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THE MONTHLY
MAGAZINE OF
CROP CIRCLES
AND BEYOND

43

JULY 1995

£1.00

Latest
National
Formations

Alien
Communication
Experiments

Ed
Sherwood

Sacred Sites
Threatened
With Extinction

"The man who cannot believe his senses, and the man who cannot believe anything else, are both insane" G K CHESTERTON

After last year's mega-debunk effort on Anglia Television's *The Magic & Mystery Show*, in which Robin Allen talked circle-hoaxing for ten minutes (see SC 36), we're glad to report that the newly-revamped programme has decided to balance that aberration with the other side of the crop-swirling coin. Those in the Meridian ITV region can tune in on Wednesday 16th August at 10.40pm to hear Pat Palgrave-Moore and one Barry Reynolds explaining the deeper side to the phenomenon which can't be explained by the supposed stalk-stomping activities of a largely fictional bunch. Using the Alfriston 'catherine wheel' formation as a backdrop, 'subtle energies' and scientific analysis actually get a look in. People in other ITV regions should watch their own listings for transmission dates.

Talking of television, look out for the Nat West adverts currently doing the rounds on your screens, in which a loving couple are very briefly seen 'romping' in a small crop circle. The media has discovered crop formations are good advertising gimmicks all round by the look of things. Watch out also for the newspaper and billboard poster for the new Rover 214 car in particular, seen gleaming inside an oilseed rape circle. And listeners to commercial radio can keep their ears open for a hay fever remedy ad, in which the apparently cured voiceover artiste is so confident of her miraculous purchase, that she's "off out to make a crop circle" or somesuch.

Meanwhile, as the *SS Cerealogue* founders in ever-shallower waters, Cap'n George fires off a broadside for the benefit of its three remaining readers in the latest issue, keel-hauling the Captain of this organ for the article in SC 39, in which Uncle George's published list of who-hoaxed-what was dismissed as fiction. As ever, through all the bluster, not a scrap of evidence is produced to prove the Pirate Captain's case for mass circle-fakery. Thus, Cap'n George is sentenced to twenty lashes, a kangaroo-court martial for Cap'n Thomas is avoided and the *SS SC* sails on through clear waters. Avast, me hearties.

ANDY THOMAS



The Monthly Magazine of
Crop Circles and Beyond

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SC: Edited and produced by ANDY THOMAS. Articles, letters and contributions to the editorial address please. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors and not SC as a whole, unless otherwise stated.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS:

£10.00 (UK)
£13.00 (Europe)
£18.00 (US and overseas)

Cheques payable to
'CCCS Sussex'.
Cheques & POs must be
made out in sterling,
drawn on a bank with a
British branch.
Eurocheques accepted.
Cash sent at own risk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MAILING ADDRESS:

Debbie Pardoe
42 Croxden Way
Willington Trees
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN22 0UJ

Tel: 01323 520054

Front cover: Bishops Sutton, Hampshire, June 1995. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

Before delving into the most recent crop formations to appear, an amendment to last month's report about the 'galaxy' formation at Bratton. In fact, contrary to the early reports, this was in fact more of a 'solar system', a small circle with nine large rings around it. Superimposed on top of this were several rings and grapeshot, like a diagram of planets in orbit.

Meanwhile, the most significant development for 1995, continuing the astronomical flavour, has been the arrival of the 'asteroid belt' formations, large rings made up of many grapeshot, all different sizes, orbiting a variation of spirals and rings, depending on the formation. The first two of these appeared on the same night, 20th June: One, at Bishops Sutton, Hampshire, in wheat, was made up of an astonishing 99 different circles! Its smaller counterpart appeared at Titchfield. Perhaps the most impressive of all the asteroid formations though is at Longwood Warren in Hampshire, a beautiful necklace of touching grapeshot circling an exquisite configuration of thin standing rings and loops, offset from logical centres, again like planets in orbit. This appeared in wheat on 29th June.

