later related to Peter Paget how they parked at a vantage point on the clifftop where they all saw the 'door' again but this time two silvery figures appeared walking along the edge of the rock, down what appeared to be steps, to examine something near the shoreline before returning back 'inside'. The craft was no longer visible and Pauline confirmed that these figures were similar to the one that had stood outside of her window. The family were stunned and on their return to Ripperston Farm, Pauline had a telephone call from none other than Rose Granville. Rose told Pauline that she'd been sitting in the lounge at the hotel when her attention had been drawn to sunlight glinting off what happened to be the same craft as it headed to Stack Rocks. Rose had fetched her binoculars and had seen the same figures emerge and make their way down to the water's edge. Her daughter Francine and husband Hayden also witnessed the pair, amazed as the figures retreated deep into the rocks.

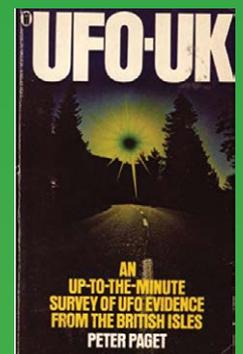
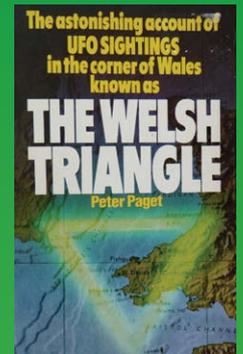
So what exactly was happening out in that remote corner of Wales in the late 1970's? We'll never know for sure but the witness testimonies of the Broad Haven Primary School pupils, the Coombs and Granville families as well as host of other credible and respectable residents of the area who were interviewed by Peter Paget and his

wife Jane, will ensure that the mystery will always be well recorded. Earlier this year, former pupil David Davies appeared at a 40th Anniversary conference organised by the Swansea UFO Network to talk about that day in the school field. Davies has never sought to make money out of his story and neither have the other children, after all they came from a simple country background and as their headmaster related, had no reason to construct such a complex hoax.

The Welsh Triangle is certainly one of the most intriguing UFO cases from the UK and we asked former MoD UFO investigator Nick Pope whether the Ministry had any information on the Broad Haven sightings. He informed us "I'm aware of the various Broad Haven UFO sightings, and indeed the wider series of sightings and other odd events that occurred at the time in the area - dubbed the Dyfed Triangle. I suspect that multiple factors were at work here and - as a result - there isn't a single, neat solution to the mystery. Some of the incidents were probably caused by a combination of pranksters and mass hysteria. I know that was the suspicion of my predecessors on the MoD's UFO project, as can be seen from some of the original MoD documentation, now declassified and released to The National Archives. But some of these documents show that behind the scenes, despite putting out the usual "no defence significance" line, the MoD took this seriously enough to order the military police to undertake a discreet investigation. So I keep an open mind, and don't entirely rule out other more exotic explanations." 🌱

## PETER PAGET

Before his investigation into the Dyfed Triangle Peter Paget lived near Warminster in Wiltshire. Peter, with his wife Jane, was editor of the *Fountain Journal* in the 1970s which covered the infamous Warminster UFO flap. He has recently published his memoirs *Secret Life Of A Spook* which details his life working at Mi5 but his early books on UFOs capture some of the greatest UK encounters of the 20th Century. Click the covers below for more information, they're worth reading.



Haven Fort Hotel © Andrew Green via Flickr / Stack Rocks © Stuart Kendle / SeaKayakAdventures

# WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT...

## #1 The Piri Reis Map

Could a Turkish map from the 16th century really portray a temperate ice-free Antarctica?

### Introduction

Depressing as it sounds, somewhere an ego-inflated millennial in a suit is sitting in a clinical non-descript office, drawing up a marketing plan for the next topic everyone will be talking about. Drumming up a storm so people can #this and #that just for online clicks and giggles and the projected explosion of social media sheep.

The conscious mainstream exposure of President Trump's favourite mot d'année - and Collins Dictionary Word of the Year - 'fake news', has seen bloggers and media alike create, sorry, *report* the news they think we should be paying attention to. From global election interference, rocket launches from pantomime villains or the latest airbrushed duck-faced selfie from any member of the Kardashian clan, we're being *told* what's important. The fringe community is no different. Commentators, researchers and 'insiders' alike keen to latch on to the latest topic and suddenly everyone is an expert screaming "Hey, look at me!"

One of the more curious stories that the all-knowing continually refer is that of a 500 year old Turkish map which, they say, shows Antarctica as a tropical paradise rather than a frozen wasteland. In the first of a regular series our old friend Doug McKay sticks his size 12s in and says enough is enough.

**B**eing your typical irate Scotsman I naturally have many a bug to bear. Apart from the obvious political grudges this ranges from smartphone obsessed numpties and their Instagram-filtered selfies, to those cretins who think the world is flat. Aye, that's right, I went there. I don't do social media, at all, and the only reason I have email is so I don't have to buy stamps. My Nokia mobile phone is over ten years old, but it works, and that's fine by me. So when I was asked by this magazine's illustrious editor to "pick a fight" we discussed a couple of things. One thing jumped out at me straight away - The Piri Reis map. For those of you who have never heard of the cursed thing we'll start with a wee history lesson.

In 1929, as Turkish scholars were working to convert the former Imperial Topkapi Palace, Istanbul into a museum, when they came across a section of a 16th Century Ottoman map which showed the coast of the Americas. One of the notations on the map stirred up a right old bees nest as when it was translated read "*The coasts and islands on this map are taken from Columbus's map*". Aye, 1492 and all that pish, the great slave-trading, *re-discoverer* of the New World, *not* the discoverer. We know that my spiritual ancestors, the Vikings, had already been there more than 500 years before and set up camp, while the indigenous people had been there for millennia before the Europeans ever thought about using them as target practice.



The man himself, Admiral Piri Reis in the Istanbul Naval Museum via Wikimedia

Following a pretty decent amount of research, it was discovered that in 1501 an Ottoman captain by the name of Kemal Reis had captured a fleet of ships off the Spanish coast. A sailor one of those boats bragged he'd actually sailed with Columbus. and he had in his possession a map drawn by the man hi'self. The good captain Kemal left it to his nephew Piri in his will and in 1511, using this map and others Piri Reis began to draw a new map of the world to incorporate new Spanish and Portuguese discoveries - a bit like updating a medieval Google Earth.



DOES THE MAP SHOW ANTARCTICA? DISCUSS ONLINE



The fabled map itself, drawn on gazelle skin, which the Ottoman-Turkish Admiral Piri Reis himself said was a composite of numerous maps and charts including those of the West Indies that Christopher Columbus thought was Asia.

## THE PIRI REIS MAP

In the creation of his great 'mappa mundi' the other maps he referenced were said to consist of eight charts drawn during the time of Alexander the Great, Portuguese maps of the Indian Ocean - spice trade routes no doubt - and six other unknown sources of indeterminate age. Many of these probably feature on a hitherto missing piece of the larger map. Acknowledging himself that he had no first-hand knowledge of the lands he'd just drawn, Piri Reis completed his map in 1517 and donated it to the reigning Sultan Selim, in exchange for an Admiralty

day of the US Election, second man on the moon, Buzz Aldrin, had to be airlifted to New Zealand while on an organized expedition in Antarctica after supposedly tweeting about something of 'pure evil' then succumbing to poor health, and Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church conducted some sort of mystical ritual after a rumoured meeting with Pope Francis in Cuba. Then there were rumours of the discovery of extreme ancient ruins buried under the ice and the flash-frozen mummified bodies of something

southern portion of the map in an attempt to accurately pinpoint the coast of Queen Maud Land and the surrounding environs. In the process of writing his 1966 book *Maps Of The Ancient Sea Kings*, Hapgood even wrote to the US Air Force for an evaluation of his Antarctic claims to which they responded "The claim that the lower part of the map portrays the Princess Martha Coast of Queen Maud Land, Antarctica is reasonable." Reasonable?! They went on to say "We find that this is the most logical and in all probability the correct interpretation of the map." There's a joke in there somewhere about Americans and geographical knowledge but this isn't the place.

“ WE FIND THAT THIS IS THE MOST LOGICAL AND IN ALL PROBABILITY THE CORRECT INTERPRETATION OF THE MAP. ”

by all accounts. Reis continued with his cartography, eventually releasing the *Kitab-i Bahriye*, or *Book of the Mariner*, a collection of his finest work. That's it, lesson over back to the Topkapi. After the initial hub-bub of it's discovery the map was largely forgotten until a throw away comment by a Captain Arlington H. Mallery of the US Navy, in 1953, suggested publicly that the map seemed to show a portion of the Antarctic coast. This was confirmed, he said, by a joint Swedish-British expedition in 1949 using sonar to detect land mass under the thick ice. After reading this in 1954, a college professor in New Hampshire called Charles Hapgood began to dig a little deeper and study it with his students. For seven years.

### THE HAPGOOD EFFECT

Before we begin with the good professors research I need to skip forward in time a bit so bear with me. At the back end of 2016 a lot of noise in certain circles was being made about certain high-ranking people visiting a certain snow and ice covered continent, and it wasn't to study the breeding habits of the resident penguin population. Former US Secretary of State John Kerry visited on the

of humanoid form but not entirely as we'd recognise. Put together with reports of a group of petrified scientists having to be evac'd from the middle of nowhere and engineering behemoth Lockheed Martin advertising for 1,000 jobs in Antarctica and you could see how things may have gotten out of hand! Getting on to my point though. Among all this chatter were the references made by ufologists and alternative researchers to the aforementioned map of Piri Reis and the research of Charles Hapgood. The Professor's book *Maps Of The Ancient Sea Kings* had been quoted extensively in the past by such controversial authors such as Erich Von Däniken in *Chariots of the Gods* and the esteemed Graham Hancock in his book *Fingerprints of the Gods*, both of which mentioned Hapgood's research as 'proven'. Researchers Rand & Rose Flem Ath also looked on the research favorably in their compelling and book on Atlantis, *When The Sky Fell*.

During his prolonged research on the Piri Reis map, Hapgood and his students spent a long time on unnecessarily complex mathematical equations trying to determine the longitude and latitude of the

Take a look at the typical global view below and you'll see we've marked Queen Maud Land and Princess Martha coast. Now look back at the Piri Reis map and you can sort of see why Captain Mallery made that comment and why he believed it could represent the coastline under the ice. If Hapgood hadn't put so much stock in that one idea that no one else had suggested up to that point he could have saved himself seven years. Then again, he wouldn't have had a book to promote either. The other problem I have with this is that the area Mallery was talking about lies directly south of Africa rather than South America so you have to wonder at the absence of the great expanse of wide turbulent ocean that lies between the three continents. Surely there'd be a chain



Recognisable cartographical view of the globe with Antarctica stretched all the way across the bottom. via Wikimedia

of islands as a rough estimation of Antarctic Peninsula as well, no?

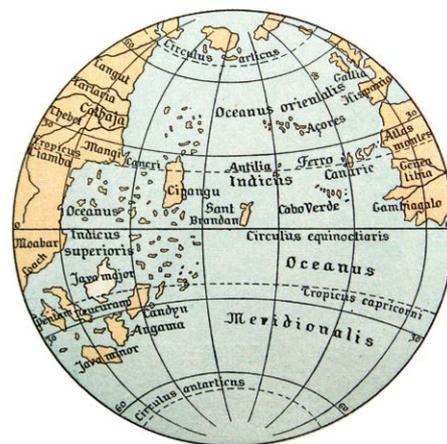
**EXAMINING THE MAP**

As expected when using various sources the scales of certain areas are completely to pot, although the Iberian Peninsula and west coast of Africa seem to be pretty accurate, as accurate as 15th and 16th century Western European maps were anyway. I'd go in to the history of the different kinds of maps of the period here, but it bored me to tears if I'm honest so I won't. If you are interested feel free to look up the science behind portolan charts and other maps full of rhumbs and compass roses covered in sea beasties and 'Terra Australis Incognita'. Anyway let's start looking at the work of Piri Reis...

The upper left portion of the map is the part drawn by Christopher Columbus, and is supposed to be representative of the Caribbean islands. Except it's not. The scale and position of the islands is totally skewed. What is interesting though, and reflects the thinking of the time, is that they do bear a similarity to the islands described by Marco Polo to his future biographer Rustichello da Pisa when they were both cell buddies in a Genoese prison. The big red island which some people think

represents Hispaniola (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) may actually be the island of Cipango, prominent on many maps of the 15th and 16th century. When the world was thought to be a lot smaller it was believed the east coast of Cathay (China) and Asia lay just across the Atlantic, as did the Spice Islands which was the original reason for Columbus' voyage. So by that reckoning this means Cipango is... wait for it... Japan! Don't believe me, eh? Check the globe right from 1492. It was drawn by Martin Berheim, a German mariner and also featured the mythical isle of Saint Brendan, but because it was drawn before Columbus returned, the American continent is missing entirely!

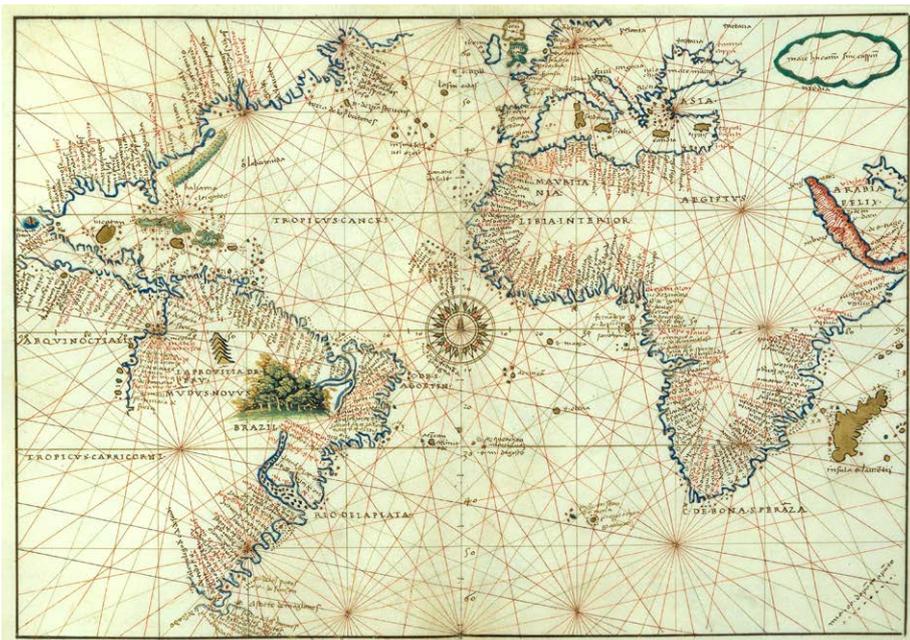
Return to that part of the map again the whole Yucatan Peninsula and Central America seem totally out of whack too. That's because Columbus thought Cuba was part of the Asian mainland and it is labelled as such. In total there are 116 other place names in Europe, Africa, South America and various islands all of which are in the Turkish language which brings up the further point of Hapgood's theory which is if these maps were based on pre-Egyptian charts why aren't the place names written in their original tongue if they were unknown to Admiral Reis?



**The Martin Berheim global view of 1492. The Atlantic Ocean was believed to stretch all the way to the east coast of the known Asian continent and Spice Islands.** via Wikimedia

As we go further down the map we approach the familiar territorial outline of South America reaching right round Brazil, where the River Amazon is marked, twice, but that's no bother, I'll let the Admiral off that one. Below what looks like a dog dancing with a monkey, we also have a mountain range in the middle of the continent with a big ginger giant sat a top with what could be a flaming torch. Charles Hapgood and his students puzzled over this, concluding it was the Andes due to previous claims that one of the creatures to the right of the red-headed eejit was a llama as the only natural habitat of the llama is in those eastern peaks. When was the last time you saw a llama with spots, horns and tusks? Eh? Nor me. It looks more like a deer. Not only that but a notation on the map reads "In the mountains of this territory were creatures like this, and the humans came out on the seacoast..." The east coast of Brazil is a long, long way from the Andes, that's all I'm saying. Up to that point in history, outside of the local populace and the best part of a decade before Magellan's circumnavigation expedition, the Andes may have only been known to the Chinese seafarers. Their Treasure Fleet expeditions of the 1420's led by Admiral Zheng We, are described by Gavin Menzies in his book *1421: The Year China Discovered The World*

Right then, continue round the nose of Brazil and head down past where



**A map from 1544 by Genoese cartographer Battista Agnese, note the greater accuracy than the Piri Reis map in relation to the American continental coastline and Caribbean islands after just 30 years.** via Wikimedia

# THE PIRI REIS MAP



South America, yesterday. According to Charles Hapgood, Argentina didn't exist on the Piri Reis map.

Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo sit today and we arrive at what looks like Rio De La Plata, the border between Uruguay and Argentina. It's here where Hapgood went totally left field and decided that South America joined up with the Antarctic coastline. His further justification was that the islands towards the right hand corner of the map are the Falklands Islands (or Malvinas depending on your nationality) and he might have a point, even though those islands weren't officially discovered until 1592, therefore any land to the south of that must be Antarctica... see what he did there?

There were many mappa mundi's floating around at the time of Piri Reis and some of the most famous surviving examples can be found online including the works of

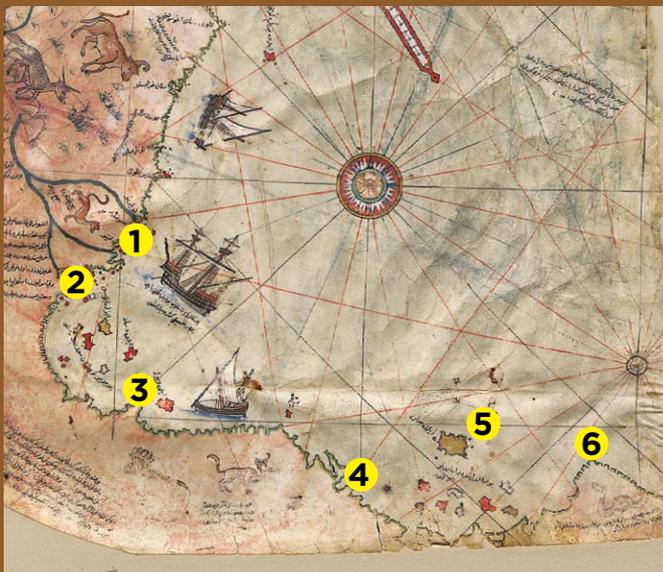
Battista Agnese, a Genoese cartographer who produced an atlas of the world which you can view by clicking **here**. Then there was the Gerardus Mercator map (opposite) whose accurate method of projecting a globe on to a flat chart formed the basis of the maps that we use today. There was also the mental Oronteus Finaeus map published in 1531 which is remarkable for it's alleged similarity to a map of Antarctica today and the Planisferio de Caneiro map of 1506 which portrays a more realistic illustration of the Caribbean and the northern coast of South America and can be seen **here**.

In the middle ages it was a common belief that there was a southern continent below the Americas and Africa due to the old flood myths

## SOUTH AMERICA: THEN AND NOW

All you need to discern the Piri Reis map for what it truly shows is a map of modern day South America and your own eyeballs. It's really that simple, no convoluted maths needed.

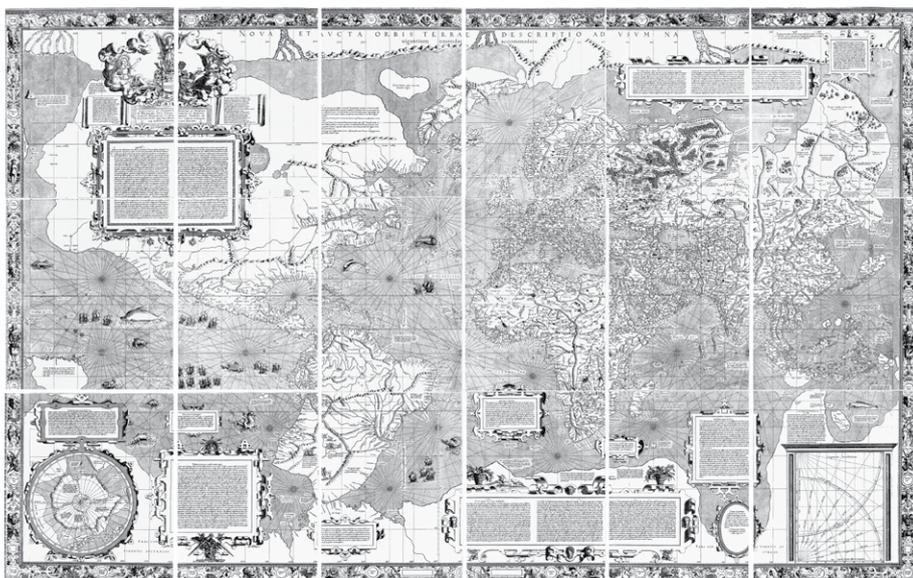
Our useful numbered guide will help you correlate the coastline on the Piri Reis map with the actual South American coastline. You're welcome.