In fact Hampshire seems to have become the focus of the main formations this summer, instead of the traditional Wiltshire. Other significant formations to have appeared there include the 'speaker cone', a small circle with two large thin rings and a squared off zig-zag emanating from the centre, which arrived in wheat at Cowdown near Andover on 19th June. The night before, a 'scorpion'-type formation of diminishing circles attached to a large ringed circle with a radial sunburst design was found at Danebury Hill in barley on 18th June. More recently, another beautiful scorpion, this time with thin loops waving in and around a ringed circle appeared at Cheesefoot Head in oats. Back at Andover, at Old Pound Earthworks, three ringed circles, the centre one with two 'horns', linked by paths, appeared recently in wheat. A 'headphones' formation, two small circles linked by an arc, was discovered in wheat at Whitchurch on 6th July, the same day as a configuration at Dunley, Lichfield, just off the A34 was found in wheat, closely resembling the curled-up scorpion which ended last year's season at Avebury. Other smaller Hamp-

shire formations include an addition to the ringed five quintuple at Telegraph Hill listed last month, this time a squiggle which calls to mind the Indian for 'Aum' (or Om), a circle with grapeshot at Chilcombe, a circle with the word 'TOMOE' written next to it, a circle at Upham, a ringed circle at Morestead, and probably many more...

Elsewhere, Wiltshire hasn't been completely deserted; a celtic cross, one circle noticeably offset from the others, surrounded by a thick ring, appeared in wheat at West Stowell on 26th June. Two formations have been reported from earlier in the season in Lancashire, a ringed circle at Bolton Green, and a series of connecting rings at Mawdsley. A formation currently creating quite a stir is a field of 'dragon's footprints', several circles, each 22ft across with three grapeshot each, peppered around with many other grapeshot and a larger single circle, found at Uppington, near Wellington in Shropshire. Reports of ghostly 'children's voices' have been made by several researchers who entered the field... Meanwhile, somewhere in England, information on a rumoured formation of standing crop - in the middle of an entirely flattened field! - remains just that; rumour, but we're keeping our ears open...

And of course Sussex has finally taken off, after a slow, though impressive start. In addition to the lovely formations already reported at Southeast and Alfriston, there is now a 'splurge' (ie. very rough, but swirled and flattened as if made by an unformed circle-making force) also at Alfriston, found in long grass on the opposite hill to the large catherine wheel... There is a lovely set of a ringed circle, a double ringed circle and a small single circle at Imberhome, East Grinstead, in barley on the site of a 1993 formation, which may have appeared in response to an experiment certain members of CCCS Sussex carried out the same night it appeared... (more on that in a later issue) A formation of rings and 'J' shapes in soil and pine-needles has been discovered in a forest at Kingley Vale, near Chichester... Another 'splurge' formation has been found in water reeds at Binsted, near Arundel, found after a strange light in the sky was sighted the night before... A small single circle in wheat (good) which appears to have been vandal-

- NEWS - CIRCLES '95 UPDATE #3

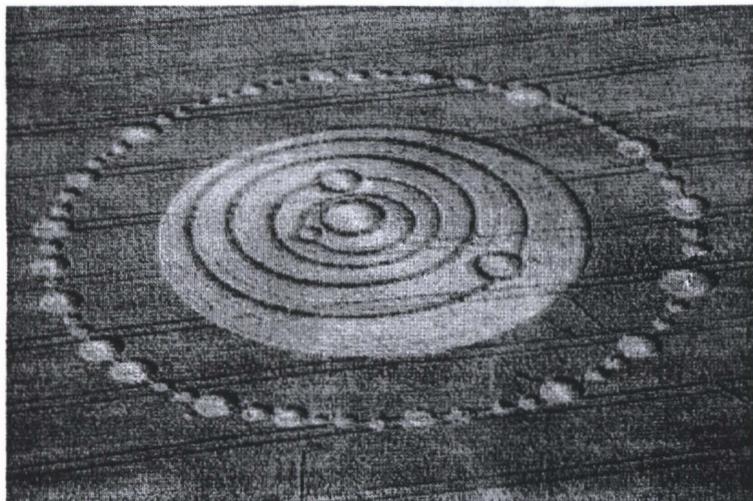
Asteroids, orbiting planets,
dragon's footprints...? **ANDY
THOMAS reports on the latest
crop formation developments
in England.**

ised with the addition of a crude ring, stick-man body and a rude word has arrived at Saltdean, overlooking the valley... A large dumbbell formation, very visible from the A259, has appeared in wheat at Denton, Newhaven, from which a long path comes off the top circle at a 45 degree angle leading to a perfect half-circle... A formation has been spotted at Shoreham, close to the site of previous formations; a dumbbell, with one circle ringed, next to a triangle and another triangle made from three joined circles, each with a standing crescent inside. Apparently unconnected are the words 'BAN LIVE EXPORTS' near the formation, which were made by protestors a few weeks pre-

viously and appear to have been *burned* into the crop by some kind of chemical... And most recently, Sompting has reactivated as a circle site once more, if a little further out than usual for the area, in the form of five off-centre rings in the fields between Sompting and Steyning...