1. This area looks as though it covers Lagoa dos Patos and Lagoa Mirim which are now enclosed to accommodate the cities of Rio Grande and Pelotas
2. The three rivers marked on the Piri Reis map could feasibly be the Rio Taquai, Rio Camaquã and Uruguay River meaning this area is Uruguay/Argentine borderlands of Rio Del La Plata.
3. It wouldn't be unreasonable to associate this area with the Bahai Blanca estuary
4. Which would mean this is the Valdés Peninsula
5. These islands could feasibly be the Falklands/Malvinas as they are the only land mass in the Argentine Sea remotely close to this size and were also shown in the Waldseemuller cart of 1507 and the Circulus Antarcticus map by Pedro Reinell in 1522
6. The area mentioned by Piri Reis as having no cultivation and big snakes (anacondas?) bears more than a striking resemblance to the Golfo San Jorge whose coastline is pretty desolate.



If you follow the coastline a little further, there may have been an adjacent section of map and that could easily have included the Magellan Strait and Tierra Del Fuego.



**The Mercator World Map of 1569, or to give it's full title "New and more complete representation of the terrestrial globe properly adapted for use in navigation". Mercator was also indebted to Spanish and Portuguese charts.** via Wikimedia



**Antarctica, as represented on Google Earth, has been covered with ice for a good few thousand years.** ©Google Earth

and legend of Atlantis. However what seems increasingly bizarre is that as an author of a book on crustal displacement theory on Earth, one of Hapgood's arguments was that Antarctica was originally Atlantis and had floated down to it's current position at the pole. This has been parroted more than once by 'celebrity' researchers on a certain online subscription channel. And it was mapped by aliens. But that's a story I have neither the time or inclination to give credence to here.

If you take a look at the panel below we'll demonstrate some other key points on the map that prove that not only is the land mass NOT Antarctica but that the explanation

is anything but exotic. Here goes. Piri Reis simply ran out of room on his gazelle hide and had to turn it sideways to fit on the rest of the map. Aye, really! It's Occam's Razor. It's the only way he could finish a more complete representation of the known world and 'rediscovers' the 900 miles of Argentine coastline that Charles Hapgood and his hoodwinked students conveniently ignored during their research.

So, there you have it. Does the map drawn by Piri Reis and presented to the Ottoman Sultan Selim portray an ice-free Antarctica? The answer is categorically no, no and thrice more, no. The most accurate charts of the New World in those days were

those drawn up by the Spanish and Portuguese after Columbus realised he'd never made it to Asia after all, and until Ferdinand Magellan's circumnavigation expedition in 1520 no one had really mapped down as far south as Tierra Del Fuego. So, why is it any researcher worth his salt would continually claim Admiral Reis had unique access to ancient satellite imagery or alien maps, except to give themselves a bit more publicity. Because basically that is utter and absolute pish. 😊

👉 *Next issue Doug will be discussing the multi-timeline, multi-universe phenomenon that is known as the Mandela Effect and why he thinks it is all just a bad memory.*

**“ THERE IS NO TRACE OF CULTIVATION IN THIS COUNTRY. BIG SNAKES ARE SAID TO BE THERE. THE PORTUGUESE DID NOT LAND ON THESE SHORES. ”**

Admiral Piri Reis

### Author Bio



Douglas McKay is a grumpy Scottish native whose interest in ancient history has been ingrained from being dragged round almost every stone circle in the Scottish islands by his father. A keen biker he likes nothing more than riding through the Highlands just to get away from the technology obsessed masses.

# SHOWGUIDE

As we all know the internet is a digital minefield of information, both good and bad, real and fake, so how do you know who to trust?

## Fade To Black

Host: Jimmy Church



One of the best radio shows out there. Having clocked up over 750 shows in the past 6 years, former music producer Jimmy Church has risen to become the voice of the new UFO generation. Broadcasting Monday to Thursday 7-10pm PST, *Fade To Black* covers all of our favourite topics...UFO's, time travel, paranormal research, lost civilizations, ancient Egypt and more, a lot more...

## Open Minds TV

Host: Alejandro Rojas



Former MUFON spokesperson Alejandro Rojas is a big name in the UFO community. Overseeing the interviews and discussions on *Open Minds TV* with the usual suspects of UFO researchers and others, the discussion is targeted at issues related to very real phenomena. Rojas is also a renowned UFO/paranormal researcher and journalist, spending many hours personally investigating anomalous phenomena.

## Richard Dolan Show

Host: Richard Dolan



Not only is he a very well published author, Dolan is one of the most intelligent, candid and reasoned UFO researchers out there. His own weekly broadcast features the biggest personalities in the alternative community. His research is based on historical fact and documentation that can be verified, and he has no fear in exploring topics that are ignored or twisted by global mainstream media.

## Beyond The Darkness

Host: Dave Schrader



If you like hearing about ghosts, angels, demons, aliens, unknown beasts and other mysteries, then *BTD* is definitely worth a listen. Schrader can also be found on *Coast to Coast AM* as a guest host, as well as appearing on several prominent ghost-hunting shows in the US which are available in the UK. Look out for our interview with Dave next issue as we talk about his ghost hunting adventures.

## Coast To Coast AM

Hosts: George Noory, George Knapp



Airing on more than 600 stations worldwide and is the most listened to overnight radio program in North America. Since the 1990's *Coast to Coast AM* has been captivating listeners young and old with tales of paranormal phenomena, Bigfoot, alien abductions, conspiracies and anything else unexplained. With original host Art Bell, this is the show that introduced a new global generation to the topic of UFOs.

## Somewhere In The Skies Podcast

Host: Ryan Sprague



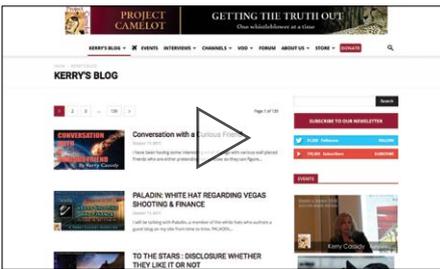
Sprague is a professional author and screenwriter and his show is a relative newcomer to the podcast scene with the first interview only appearing in April of 2017. New episodes are released every week with researchers, authors and experiencers. It's mission is to bring listeners closer to finding the answers, and ask new questions about the topics they already thought they knew.

When looking for information about esoteric topics not normally covered by mainstream radio shows it's difficult to know where to start. Sites like YouTube offer up shows of varying quality and talk radio broadcasts are often full of adverts so you only get 20 minutes or so of discussion. From experience we've found that the reputation of the host, as well as the guests, speaks volumes, so we've compiled this quick guide as a starting point where you can find more info. Each entry is linked to a website (click title), videos and social media so go explore and tell what you think!



## Project Camelot

Host: Kerry Cassidy



Available primarily on YouTube its main focus is whistleblower testimony with witnesses and researchers from around the globe. A large subscriber base and the substantial number of videos available are testament to Kerry Cassidy's research. Some of the topics may seem a little too fanciful for a novice but the sheer variety of information means there's always something worth checking out.

## Veritas Radio

Host: Mel Fabregas



Hosted weekly by Mel Fabregas, *Veritas Radio* has been active since December 2008 making it one of the longest running radio shows on esoterica and the paranormal available. Fabregas has spoken with the veritable who's who of the 'fringe' community hosting interviews with leading names in UFOlogy, conspiracy, the paranormal, alternative archaeology and a lot, lot more.

## Gaia TV

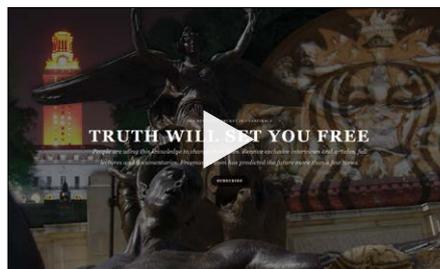
Hosts: Various



Online streaming video subscription service and community which began life steeped in yoga and meditation videos. Claiming to push the boundaries of consciousness and enlightenment Gaia has gone through a transformation itself of late. Its *Cosmic Disclosure* series is among the web's most popular on the future of humanity and features 'fringe' celebrities David Wilcock and Corey Goode as its hosts.

## The Free Zone

Host: Freeman Fly



The exotically monikered Freeman Fly first started digging through the conspiracies of social engineering through corporations and celebrity mind control. His unique insight into the esoteric nature of world politics and Hollywood saw people sit up and take notice and is considered something of a pioneer in alternative talk radio. Freeman is an expert in the fields of the occult, Freemason symbolism and ancient civilizations.

## Awake & Empowered Expo TV

Host: Ethann Fox



Apparently the Earth is shifting to an age of peace and enlightenment, not that you'd notice, with more people prepared to seek spiritual growth than ever. Amiable host Ethann Fox, looks to celebrate of this global shift in consciousness and help you become a better you. If you're worried it's all a bit airy-fairy or flower power then think again, Fox is one of the brightest, most eloquent individuals you'll ever listen to.

## The Moore Show

Host: Kevin Moore



Alternative late night talk show in the UK and is a refreshing alternative to the repetitive run-of-the-mill BBC radio daytime talk shows. Primarily focusing on consciousness and spirituality guests offer insights, while also offering reflections about their understanding of life and the universe. Kevin offers listeners the tools to reconnect with their spirituality while avoiding the permeating negativity of daily life.



# The Celestial Snow White

Words: Ralph Ellis

Could the fairy tale favourite, *Snow White*, actually have foundations in Egyptian mythology?

## Author Bio



Ralph Ellis is a well travelled historian and is a successful published author. His research for the last three decades has focused on the similarities between history and theology and has made many new fundamental discoveries - mostly in Egypt - regarding the true identity and genealogy of the biblical Jesus in the historical record.

**T**he fairy tale of *Snow White* was written by the Brothers Grimm during the mid 19th Century, and like all of their fables it was written as a parable and therefore infused with layers of hidden meaning.

The Brothers Grimm were not simply storytellers, they were academics, lexicographers and linguists who were deeply immersed in historical and cultural research. They not only knew of the literary usage of the Gospel parable and the Talmudic peshet, they wanted to emulate these tried and tested techniques. And the deliberately cryptic nature of the Gospel parables is made perfectly clear by Jesus himself, when he says:

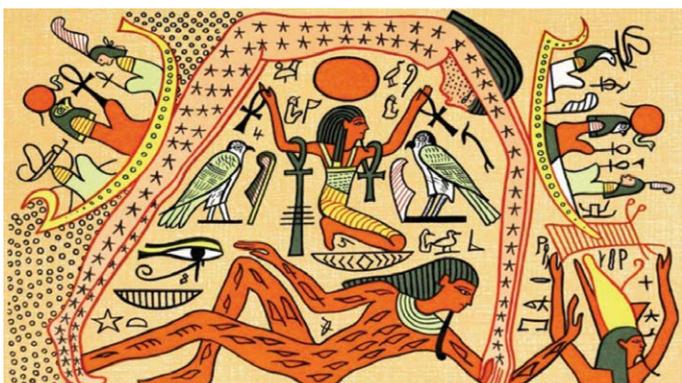
*"The disciples came to Jesus and said: Why do you speak in parables? He answered: Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given... Therefore I speak to them in parables, because they seeing see not and hearing they hear not, not do they understand."*

**Matthew 13:10-13**

During their research into German language and culture the Brothers Grimm came across many Pagan folk tales that appeared to contain similar hidden meanings, and they were determined to preserve them for future generations. They even included heretical stories about New Testament events - the kind of heretical elements that have been explored in *The King Jesus Trilogy*. Surprisingly, the innocent-sounding *Snow White* (or *The Magic Mirror*) was one of these heretical stories. This story not only contained cosmic and astrological elements but, just like *Rapunzel*, *Cinderella* and *Sleeping Beauty*, it also contained distinct Gospel overtones.