CCCS Sussex is on the case of all these Sussex formations, which will of course be covered in depth in the coming months in *SC*... when we get time to pull all the information together coherently!

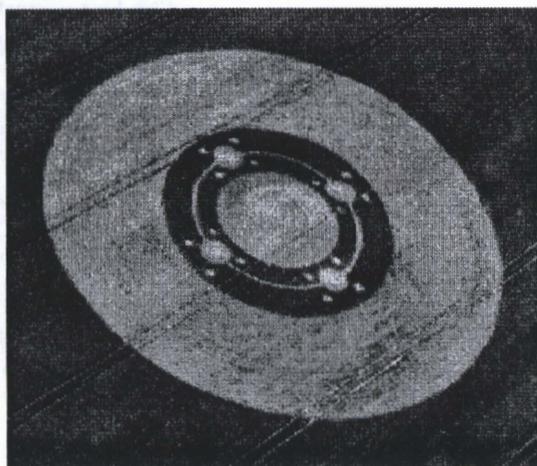
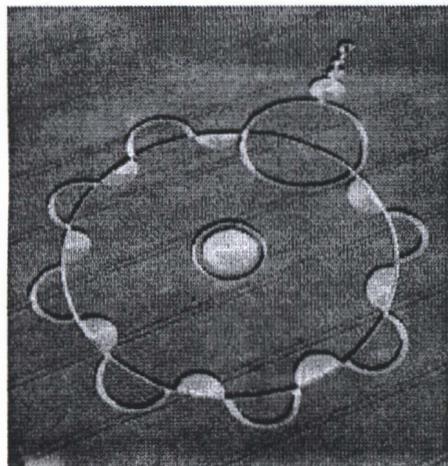
Photographs of several of the formations mentioned in this report can be found below and on the next two pages. **AT**



LEFT: Longwood Warren, Hampshire

BELOW LEFT: Cheesefoot Head, Hampshire

BELOW RIGHT: Telegraph Hill, Hampshire



MORE FROM THE 1995 CIRCLE SEASON

A smattering of the best formations to appear in June and July this year (see page 3 for details).

Photographs by STEVE ALEXANDER except Telegraph Hill, by LUCY PRINGLE and Alfriston, by MICHAEL HUBBARD.

TOP: Knoll Down, Beckhampton, Wiltshire

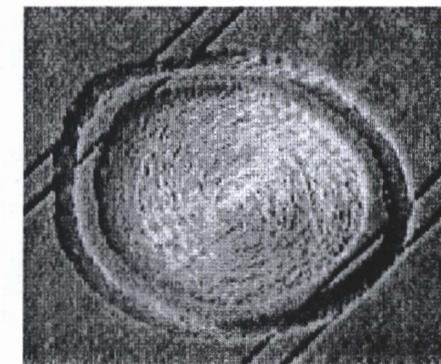
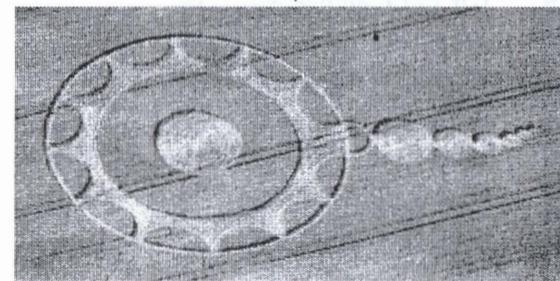
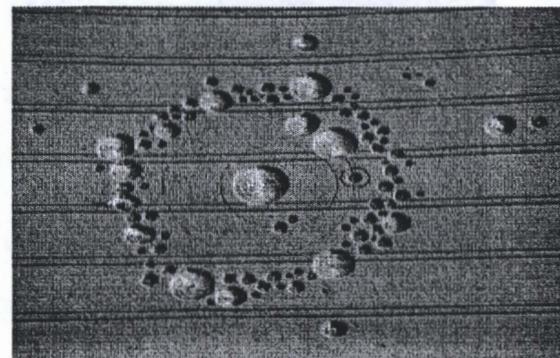
MID: Knoll Down, pole shot

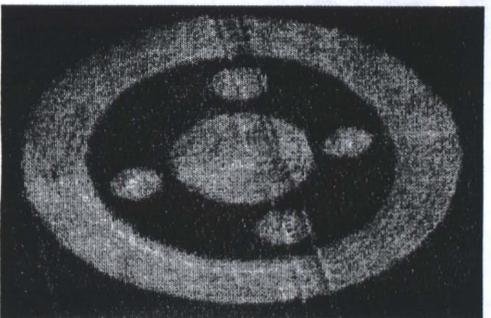
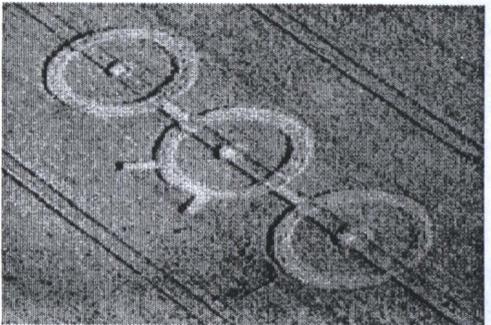
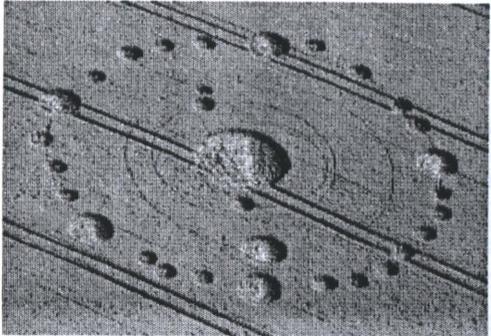
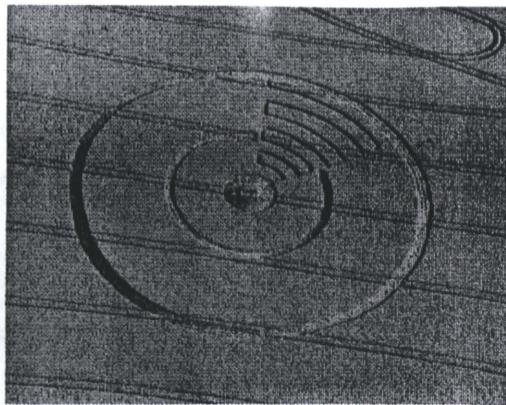
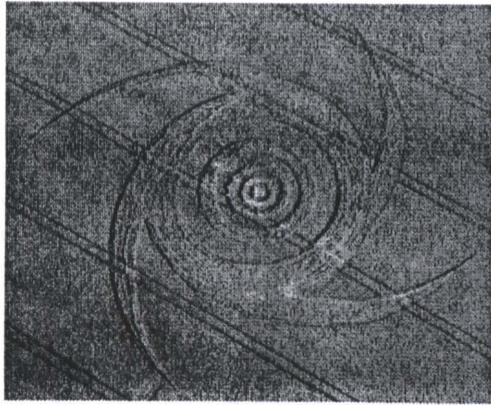
BELOW: Bishops Sutton, Hampshire

BELOW RIGHT: Bishops Sutton, pole shot

BOTTOM LEFT: Danebury, Hampshire

BOTTOM RIGHT: Morestead, Hampshire





TOP LEFT: *Alfriston, East Sussex*

TOP RIGHT: *Cowdown, Hampshire*

MID RIGHT: *Cowdown, pole shot*

MID LEFT: *Titchfield, Hampshire*

BELOW LEFT: *Old Pound Earthworks, Hampshire*

BELOW RIGHT: *Bratton, Wiltshire*

LEFT: *West Stowell, Wiltshire*

Briefly, I wish to report on these experiments in SC since in no other periodical have all three been reported together.