The fable of *Snow White* begins with an evil queen who is jealous of the radiant beauty of her young stepdaughter, and arranges for a huntsman to take her into a deep forest and have her killed. Significantly, in the first edition of the story the jealous queen was actually the biological mother of Snow White. But this was not a story that mothers wanted to read to their

©Dmitrii Kotin/123rf.com



Above Left: The Egyptian goddess Nut arches her body across the night sky with her partner Geb (the Earth) prostrate below her and the solar barque of Ra-Helios sailing across the celestial sea, the cosmos. Above right: The Milky Way. In strikingly similar fashion also arches across the night sky.

young daughters, so in later editions the evil mother became an evil stepmother. In cosmic terms there were three queens in the heavens who might correspond with this evil queen, and these are Venus, the Moon and the Milky Way. And in this case, the most likely candidate for the jealous goddess-queen is the Milky Way.

### AS ABOVE, SO BELOW

The foundations of this fairy tale were explored in my books *Mary Magdalene, Princess of Orange* and *King Jesus* which identified the Egyptian goddess Nut as being the Milky Way - the faintly glistening outline of our own galaxy. Notice how the goddess Nut arches her body across the night sky, and compare that with how the Milky Way is arched across the night sky. If you look at the ends of the Milky Way, they do indeed appear to split into arms and legs. Quite clearly, the Egyptian goddess Nut was a graphic representation of the Milky Way. Which is why the Sun was said to have been swallowed and then reborn by Nut, tracing the course of the Sun during the year.

In a similar fashion, in Greek mythology Aphrodite (Venus) was said to have been born in the 'foam of the sea', which is another reference to the foaming silvery filaments of the Milky Way.

The great goddess-queen Nut, the Milky Way, only appears as a faint gossamer of lace arching the night sky, and she was greatly afraid of being outshone by the other goddesses. So the jealous Nut looked into her mirror and

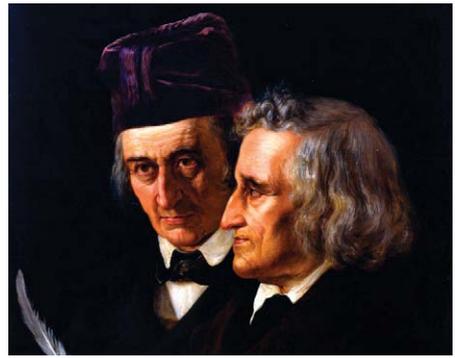
asked who was the fairest queen of the heavens. As Nut arches her body across the heavens and looks down upon the Earth, the great mirror of Nut corresponds with the Mediterranean Sea, reflecting the entire vista of the heavens above. As above, so below. But the answer from the Mediterranean mirror was not encouraging, for the serene waters below observed that there was a much brighter and more radiant Snow White goddess in the heavens above - Selene, the full Moon. The horror Nut felt was palpable, for she was being eclipsed and outshone by her own goddess-princess daughter who was far more radiant. Imagine the beautiful white orb, gleaming in the Mediterranean mirror, how could the translucent spectre of Nut compete with such a bright young goddess as Selene-Moon? While she may have been the daughter of Nut, jealousy got the better of the old queen and so she asked the huntsman of the heavens to take Selene into the great forest and dispose of her.

In Egyptian terms the cosmos was a great sea, upon which the solar barque of Ra-Helios sailed each day. So the great seas of the terrestrial oceans were mirrored by the great seas in the heavens above. However, in the Babylonian epic of Gilgamesh, the cosmos was said to be a great forest, and no doubt each pinprick of starlight was seen as a tree. The great huntsman of this heavenly forest was Gilgamesh, who himself

was an image of Orion, armed with his great axe, his bow, plus a sword hanging from his belt. The Greeks devised a very a similar iconography but they depicted Orion as the mighty Hercules, armed with a great club, the shield made from the hide of the Nemean lion, plus a sword hanging from his belt. And it was Orion-Gilgamesh-Hercules who maintained order in the cosmos. So in the Gilgamesh epic it was he who oversaw the transition from the Great Year of Taurus to the Great Year of Aries, by killing the Bull of Heaven (Taurus). Respectively, in Greek mythology it was Hercules who performed twelve labours pertaining to the twelve zodiac constellations.

The great huntsman, took pity upon the young and radiant Snow White, and rather than kill her he allowed her to escape after which she found a small house in the forest, home to the seven dwarfs. And so the cosmic foundation of the continuing story are becoming clearer now.

“ HOW COULD THE TRANSLUCENT SPECTRE OF NUT COMPETE WITH SUCH A BRIGHT YOUNG GODDESS? ”



**Above left & right: The popular incarnation of Snow White before Disney got their mouse paws on the story as featured in Franz Jüttner's Schneewittchen.**

**Above: The authors of Snow White, the Brothers Grimm.**

The seven small companions of Selene, the Snow White Moon, are the seven known planets of that era that trail in a long line behind as they appear to orbit the Earth. If the great forest was representative of the cosmos, then this house in the forest must be one of the twelve houses of the zodiac constellations. And if the seven dwarf-planets were all in one zodiacal house, then this must represent a rare conjunction of Selene-Moon and all the planets within a small quadrant of the heavens. Venus was one of these seven dwarf-planets, so this rare conjunction with the Moon must have taken place in the morning or evening, given that Venus is the morning or evening star. If Selene-Moon had joined the planets in a dawn or dusk conjunction then the Snow White goddess must have been waning, as she does when she approaches Helios the Sun.

And this relates to what the fairy tale of *Snow White* says. The evil queen, Nut the Milky Way, looked into her Mediterranean mirror and saw that the Snow White Selene was still alive - the great huntsman Orion-Hercules had deceived her. So Nut dressed as a peddler and sold her a beautiful lace corset, which she did up so tightly that Snow White Selene grew pale and fainted. And this is exactly what happens in the heavens above. When Selene the Moon approaches a conjunction with Venus (and the other six planets in this particular case), by the very nature of the planetary orbits she is waning and her waist is getting thinner and thinner as each day passes. It is almost as if someone is tightening a corset around her waist, until Snow White Selene becomes just a sliver of her former self.

Selene-Moon now black and lifeless, she was once again the most radiant goddess in the heavens above. And her Mediterranean mirror confirmed this, because everywhere she looked in her great watery mirror the only reflection she could see was of herself.

Despite the gloom that now pervaded the heavens help was at hand, because a planetary conjunction involving Venus and Selene-Moon has to be at dawn or dusk. And so Selene-Moon was a New Moon at this time, she was dark and lifeless as if entombed in a crystal casket - one of the crystal spheres of the heavens - and she was lost from this world. But a dawn or dusk conjunction must be adjacent to the sun so when the handsome Prince Helios looked down upon the dark and lifeless Selene-Moon, he thought she was the most beautiful princess in the heavens. As Helios-Sun approached Selene-Moon he kissed her lifeless body. And then, being conveniently the exact same apparent size, they formed a cosmic diamond marriage ring in the heavens above as they

**AFTER DEATH, LIFE**

When the seven dwarf planets returned from their labours and saw Snow White Selene so thin and faint, they thought she was dead. And within a few more days she did indeed die, turning from her usual brilliant Snow White radiance into a black and lifeless husk. *(Editor's note - the Grimms tale also continues that the evil Queen gifted Snow White a poisoned comb and the familiar rosy red apple however the corset is a perfect analogy for the waning moon).* The Snow White princess-goddess was dead and a great sorrow fell upon the seven dwarf planets, who adored her and followed her in a long line in the night sky. But the evil Nut Milky Way was jubilant, because with



**Above: Mary as the goddess Selene, in a church dedicated to Mary Magdalene in Gornji Grad, Slovenia, with the moon beneath her feet and the twelve stars of the constellations around her head.**

**“SELENE-MOON WAS DARK AND LIFELESS AS IF ENTOMBED IN A CRYSTAL CASKET”**

Schneewittchen & Brothers Grimm © Wikimedia / Mary Magdalene © Ralph Ellis



consummated their love for another. A marriage made in heaven so to speak, and again, as above, so below.

Following this celestial marriage, Snow White Selene Moon gradually came back to life. Her corset was slackened, her image began to swell again, and the Snow White Selene once more became the most radiant princess-goddess in the night sky. When Nut Milky Way looked down upon her Mediterranean mirror once again, she was aghast to see Selene alive and radiant once more shining in all her radiant glory, while Nut could only manage a ghostly glimmer in comparison. All the scheming and plotting had been for nothing because the celestial royal couple, Helios and Selene, reigned supreme once more.

This was the celestial story that the Brothers Grimm wished to convey. The fairy tale of Snow White was actually a story of a cosmic wedding between the Sun and the Moon. And the reason why this story was deemed to be heretical, was that it also told the story of the biblical royal family. This is why the son and daughter of Queen Cleopatra of Egypt were named Helios and Selene, the Sun and Moon. As above, so below. And since the biblical royal family were descended from Queen Cleopatra, as I explain in



**Above left & right: Helios-Sun first kisses Selen-Moon to awaken her. Then he gives her a diamond ring and consummate their marriage made in heaven.**

my book *Cleopatra to Christ*, later Renaissance artists closely identified both Mary the *Virgin and Mary Magdelene* with Selene, standing upon the Moon and wearing a halo of stars (see pic opposite).

Both the biblical Marys were icons of Snow White, sacred royals who were venerated as incarnations of Isis-Selene, the Snow White celestial goddess. While Jesus was seen as an incarnation of Helios, the Sun of God (sic). And this assertion is confirmed by the imagery on the Lady Mary Zodiac at Beit Shean, a 6th century monastery just south of the Sea of Galilee in Israel. We see what can only be Jesus and Mary surrounded by the twelve disciple-constellations of the zodiac. It is almost exactly the same as the Hamat Teverya zodiac

which lies a few kilometres to the north at Tiberias. And yet Jesus and Mary are portrayed here as Helios-Sun and Selene-Moon in a cosmic conjunction - an impending eclipse. Snow White and her Prince Charming consummating their love for each other - as above, so below. ☀️

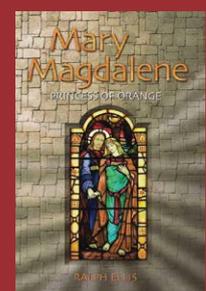
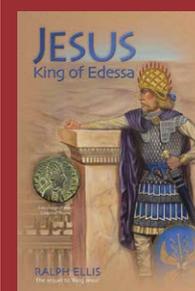
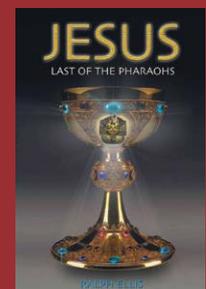
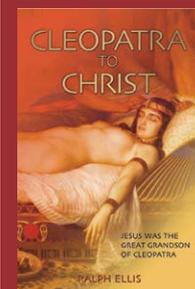
👉 Next issue Ralph will be discussing his research into the true origins of King Arthur and the absence of strange women lying in ponds distributing swords. For more info visit his website [www.edfu-books.uk](http://www.edfu-books.uk)



**Above: The Lady Mary zodiac at Beit Shean, a 6th Century monastery just south of the Sea of Galilee. The calnderical zodiac depicts Jesus and Mary at the centre of the twelve constellations, which are marked as disciple months.**

## READ MORE

Ralph has spent over 30 years researching the similarities of biblical and historical records. His research is well received outside of mainstream theology. Click the covers for more info.



# SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

WHERE YOUR SEARCH FOR THE ANSWERS BEGIN

## NEXT ISSUE

Join us next time as we delve further into the paranormal

### DAVE SCHRADER

We talk with the Beyond The Darkness radio host about his ghost adventures

### ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

Was it one of history's greatest cover-ups or was it just a weather balloon? A UFO novice investigates

### THE REAL KING ARTHUR

Ralph Ellis returns with his take on the identity of England's famous monarch

### THE MOJAVE INCIDENT

Author Ron Felber discusses the most terrifying alien encounter of the last twenty years



### THE MANDELA EFFECT

Are we experiencing altered time-lines or dodgy memories?

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## INTERVIEW

# Charles James Hall

How a fortuitous administration error paved the way for a life-changing encounter in the desert.

**C**harles James Hall, is a man with an interesting tale to tell. Having enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1964, a mix up in his orders saw him posted to Nellis Air Force base in Nevada. Once there, being a qualified weather observer, he was required to man a station in the desert hills at nearby Indian Springs Gunnery ranges providing information to the Testing ground. It was during this time he had a number of encounters which would change his life forever. But let's not get ahead of ourselves just yet.

Following a stint of more than two years at Nellis AFB, Charles served during the Vietnam war before receiving an honourable discharge and marrying Marie, his wife of nearly 50 years, on the proviso that he enrolled in college. It was while successfully studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Thermal Physics and a Masters in Applied Nuclear Physics, at San Diego State University, that Charles decided to relate his Indian Springs experiences to his new wife, who surprisingly, was rather nonchalant about it.

When Charles started to write his memoirs as a future gift for his grandchildren, Marie discovered what he'd been writing and encouraged him to publish them in a series of books called *Millennial Hospitality*. Their subsequent release saw Charles become a household name and sought after guest on a number of radio and TV shows. Speaking to Charles, we asked him about the *Millennial Hospitality* series, more specifically the race of extra terrestrial humanoids known as 'the Tall Whites' that he encountered while stationed in the Indian Springs desert.

**SOYM: You were based at Nellis Air Force base, Nevada, near what is now known as Area 51, how did you get that post?**

*Charles Hall:* It is interesting to recall the mistakes made, which resulted in my being sent to Weather Observation school in the first place. I was under consideration for Radio Intercept Analysis school (spy school 101) as a result of my scoring on a number of tests given to new recruits.

This generated two sets of orders, one for RIA locked in a safe, and, the "cover" for Weather Observer training, in the ordinary assignment file. On the day I went to collect my orders, the officer who knew about the RIA orders, was absent from his desk, and, the person manning the desk, not privy to the special assignment, gave me the "cover" orders. When the mistake was noticed, the Pentagon, not wanting to waste my projected "talent", decided the best use of me, after Weather school, would be to send me to Nellis. I can only guess they already had plans to have my duty take place on the Indian Springs gunnery ranges.

**SOYM: What was your first interaction with the 'Tall Whites'?**

*CH:* My first interaction with the Tall Whites, was not so much "inter", as merely noticing they had come into my barracks alone at night; an experience which caused me to question whether what I was seeing, could be real. In the experiences that followed I saw them with military personnel on several occasions.

**SOYM: Were you aware of any of your fellow servicemen having similar experiences at that time?**

*CH:* The service log book, which dated back to 1957, made it clear that the weather observers before me, obviously had some experiences with the Tall Whites. A number of entries are recorded in my *Millennial Hospitality* books, and clearly indicate the terror which caused at least 41 previous weather observers to either abandon their post, ask for a transfer,



## NELLIS & INDIAN SPRINGS AFB, NEVADA

Originally a dirt runway north of Las Vegas, the landing strips were expanded and added to creating the Las Vegas Army Airfield in the 1940s. In 1950 this was renamed Nellis Air Force Base, after a celebrated WWII fighter pilot, and quickly became a pivotal location for the training of USAF pilots for the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Today Nellis AFB sprawls across nearly 6,000 acres and is one of the primary USAF training installations in the US, playing host to a number of air combat exercises.

Indian Springs gunnery range, where Charles was stationed is now the Nevada Test & Training Range while Indian Springs Air Force base is now known as Creech Air Force Base.

obtain psychiatric discharge, or even go AWOL. Here is an example from the log book: *"The lights from up the valley came again last night... They came in closer than ever before... For an hour 1/2 I can't remember what I was doing... Even the ground out here terrifies me... This is my last entry."*

**SOYM: You had a religious upbringing, did your experience have any lasting effect on your beliefs?**

**CH:** I wouldn't say my experiences changed my perception of my Roman Catholic Faith. Why would I place limits on God? My real shock was in realizing Albert Einstein's notion regarding whether it was possible to travel faster than the speed of light, was inadequate.

**SOYM: What were the main physical differences between Earth humans and the Tall Whites? Did they allude to how Earth differs from their planet of origin?**

**CH:** The Tall Whites live ten times longer than humans, are frail physically, have speedier reflexes and handle emotions such as fear, love, hate a little differently. They age differently too, growing taller when they reach middle age, after about 400 years. Unfortunately their organs remain the same size and can't support the body anymore, at which point they die.

They can and do learn to speak English, but, if they are not wearing their equipment which allows them to read our thoughts, and place thoughts in our minds, they have to resort to hand signals if they don't speak English. They did not tell me much about their planet of origin, but in their words they considered the earth to be a "cold, desolate wilderness". They hear and speak in sound frequencies outside of our audible range so they never tried to tell me what they called themselves as we would never be able to understand or pronounce it. The CIA agents

“THE TALL WHITES CONSIDER EARTH TO BE A COLD, DESOLATE WILDERNESS...” ”

## TALL WHITES & MORE

Whether you believe in E.T. or not, here is the *Shadows...* guide to five of the more common descriptions of off-planet visitors

### THE GREYS

The stereotypical small, child-like being with large black, almond shaped eyes. The most familiar of all extra-terrestrials largely thanks to Hollywood.

### REPTILIANS

Tall lizard-like species with a propensity towards violence and war. Have enslaved humanity in misery for years according to some

### THE NORDICS

Slightly taller than humans, so-called because of their similarity to the Scandinavian stereotype.

### THE ANNUNAKI

The Gods of Sumerian myth who created man as a labour force. Closely associated with the perennial planet of doom, Nibiru.

### THE MANTIDS

A praying mantis in human form without the large forelegs. Prefers contact through telepathy. Former Labour Councillor Simon Parkes spoke of them on *This Morning*.



Charles in his USAF days

present on the base assigned them names related to their particular purpose on Earth. I communicated with a being called The Teacher who was the daughter of a Tall White Ambassador and was therefore held in highest regard. Her job was to accompany the children of their species on their excursions and also to conduct orientation sessions for first-time visitors to Earth.

**SOYM: You've mentioned in your books that they have a community of sorts around the Indian Springs area, did they give you any indication as to how long they have been there?**

**CH:** The Tall Whites have been in the Indian Springs area at least as far back as U.S. President James Madison (1809-1817). According to the legend of the Ghost of Dona Ana county, in New Mexico, they were here a very long time before the Spanish explorers arrived in the early 1500s. I believe the Tall Whites first begin visiting Earth possibly as early as 5000 B.C.

They were very selective about answering questions but the women were generally more talkative than the men. When I asked the Teacher about their home, she asked if I would even recognize the name they called their planet. She thought her answer to be a bit humorous!

**SOYM: In the Millennial Hospitality series you suggest that the Tall Whites are very**

**interested in our way of living and our interactions with other life on Earth. What is it about us that piques their curiosity?**

**CH:** The Tall Whites found our ways puzzling in that we kept lower forms of life as pets. They said on other planets, the higher life forms had for the most part, eliminated animals and lower life forms because they considered them dangerous, and as they were vegetarian they had no need to breed them for food.

**SOYM: How long was your experience with them? Are you still in contact?**

**CH:** I was with the Tall Whites for a little over two years. During that time, I also had a number of short TDYs (*temporary duty assignment, a bit like helping out in another department - Ed.*) where the 'Greys' are. While Area 51 has been widely referred to, the actual location of the 'Greys', is held in much greater secrecy. I am not in contact with the Tall Whites at this time. However, after I had given my first presentation to a large audience in 2005, two people, unrelated, and not given to prevarication as far as we know, approached to tell us that as the doors were being shut and lights turned down in the auditorium, a very tall, very thin, heavily made up woman in a wig, sunglasses & gloves, slipped in and stood at the back, listening to my talk. They asked if I thought it could have been the Teacher. My response; "It could have been." My wife said, "Well, it would have been nice if she'd come and greeted you." My response; "That really wasn't how they were. Many times, they would come and observe me, without saying hello or goodbye." My wife appreciated the response, likening it to when we go to a zoo, she said she never talks to the animals, just observes.

**SOYM: Some other experiencers have suggested that we should be extremely wary of the Tall Whites to the point of almost being fearful of them. What are your thoughts on this?**

**CH:** The Tall Whites respond in a slightly different manner to some things. There is always an uneasiness during interactions with humans. They are afraid of us as well. When either relaxes, and forgets we are different, accidents can happen. Such an accident occurred in my case, which almost resulted in my death, and is accounted in *Millennial Hospitality III, The Road Home*.