1) In 1991 I worked with three Frenchmen and one Englishman (Yves Choisson, Thierry Pinvidic, George Munch and Arthur Mills) to cut out an 80m x 8m phrase in English "TALK TO US!". We cut

- FEATURES -
TALK TO US!
Taking the line that ETs may be at work in our fields, ERIK BECKJORD reports on three seasons of alien communication experiments in the UK.

rather than pressed, so as to salvage the cuttings for harvest. On our drawing, we had included two items that we had no time to actually do. This was done on Hackpen Farm, Wiltshire. Three days later, eight miles away in the bowl beneath Milk Hill, there appeared some strange letters also in a linear style, about the same size as what we did. There also appeared the two symbols that we had not been able to use: a ring in front and a ring in the rear. Various circular magazines referred to me as "An American tourist" or similar, and did not use my name. However, the German researcher Jurgen Kronig did use it, for which I am grateful, in his book.

I saw this formation when returning from an arduous skywatch on Milk Hill, during which I tested the Steve Alexander UFO video (a ball of light flying across Alton Barnes - Ed) and was too tired to walk into it, which I now regret, then I flew home. Various writers have tried to interpret the writing, which was the first non-circular type of formation (writing) to happen. Latin and Hebrew have been suggested, but I find Korean more suitable, because in the USA various Korean natives told me that these letters were the bottom or top halves of Korean symbols, and that they also read as gobbledegook. This was appropriate since I had Korean in my head when I left the USA for the UK that year, but did not understand any. Some alien or person must have read our drawing for the O TALK TO US O formation and then included the Os and the Korean in an attempt to forge a link with us or with me. Another choice would be that my mind flew out at night while I was asleep, and used psychokinesis to create the formation, using right brain, not left, then returning before dawn.

2) In 1993 I worked with my girlfriend Joan DeNeve on a hill of grass 18 inches high on the Ridgeway to create a cut-out "English Lesson for Aliens". I drew first, and mailed copies to Monty

Keen and others, a drawing that had two small grapeshot with ying-yang swirls, plus large 25ft letters showing MAN = (Man Stick Figure), WATER = (Three Wavy Lines), HOUSE = (House Drawing) and LOVE = (Heart Drawing). A Bristol TV Station filmed us but nobody saw it from the air. Next day, August 13th, a Friday, five miles away, the

'Wheelchair' formation was found near Silbury Hill. This was lovely, I got into it, it had a water-like flow, and the farmer cut it immediately and me almost with it. As most know, a similar one appeared near Lockeridge a few days later. ("Can't stop me...") Significance? Man is handicapped, here is a stick figure, we don't need your stinking English lessons, etc.

3) In 1994, a great year, I stayed longer than ever before, five weeks, and at the end, in late August, at Lockeridge, I went with Briony Sutton and her little girl (Marlborough residents) to cut two large 30ft figures of a man, with hat, shaking hands with an alien, no hat. I cut in one small grapeshot, and the letters P.A.L. for Project Alien Liaison. I used the same machine as in 1993. This was a tough two-wheeled cutter with handles, and what looks like two combs cutting back and forth over each other. A mean machine. (In 1991 I used a gas-powered weed-eater with metal blade.) I then flew over the formation, took photos, and lent the roll of film to the Marlborough Gazette which then misplaced the negatives for four months, and flew home. No further circles appeared anywhere in Britain thereafter that season. Puzzled, I asked Beth Davis about this and she said that my "answer" might appear in another country. Right she was. I took a vacation from my vacation and drove to Lompoc near Santa Barbara, California, and lay on the beach. Returning home after two days, with Joan, we were shocked to see a large 35ft 'heart' on the side of a hill near the highway, made from pressed-down mustard plant (see SC 38 for a photo of this - Ed). Very few stalks were broken, and most were strangely bent just over the roots. Investigation revealed that it had been there only a week or less and virtually nobody in Lompoc had seen it at all. Local LA croppies went wild over it and made many trips to sit in it. My guess is that the answer to my friendship-handshake formation was

Mr G's marvellous elastically pants

love, or friendship, in return. Maybe the aliens love us. Maybe they liked the heart from 1993. Maybe somebody local made it. I'll never know.

Of interest is that in 1994, a CSETI group, including Ron Russell, sat on Woodborough Hill and asked for a ying-yang symbol to appear, as a circle. My 1993 ying-yang symbols had not appeared yet. When I got off the plane in 1994 returning home, I saw the ying-yang symbol on an airplane tail. Later, Ron sent me what he feels is a ying-yang symbol in a crop circle found in a different part of the UK that summer. I don't see what he sees. There are rumours of other circles like that, which readers may know of.