**SOYM: What are you currently working on? Should readers begin with Volume 1?**

**CH:** Many people begin reading one book in the series over another, for whatever reason. My wife says, just read the whole



Charles with wife Marie at a UFO conference, Blackpool in 2014.

series! At the moment I am working on the audio book versions of *Millennial Hospitality*.

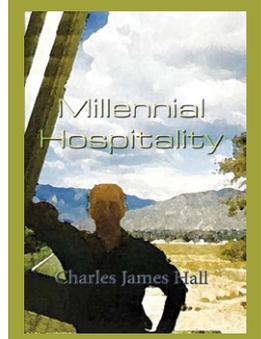
**SOYM: Finally do you have a piece of advice for anyone hovering at the entrance of the rabbit hole?**

**CH:** My advice to anyone discovering an interest in ETs: Use discernment, as there are a plethora of hoaxes and hoaxers out there. Some are perpetuated by sincere people, but, whether simply gullible, or misinformed, are nevertheless false. 🍷

👉 Charles will be speaking in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Palace Station Casino and Hotel in February 2018. Click below for more details and ticket information.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

If you've enjoyed this introduction to Charles' experience with the Tall Whites, the *Millennial Hospitality* series is available to preview online and is available in various formats. Click on the cover image to learn more.



# ONE SMALL STEP...



Dyatlov hiking group - January 1959  
via Wikimedia

## #1 The Dyatlov Pass Incident, 1959

The Dyatlov Pass Incident is one of the more mysterious events in the alternative community so we asked writer **Simon Bradley** who had no prior knowledge of the event to examine the evidence and draw his conclusions...

In January 1959, ten young experienced hikers left the relative comforts of the town of Sverdlovsk, and headed across snow-covered country to Mount Otorten in the northern Urals. One member had to turn back through illness but the remaining nine never made it and their badly damaged tent was finally found on February 27th. Five bodies in various states of undress were found nearby. The four remaining bodies weren't found until a thaw two months later. Some of the bodies had unexplainable injuries and despite an increasing number of theories the causes of their death has never been determined.

So what happened on the slopes of Kholat Syakhl on the night of 2nd February 1959? Let's find out...

### Author Bio



Now living in Bath, journalist and writer Simon Bradley has spent over 25 years experience delving into the world of guitars, music and, strangely, fitness. He has contributed to a number of diverse publications, including a book with Queen guitarist Brian May, and equates the rigours of freelance writing to 'juggling flaming bandicoots.'

### SIMON'S JOURNEY BEGINS

"I didn't know a single thing about the incident that took place on the eastern slopes of Kholat Syakhl, or the 'Mountain of the Dead', in the Northern Russian Urals in early 1959. What happened to nine accomplished winter hikers just 16 km from their Mount Otorten goal, in an area made so notorious by events that it's subsequently been named after the expedition's doomed leader Igor Dyatlov?"

Whilst chewing the story over and embarking on some background research I was, perhaps due to the similarly sub-zero nature of the tragic events, drawn to the tale of polar explorer Captain Robert Falcon Scott whose heartbreaking demise in 1912, and that of his team, is eloquently yet harrowingly described in his Sledging Journals liberated from that final camp a year later. The fact that no comparable testimonies from any of the nine victims of Dyatlov Pass were made shows, at the outset, that their deaths were hardly something they expected: they were enthusiastic diarists up to the night of 1st February.

Let's just take a minute to establish Mount Otorten's location. Like anywhere in Siberia the distances involved are awe-inspiring. Situated in the northern province of

Sverdlovsk Oblast it's approximately 2,100km north east of Moscow, 550km or so north of Yekaterinberg, the nearest town of any size, and over 50km into the wilderness from the team's ultimate starting point, the frozen hamlet of Vizhay. At 1,234m it's not even as tall as Britain's loftiest peak, Ben Nevis, but no doubt contributing to the mystery of the unfolding events, 'otorten', in the local Mansi people's language, apparently translates as 'don't go there'...

The daytime temperatures in January wouldn't have coaxed the mercury much above -25°C; add in the wind chill and you'd be dicing with hypothermia at every turn. That is, unless you know what you're doing and what's in little doubt is that all ten of the team, including the magically-fortunate Yuri Yudin who fell ill mere days into the initial trek and returned to civilisation thus avoiding whatever occurred, were well-prepared for, and acclimatised to, such low temperatures. Dyatlov himself was an experienced mountain hiker and he even designed and built his own stove that accompanied him on trips, while another member of the team, Yuri Doroshenko, had made name a name for himself by supposedly chasing a huge brown bear away from a previous camp armed with just a geologists hammer.

## THE DYATLOV GROUP

These are the ten students of the Ural Polytechnic Institute in Sverdlovsk that began the expedition to Mount Otorten.

### IGOR DYATLOV

Experienced hiker and leader of the group. A highly talented radio engineer and athlete. Aged 23.

### YURI DOROSHENKO

Also a radio engineering student like Dyatlov. Once scared off a giant bear with a geologist's hammer. Aged 21.

### LYUDMILA DUBININA

Engineering and Economics major at URI. Youngest of the group, she took many of the photos of the trip. Aged 20.

### YURI KRIVONISCHENKO

Helped clean up a radiation leak in 1957 at a secret nuclear facility. Joker of the group and talented mandolin player. Aged 23.

### ALEXANDER KOLEVATOV

Student of Nuclear Physics who had knowledge of metallurgy and had worked at a secret facility in Moscow. Aged 24.

### ZINAIDA KOLMOGOROVA

The popular girl of the school and a talented radio engineer. Was dating Dyatlov at the time. Aged 22.

### RUSTEM SLOBODIN

The quiet one of the group. Athletic and regarded as honest and decent. Also played the mandolin. Aged 23.

### NICOLAI THIBEAUX-BRIGNOLLES

Civil Engineer who looked after the group on the trip. The son of a French-Communist, he was born in a concentration camp. Aged 23.

### SEMYON ZOLOTARYOV

Oldest and most mysterious member of the group. Former Siberian tourist guide and ex-military who joined the trip by the name Sasha. Aged 37.

### YURI YUDIN

Fortunately left the group not long after departing Vizhay due to chronic back and leg pain. Died April 27 2013, aged 75

They had suitable clothes and equipment, had prepared for their return by leaving a supply of food behind them and all, save 37 year old Semyon Zolotaryov, were in their early twenties and, presumably, fit and well. Unlike Scott's fateful trip, though, there are no eye-witness accounts, which has led to all manner of speculation and given the oppressive nature of life in the USSR in the late fifties, this isn't surprising. This natural paranoia has formed the basis of some of the more fanciful suggestions, that the team had been infiltrated by three KGB agents but were mistaken for CIA operatives by another group and killed there and then; or the KGB agents ensconced within the team did meet individuals from the CIA, only for the Americans to dispatch everyone after their business, whatever it may have been, had been concluded. Alternatively, did the team see something that they couldn't possibly have expected to, something secret, and been killed outright by forces unknown? Maybe, but what on earth were the authorities trying to protect up there?

What's certainly true is the condition of the nine bodies, a number of which were discovered on 27th February by a team comprising fellow students and teachers from the Ural Polytechnic Institute. The first two were in states of undress and had died of hypothermia whilst huddled around an inconsequential fire, while another three including Dyatlov, who'd also all succumbed to the cold, were discovered between 300 and 600m from the camp several days later. It's going to be difficult for anyone to try and understand just what made them leave their shelter in such a fatal state of undress, but evidence points to the fact that their tent had been slashed open from the inside...

The remaining four were eventually found, three months later, in a hole that had been dug out of the snow at the bottom of a shallow valley 75m from camp. This seems to suggest that the quartet knew what was coming and not only did the bodies bear evidence of significant



*The body of Rustem Slobodin* via Wikimedia

injury, the clothing of two of them, Lyudmila Dubinina and Alexander Kolevatov, was also found to be radioactive.

### A STATE COVER-UP?

The official version of events as given by the Criminal Prosecutor of Sverdlovsk who led the investigation, a man named Lev Ivanov, begins with the rather damning statement: "The deaths of the expedition members were due to a series of mistakes by Dyatlov..." before going into somewhat greater detail, all the while never failing to miss an opportunity to lay the blame squarely at the team leader's door. By concluding that "...the cause of their deaths was calamity or an unknown compelling force...", he actually doesn't give a definitive answer and the case was closed on 28th May 1959. Funny that...

Just some of the theories I've come across range from the group being scared by the appearance of a UFO, disorientation due to infrasound caused by the unceasing wind being forced through a uniquely-shaped path in the area's topography forming what's known as a 'von Kármán vortex street', and hallucination thanks to the ingestion, deliberately or otherwise, of the toxic fly agaric mushrooms that were often harvested by the

native Mansi people and hung on low tree branches to dry out. And don't get me started on the Russian yeti. Most have a certain amount of credibility but they also demonstrate that, with the lack of genuine and compelling evidence to the contrary, imagination, when left to run riot, can be an inventive thing.

So, let me begin to clarify what I think happened and, lest we forget, we're talking about the untimely deaths of nine people here. The damage to the four bodies found in the snowhole - missing eyes, fractured and broken skulls and bones, and severe damage to the mouth and tongue of one of the team (Lyudmila Dubinina) - is surely down to either falls due to disorientation or the influence of local carnivorous wildlife post mortem. These would also have been disfigured by frost damage and general decay.

Remember Dyalto's homemade stove I mentioned a few paragraphs ago? I do find myself drawn to the theory that it malfunctioned in some way, maybe filling the tent with smoke and embers as a consequence. If this happened to a tent I was in, all snug and warm, I'd certainly panic and, in an effort to escape the choking fumes, can see myself blindly slicing the material open from the inside. Once out in the open, exposed to what has been stated as a -30° chill and bereft of boots, gloves and, in some cases, socks, hypothermia will have begun to set in almost immediately, with death a virtual certainty.

## “ THEORIES RANGE FROM THE APPEARANCE OF A UFO, HALLUCINATIONS, OR KILLED BY EITHER THE LOCALS, THE KGB, OR EVEN A YETI! ”

There's even a surviving shot taken the day before that shows a member of the team sporting a badly burned jacket: caused by the stove, perhaps?

Another compelling suggestion, and one that could explain the elevated levels of radioactivity on the clothing of two of the foursome found in the snowhole, is that team stumbled upon - or got too close to - some sort of military facility, one that was part of indulging the Soviets' fascination with nuclear technology. This is certainly plausible considering the aforementioned paranoia that permeated Khrushchev's Russia at this time and, if the commander of this facility felt in any way threatened or that security had been compromised by the team's sudden appearance, they could conceivably have killed them all and simply made up the reason why.

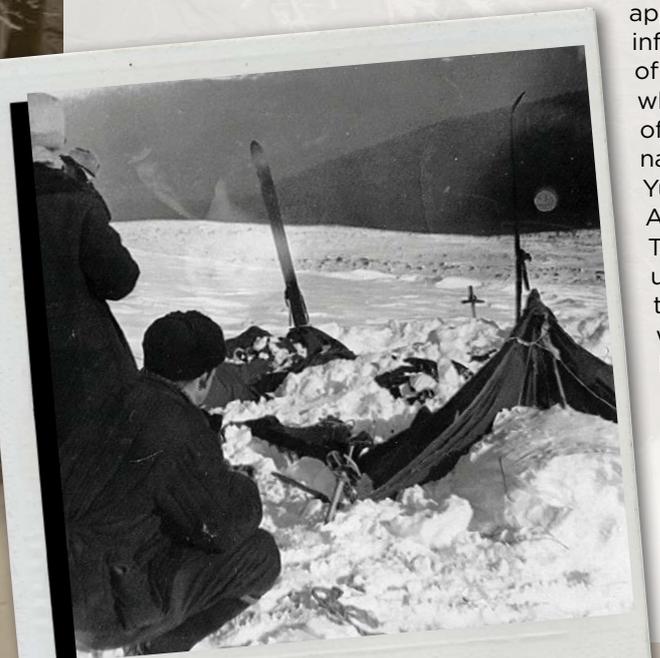
### IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

I have been able to establish a satisfying explanation for the radioactivity, though. Sources even appear to offer conflicting information as to the identity of the two team members whose clothes showed signs of elevated radioactivity too, naming Lyudmila Dubinina, Yuri Krivonischenko and Alexander Kolevatov. That's probably cleared up by reports that state that Dubinina was found wearing a sweater owned by Krivonischenko, and several online resources somewhat conveniently suggest that messers Krivonischenko and Kolevatov had had exposure to radioactivity in previous employment. The official explanation is imprecise at best, stating that

the cause was '...radioactive dust [falling] from the atmosphere...', so why the vagueness? And dust from what? Well, there was a plutonium-producing facility based in the city of at Kyshtym, albeit one that was sited 150km south of Yekaterinberg, which reportedly suffered some sort of major accident in 1957 causing the contamination of a huge area of the surrounding countryside with radiation. Krivonischenko was apparently part of the clean-up crew, and I feel this is by far the most convincing rationalisation.

Needless to say, sifting through the swathes of material does mean I had to read or listen to the same increasingly recycled theories over and over. As an introduction to the story I did find Renny Harlin's *Devil's Pass*, starring current *Strictly Come Dancing* star Gemma Atkinson no less, an acceptable place to start, despite the frankly silly ending and 'Blair Witch Project On Ice' vibe, and I should also mention the dissection from Scandinavian You Tuber Lemmino, who offers, for me at any rate, plausible reasonings that dispel just about all supernatural or confrontational theories. The go-to site [dyatlov-pass.com](http://dyatlov-pass.com) sets out the facts alongside a comprehensive rundown of all circulating theories, including all the images from the search and rescue party, and is the place to begin an online journey.

*Mountain Of The Dead*, first published in 2013 and written by Keith McCloskey, goes into compelling detail about virtually all conceivable theories and even those with a passing interest will find themselves quickly absorbed. I know I was. The book also provides engrossing detail concerning not only the personal lives of the team - the fact that Zolotaryov's birthday was 2nd February makes the events



The tent is discovered via Wikimedia

even more terrible – but also the journey to, first Vizhay, and then onwards out into the wild, thanks in part to the adaptation of entries made in the team’s diaries, both personal and shared.

Missing negatives, photographs featuring shadowy figures in the trees and blurred smudges in the sky, and Mansi folk tales describing lights above the trees all add fuel to the fire, but I don’t really subscribe to their supposed significance.

### CASE SOLVED?

I’m sad to say that I’ve concluded that the nine were killed – murdered – by their own people, be they part of the KGB or an even more sinister underground organisation. The team left the tent in a panic, either due to the smoke and embers caused by Dyatlov’s dodgy stove or unsettling booming sounds caused by the wind in a von Kármán vortex street that they mistook for the approach of a marauding avalanche, some cutting their way out through the side material.

As thoughts of death by either incineration or concussive trauma and asphyxiation by avalanche are hardly pleasant ones, they were probably yelling in fear and this in turn spooked the team of presumably military personnel who’d been tracking them since Vizhay. The team were forced towards nearby woodland and made to sit in the snow, although it seems that their would-be captors were sufficiently humane to build a small fire. As attention wavered due to the chilling temperatures and the dire circumstances, four of the team made a run for it pursued, one assumes, by a number of the soldiers, any one of whom could have had previous contact with radioactive military materials.

Provoked by this escape attempt these unidentified men undertook unnecessarily vicious actions. They beat the foursome to death and buried their bloodied bodies in a makeshift grave and, after having carried out these murders, returned to the knot of humanity by the fire, made a report, and decided that they would simply leave the remaining five to their frosty fate.

HAVE A DIFFERENT THEORY? SHARE IT WITH US ONLINE

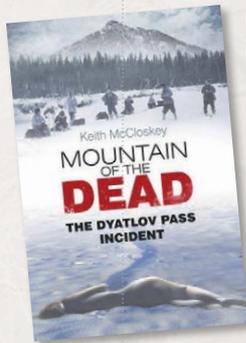


Now alone, and with Doroshenko and Krivonischenko already past the point of no return, I’d suggest that Dyatlov, Zinaida Kolmogorova and Rustem Slobodin liberated what clothing they could and made a futile attempt to find a way out. This theory explains why the bodies were found in different areas.

I don’t believe that any supernatural forces were involved, simply the very familiar evil that resides within man himself. All the available evidence is out there for anyone to make their own crack at solving the riddle, and such is the notoriety that still surrounds the story there’s even a PS4 game, entitled Kholat, to assist the armchair familiarisation with that deadly and impossibly remote environment.

With whispers suggesting that the Russian government are still trying to throw the many theory-hunters off the scent refusing to go away, we’re unlikely to have heard that last of Dyatlov’s Pass. However, unless some new facts somehow come to light I fear a resolution to the mystery surrounding the team members’ deaths will never be fully known, merely guessed at. So, rest in what peace you can Igor Dyatlov, Yuri Doroshenko, Yuri Krivonischenko, Zinaida Kolmogorova, Rustem Slobodin, Lyudmila Dubinina, Semyon Zolotaryov, Alexander Kolevatov and Nikolai Thibeaux-Brignolles: at least, with the unrelenting furore surrounding your fates, you won’t be forgotten. 🍷

👉 Next issue we’ll be asking a UFO novice for his thoughts as to what, if anything, crashed on a New Mexico ranch in July 1947.



Dyatlov memorial via Wikimedia

### MORE INFO

ON THE WEB  
dyatlov-pass.com



LEMMINGO  
THE DYATLOV  
PASS CASE



KEITH MCCLOSKEY  
*Mountain Of The Dead*  
Keith McCloskey  
(The History Press, 2013)



EXPLORING  
HISTORY:  
THE DYATLOV  
PASS INCIDENT



VON KÁRMÁN  
VORTEX STREETS



KHOLAT (PS4)  
An atmospheric  
video of the game  
provides a decent  
synopsis of events



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*The Dyatlov Pass  
Incident* (2013)  
(Dir: Renny Harlin)

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INTERVIEW

# Michael Cremo

Archaeological anomalies that challenge the accepted view of our human ancestry

**I**n 1996, a book was released that posed serious questions about the history of the human race. The book was called *Forbidden Archaeology: The Hidden History of the Human Race* and was written by Michael Cremo and Dr. Richard L Thompson. Within its pages was the hypothesis that modern man, Homo Sapiens, was not just tens of thousands years old but could possibly be millions of years old! This theory proposed that modern-type humans would have lived *alongside* our supposed ape ancestors rather than be descended from them.

Examining long-forgotten evidence of Victorian-era discoveries, which went totally against the accepted Darwinian theories of the time, the book spanned over 900 pages and certainly ruffled a few feathers in mainstream academia and civilised anthropology. Now, more than twenty years later and with a follow-up currently being written, we spoke to author Michael Cremo to ask why that same mainstream academia continues to ignore that evidence and has yet to answer many of the questions raised - although they do seem to be getting closer.

**SOYM: How would you define the term 'Forbidden Archaeology'?**

*Michael Cremo:* By "Forbidden Archaeology" I mean archeological discoveries that are dismissed by mainstream scientists. Primarily because they show the existence of humans, like us, predating the mainstream scientific consensus regarding the first appearance of modern humans nearly 200,000 years ago. *\*(since we spoke to Michael there have been a couple of interesting developments in this field. See panel opposite - Ed)*

**SOYM: When did you first become interested in the origins of humanity?**

*MC:* As a young person, I explored different cultures and world views. I became especially attracted to the spiritual culture and world view of ancient India. In the *Puranas*, the historical writings of ancient India, I found accounts of human populations existing in the very distant past, millions of years ago. Similar accounts



of extreme human antiquity can be found in the writings of other ancient wisdom traditions. This was something very different than I had learned from my teachers in school and university. So I wondered, are these accounts of extreme human antiquity simply mythology, or is there perhaps some factual basis for them? That's what inspired me to look into the history of archaeology. Of course if you look at the current textbooks you see only the discoveries that are consistent with the currently accepted ideas about human origins and antiquity. But I decided to look beyond the textbooks, into the original scientific reports, from the time of Darwin up to the present. When I did that, I found many reports of archaeologists and geologists finding human bones, footprints and artifacts (of the kind normally attributed to humans like us) that were far older than 200,000 years. In many cases they were millions of years old. I collected those reports in my book *Forbidden Archaeology*.

**SOYM: There is indisputable evidence of hand-worked flint and stone hand tools discovered in geological strata levels that date back millions of years, many of which you describe in the book.**

*MC:* Yes, but the discoverers interpret them in such a way as to fit modern evolutionary expectations. For example, among the oldest stone tools recognized by modern scientists are the crude stone tools found at the Lomekwi 3 site at West Turkana, Kenya,

which are 3.3 million years old. They were reported to the scientific world in 2015. Who made them? According to mainstream scientists it had to be some variety of Australopithecus, the apeman they believe existed at that time. But archaeologists have discovered that living populations of humans in Ethiopia still make

“ACADEMIA IS DISMISSIVE OF ANY DISCOVERIES THAT CONTRADICT THE DARWINIAN CONCEPT OF EVOLUTION”



similar crude stone tools. They strike flakes off of flint cores, and use them to scrape animal hides. So, regarding the Lomekwi stone tools, they could have been made by humans like us, not *Australopithecus*, 3.3 million years ago.