My overall guess now re. communication is that the

aliens don't care to have any serious discourse of a left-brain style by typing in the wheat or crops. They take what you write and throw it back, with modifications, to show they are there, and understand, perhaps "grok", but the main message is "we are here, and we like to play" and this is along the lines of what I suggested in my 1990 *UFO Magazine* crop circles article, that the entity that makes the circle is a large alien child, out for fun. Of course, there is the possibility that we ourselves, mentally, make the circles, using psycho-kinesis, at night, and if this is true, we read our own minds, and those of friends, and then we TALK TO OURSELVES. In either case, no harm is done, and investigating crop circles is still jolly good fun, and a good chance to do UFO-spotting as well. **EB**

I have just received SC 42, and read your article *Dowsing Dilemma* with a mixture of incredulity and shock; for the first time ever I found myself agreeing with almost everything you had to say. Just one quibble though; there may be no such thing as an auric field associated with a crop sample, a car, or anything else.

PS. I am going to see a doctor tomorrow.

PETER MEARN, Hopwas, Staffordshire

Responding to Andy Thomas' comment re. my last letter in SC 41, ("Who's 'we'? - Ed), the "we" is of course Ramthro, my spirit guide, and the ghost of Houdini who both guide me with advice channelled from the Mystical Eleven Guardians of the 2,544th Dimension, which we inhabit. We therefore wish the staff of SC all the best in the Circles Frenzy to come this summer. May you all survive to come out sane so you can continue to put out your excellent newsletter.

ERIK BECKJORD, California, USA

Re. the *Two-Thirds Weight Lifting Kit*: Please may I order the kit for my husband Richard. It may just be a significant coincidence that his body-weight needs reducing by the square root (1/2 x 2/3) of two-thirds.

ANNE BROCKLEHURST (SMITH), Falmouth, Cornwall

- LETTERS -

I found this advert (see below) in a copy of your magazine left at the Post Office on Cydonia - we call in sometimes!

Please supply two sets of the Two-Thirds Why Wait-Lift kit - De Luxe Version (because I'm an optimist) to my dear friends in Sussex. This is a gift subscription and I understand that you will bill me when you have worked out what the figures mean. The dedication on the gift card to read: "To the B.R.A.T.S. from The Holo-Image, c/o the Post Office, Horz Complex, Mars, NM21 P600"

MARY BENNETT, Netton, Wiltshire

For those who didn't understand last month's Two-Thirds Weight Lifting Kit advertisement, and understand these replies even less, we have no intention whatsoever of explaining - Ed.

- AULIS AND MORE TOO - !!!
A Millennium Offer --from the original suppliers.



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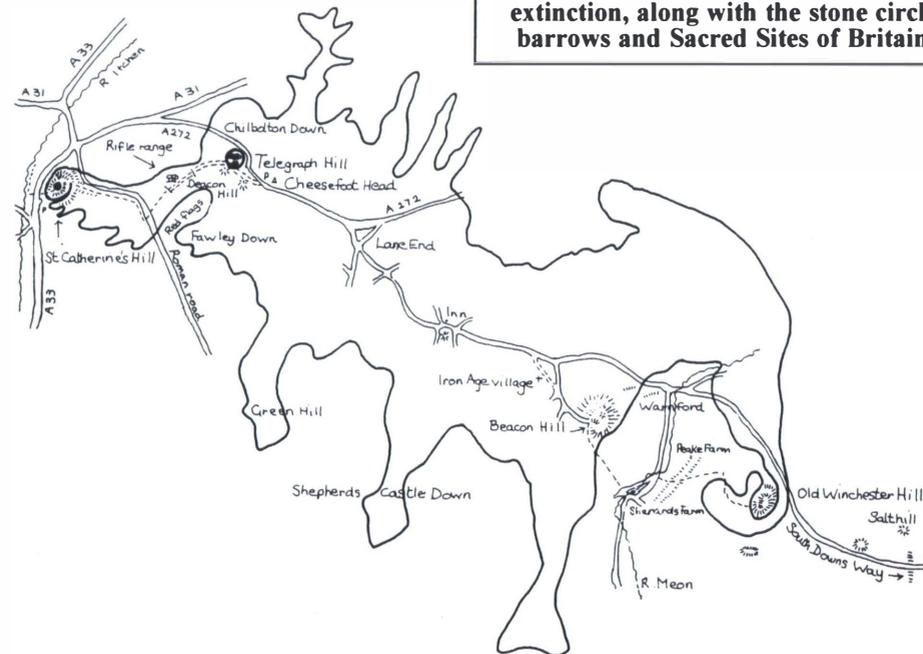
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- This all-encompassing kit enables you to *reconvert* your copy of TWO-THIRDS - once you have realised that brawn cannot equal brain!
- PLUS! Hyperdimensional offer: your very own meditation tetrahedra (interlocked version +£14.)
- PLUS!! For the smarter user: our *de Luxe* Waldark Hat with the adaptable headband available in Hermetic colours: black, white red & gold! (original version: Xtra small only)

- FEATURES -
DISAPPEARING DRAGONS

DEBBIE PARDOE investigates the 'Win Tun Dragon' and finds it threatened with extinction, along with the stone circles, barrows and Sacred Sites of Britain...

BELOW: *The Win Tun Dragon*



Dragon legends are numerous and there is a curious story attached to the well-known Win Tun Dragon that lies in the heart of crop circle country in the Cheesefoot Head/Winchester area. The spine of the dragon (now the A272) snakes for 10 miles along a series of ridges and hills between St. Catherines Hill and Old Winchester Hill. The story goes that when the dragon's head is severed, she will call up the tribes to her defence. Some say that when she was under threat from the M3 extension (which would effectively sever her head), she shifted her position to curl beneath St. Catherines Hill and this is when the Dongas Tribe appeared on Twyford Down in answer to her call.

The old name for Winchester is Wintun (Win, from the Welsh 'gwyn' meaning white, or from Old English 'weoh' meaning heathen or holy) and St. Catherines Hill and Old Winchester Hill, the head

and tail of the dragon, are known as the Two White Hills. From Cheesefoot Head, site of many crop formations, St. Catherines Hill, with its ruffled cap of beeches, can be seen to the south but sadly, standing at Cheesefoot Head last summer, we gazed at the chalk scars that cut through the hill like a deep wound on the landscape. It is a stark reminder of Man's 'progress' and St. Catherines Hill, so named after the medieval chapel which used to stand on its summit, was no ordinary hill; on the contrary, like Glastonbury Tor and Silbury it was a Sacred Mount, the site of one of the oldest Celtic hillforts with graded slopes which may have been used as a Processional Way in days gone by. The only entrance to this banked enclosure faced the sunrise.

The hill was occupied in the Bronze Age and when Wintun (Winchester) became the seat of Celtic

Kings around 500 BC, it must have played a prominent role in religious ceremony. It is said that when Wintun became the British capital, a white walled city was built at the foot of 'the sacred white hill' and a Druid Centre, a Gorsedd, was established. Belgic invaders probably occupied the site around 100 BC and later Roman writers referred to Lucius, a British King who apparently built a church "among Twelve Unhewn Stones of a Druid Circle" where Winchester Cathedral (founded in 645) now stands. Cerdic claimed Wintun for his Saxon Kingdom of Wessex after the Romans had gone, then it passed to the Danish King Cnut who gave it to the Benedictines. Finally, the hill was bought from the church by Wykeham who was responsible for the turf maze cut from its summit, situated between the entrance to the hillfort and the beech trees. St. Catherines Hill had a long history, used as it was by different people down the ages, standing like a sentinel over Winchester and the River Itchen but now it is yet another victim of Man's folly and the ever-expanding concrete jungle. Sadly it's the same scenario for Solsbury Hillfort near Bath which likewise has a legend of a sleeping dragon, only this time the dragon's return was in the guise of yellow bulldozers when they moved in to demolish the water meadows at the base of the hillfort.