**SOYM: Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace turned the biological world on its head in the 19th Century but Darwin himself struggled to tie his theory of evolution to the accepted human history of the time. Why do think mainstream academia still holds Darwinism with such esteem yet seems to be unnecessarily dismissive of the field of palaeoarchaeology?**

**MC:** Palaeoarchaeology means archaeology of the deep past, going back more than ten thousand years. Mainstream academia is not dismissive of palaeoarchaeological discoveries per sé, as long as they are consistent with the Darwinian evolutionary consensus on human origins, namely that we were preceded by a sequence of more primitive apelike creatures. They are, however, dismissive of palaeoarchaeological evidence for extreme human antiquity, evidence showing that humans like us existing long before 200,000 years ago. That is because this evidence goes so far back in time, it seems to contradict the whole Darwinian evolutionary concept of not only human life, but all life. That means some alternative is necessary, and the alternatives tend to involve the introduction of non-material substances (such as consciousness existing independently from matter) and some higher cosmic intelligence being involved in our origins. But over the past few centuries science has developed in such a way as to exclude non-material substance and a higher guiding intelligence. And they want to keep it that way. It is interesting that Alfred Russel Wallace, who along with Darwin was the co-founder of the theory of evolution, was a supporter of evidence for extreme human antiquity and introduced non-material substance and intelligent guidance into his ideas about our origins. Initially, the theory of evolution was called the Wallace-Darwin theory. But after Wallace became involved with these other kinds of ideas, his name was dropped.

**SOYM: So do you think the evidence for extreme human antiquity is more suppressed now than in Victorian-era Britain?**

**MC:** Yes. After Darwin published his *Origin of Species* in 1859, scientists in Europe and elsewhere began to consider the idea that humans like us evolved from primitive apes. So the search began for “missing links,”



**Michael Cremo stands with Charles Darwin at the Natural History Museum, Oxford**

## HUMANS: GETTING OLDER ALL THE TIME

Following two significant discoveries in Africa this year, we asked Michael for his comments on the recent developments in paleoanthropology.

“In the years since *Forbidden Archeology* was published scientists have been gradually pushing back the date of the first appearance of humans like us. In 2017, scientists announced the discovery of *Homo sapiens* bones at Jebel Irhoud in Morocco, dated at 300,000 years.

Although not yet universally accepted by archaeologists, the discovery is a tiny step in the right direction. But I believe scientists have a long way to go before they come to a correct understanding of the extreme antiquity of our species.”

creatures intermediate between ancient apes and modern humans. But they were not finding the intermediates. Throughout the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s, archaeologists and geologists were finding evidence for humans like us existing millions of years ago. These discoveries were published in the mainstream scientific journals and displayed in the museums because at that early stage, even for evolutionists, the timeline for the appearance of the first anatomically modern humans was not fixed. They had no reason to think that humans like us could *not* have existed millions of years ago. That all changed with Eugène Dubois’ discovery of Java Man in the 1890s in Indonesia. His discovery consisted of an ape-like skullcap and a humanlike thighbone. So now scientists had their first missing link. It was judged to be about 800,000 years old. From then on, scientists insisted that humans like us had to come after that, long after that. As this became widely accepted, the same scientists had to decide what to do with the evidence for extreme human antiquity that had been uncovered during the previous decades. Naturally, it had to be dismissed and if anyone else discovered any such evidence in the future, then that also had to be dismissed or interpreted in such a way that it fit the evolutionary timeline.

**SOYM: Ocean levels are significantly higher today e.g. with the UK being connected to the European continent as recent as 8,000 years ago. Do you think there could be a wealth of information waiting to be discovered under the coastal sea beds?**

**MC:** Yes. Actually marine archaeology is a growing field. Some of the discoveries fit

## THE GIRL WITH THE SUN IN HER EYES

How the Beatles inspired the discovery of one of the world's oldest hominid skeletons.

Discovered in Ethiopia in 1974, 'Lucy' is a 3.2 million year old hominid belonging to the *Australopethicus* group. Found by Donald Johanson and Tom Gray, in the remote Afar region of Ethiopia, what turned out to be an elbow bone sticking out of the desert floor was quickly revealed to be an almost complete skeleton of a hitherto unknown upright-walking species. Speaking to *Scientific American* in 2014 Johanson related how, in camp that night, the Beatles' *Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds* was playing on the tape deck while they were discussing with colleagues whether the find was a female and the name stuck. For the full article click [here](#).

TALK ABOUT THIS INTERVIEW AND MORE ONLINE



Java man - or what's left of him, discovered in 1891-92 © Peter Mass via Commons Wikimedia

the conventional time line for human origins. But some discoveries do not. Some years ago (2001 - Ed), some Canadian researchers reported sonar images of what appeared to be the remains of a sunken city off the western tip of Cuba. The remains were at a depth of about 2000 feet. The last time that surface was dry land was many millions of years ago.

**SOYM:** With regards global discoveries of 'giants' skeletons in the 19th and 20th centuries that were publicly displayed and subsequently covered-up, where do you think they fit in the story of mankind?

**MC:** Science tells us that in the past many kinds of plants and animals were bigger than they are today. The deer were bigger, the bears were bigger, the trees were bigger. So why not humans also? In the mountains of California you can see the California redwood trees. They are over 300 feet tall. Some of them are thousands of years old. I think they are holdovers from that earlier age when living things, including humans, were bigger.

**SOYM:** Do you think there's something to be said for the existence of similar larger hominid species such as the Almas giants of Mongolia, or even Sasquatch (Bigfoot) in North America?

**MC:** In *Forbidden Archaeology*, I have a chapter on evidence for the existence of such creatures. It appears that today humans like us are coexisting on this planet not only with apes but also apemen (hominids). And that was also true in the distant past. Apemen were there, apes were there. And humans like us were also there. So if you look at all the evidence, the

pattern that emerges is one of coexistence of all these types, not evolution of one from another.

**SOYM:** There seems to be more opposition to ancient humans living in North America than anywhere else in the world - with the exception of Antarctica - with the Clovis culture still regarded as the origin point around 12,000 years ago despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Why do you think this is?

**MC:** It could be it has something to do with the politics of colonization of the Americas by the Europeans. Actually, the native American Indian populations, according to their own traditional histories, were always here. They were not recent arrivals. Acknowledging that might increase the legitimacy of their claims to the land. Also, I think there is also some understanding among archaeologists that if discoveries even slightly older than the Clovis culture are

“ SOME OF THE OLDEST STONE TOOLS RECOGNIZED BY MODERN SCIENTISTS ARE 3.3 MILLION YEARS OLD ”



The Laetoli footprints discovered in Tanzania are said to be around 3.6 million years old.  
© James St John via Flickr. Click the image to see more of his hominid photographs

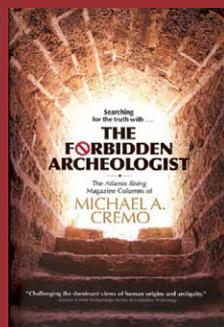
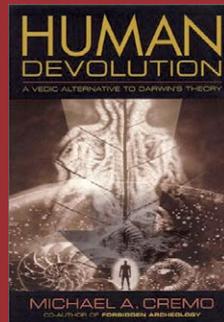
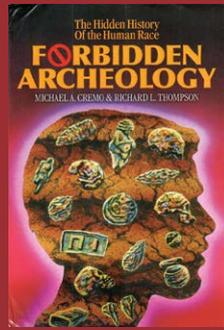
accepted, then it will lead to acknowledging other even *older* discoveries that challenge not just modern scientific ideas about the peopling of the Americas but also the whole concept of human origins. The stone tools found at the Calico site in California are about 250,000 years old. And then there are the discoveries at Table Mountain in the California gold mining region, reported to the scientific world by Dr. J. D. Whitney in 1880s. These human bones and artifacts come from formations modern geologists say are about 50 million years old. There are many other discoveries like this from North and South America.

**SOYM: Is it fair to say that humanity is becoming more ignorant of our own history due to a reliance on technology and being spoon fed information?**

**MC:** It is a complex situation. The supporters of the dominant evolutionary theory of human origins have thus far continued to maintain their complete control of the educational institutions in most countries. But at the same time they are not able to control all the ways that people get information through all the current channels of communication. Gallup surveys have shown that the majority of people in America do not accept the scientific establishment ideas about human origins and antiquity. It is an unstable situation, where you have an elite establishment trying to force its views on a population that does not really accept that view. Eventually, the people who are paying the taxes are going to question why are we giving these people so much money to indoctrinate us in something we really don't accept? Of course, there are many things that science

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

Intrigued by our introduction to Michael's research into ancient human ancestry? His books mentioned in the article are widely available. Click on the cover images to buy or to learn more.



does get right, but the idea we evolved from apes is not one of them.

**SOYM: Do you think there is any weight to the theory of some kind of extraterrestrial genetic intervention in our evolution as popularised elsewhere?**

**MC:** One common idea is that the process of human evolution went on pretty much as mainstream scientists say up to the point of the apeman *Homo erectus*, about 400,000 years ago. Then they say some flesh and blood extraterrestrials came and manipulated the genes of *Homo erectus* to produce humans like us as a slave race. I do not accept that theory. There is archaeological evidence that humans like us were present on earth long before 400,000 years ago. I think the human presence goes back to the very beginnings of life on earth. But I do believe our presence here is the result of an extraterrestrial intervention. I have an expanded conception of what extraterrestrial means. All bodies, including human bodies, are vehicles for conscious selves. The conscious self is not produced by matter. It comes from another level of reality. The human body is a vehicle which we can use to transfer the conscious self back to the higher level of reality from which we came. So in that sense, as conscious selves, we are all extraterrestrials. I talk about this in my book *Human Devolution: A Vedic Alternative to Darwin's Theory*.

**SOYM: What was the last book you read that grabbed your attention?**

**MC:** *The Message of the Engraved Stones of Ica* by Javier Cabrera Daquera. I've known about the Ica stones from Peru for a long time. These stones have engravings of dinosaurs on them, among other things. The engravings were allegedly made millions of years ago, during the time of the dinosaurs. I had my negative preconceptions about them. But reading the book I came to see them in a more favorable light.

**SOYM: The field of archaeology can be pretty daunting by itself, do you have a piece of advice for anyone who wants to get started into alternative archaeology?**

**MC:** Alternative archaeology is a big field. My best advice is to pick an aspect of that field. Do your research. Become expert in it. And then communicate it, by writing, speaking, etc. Decide what audiences you want to reach: the general public? People interested in alternative ideas? Scientists? Students? I try to reach them all. 📖

👉 For more information visit his website [www.mcremo.com](http://www.mcremo.com)

# SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

WHERE YOUR SEARCH FOR THE ANSWERS BEGIN

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