Cissbury Ring, again an area surrounded by crop formations, the largest earthwork on the South Downs occupying some 60 acres, seems to be the next in line for a similar fate to that which demolished St. Catherines Hill when work on the Worthing bypass gets underway. Again Cissbury is not just another hillfort; like St. Catherines Hill, it has a long history and is rich in folklore. The hillfort itself was constructed during the Iron Age and it is estimated that 35,000 cubic yards of chalk were excavated to build the ramparts, while the retaining walls used 10,000 timbers, each 15ft - a remarkable feat with primitive tools. Long before these defences were built, however, neolithic people cut numerous flint mines and shafts at around 3,000 BC. Discarded implements, such as 'picks' made of red-deer antlers and 'shovels' made from their shoulder-blades, have been found in great numbers. Later, the Romans and then the Saxons occupied the site (the Saxon Cissa gave his name to the ring) and over the years numerous stories have grown up around it. Cissbury is said to be a lump of earth thrown from the devil's spade as he dug out Devil's Dyke (another circle site) and a dance-floor for the fairies every midsummer's eve. Far more

curious though are the snake-infested tunnels that are rumoured to lie beneath it.

The region surrounding Cissbury was once well populated. Away to the north-east there is a spur called Park Brow where digging has proved the existence of habitation from 800 BC until well into Roman times and, clearly, much undocumented history will soon disappear forever with the arrival of the bulldozer.

In a 1928 edition of 'Bell's Pocket Guide to Sussex', it states, "Happily this camp, the finest on the Downs, is now secured against the possibility of building, having recently been secured to the nation." Might this refer to a Deed of Gift or some forgotten charter now gathering dust in the archives of Chichester? But this is a fleeting ray of hope when we consider the controversy surrounding Stonehenge. On the Autumn Equinox of 1915 Cecil Chubb bought Stonehenge at auction for £6,600 and 3 years later he presented it to the nation, along with the immediate land surrounding it, with a Deed of Gift specifying free access at all times! In the late 1920s the National Trust purchased much of the surrounding farmland which included The Cursus. Then on March 15 1978 a fence was erected around the monument contrary to the Deed of Gift made with its presentation to the nation in 1918. Now, of course, they want to deny access altogether as plans are being drawn up for a visitor's complex with a viewing platform overlooking the stones. It is illegal but so is the current practice of charging entry to British citizens and, after all, they do have the best interests of the monument at heart - of course they do, just like St. Catherines Hill and Cissbury Ring!

Since sarsens are rare on the South Downs, the building of chambered tombs in Sussex was not practical, so Neolithic man constructed long barrows instead made of earth and chalk rubble. There are nine authenticated Long Barrows in Sussex, two in West Sussex and a cluster of seven in East Sussex, known to have been constructed between 4200 and 2940 BC. Sadly several of them are in a serious state of neglect. Long Burgh at Alfriston (once again a circle site) which is situated 2 miles due west of the Windover Long Mound above the Long Man Of Wilmington (and again...) and the nearby Hunter's Burgh on the neighbouring hill, can barely be distinguished from the surrounding thicket. Climbing from Alfriston village towards Bostal Hill (which is dotted with Bronze Age tumuli) the track divides where it meets the South Downs

Way and the Long Burgh is in the left, overgrown and forgotten, covered with bramble and hawthorn. The only way to appreciate the size of this impressive construction, 180 ft in length and 60 ft wide, is to climb on its back; otherwise it lies unnoticed.

Interestingly, a line drawn from this barrow to the tumuli on Hindover Hill (which some believe was another long barrow long since severed by the road) passes straight through the site of the 1984 Celtic Cross formation on Rathfinny Farm, just as a line from the Belle Tout earthwork to Charleston Long Barrow passes through the Birling Gap circles of last season. A different fate found Charleston Long Barrow which lies behind Windover Hill on the south-facing slope of a secluded downland valley called Charleston Bottom. To the west is Hindover Hill with its White Horse and Charleston Long Barrow offers the best site line to this hill figure than any other place on the surrounding downland. The valley is completely isolated and the long barrow itself, amidst crops and grazing sheep, rests in a field at the edge of Friston Forest. Like Alfriston's Long Burgh, you could walk past it without a glance, not because it lies overgrown and neglected but because it has suffered quite considerably at the blade of the plough and it is now no more than a slight bump in a field.

In October last year we drove across Salisbury Plain specifically to visit Eil Barrow which is situated to one side of the 'road' on the second highest spot on the Plains, once the meeting place of many old tracks. The whole area was littered with unexploded shells and several craters dotted the track. I wonder how long it will be before this old barrow, named after the Sun God, is turned into a gaping hole.

So many ancient sites are now under threat from road construction, the plough, quarrying, the military and what can only be described as wilful and malicious desecration. In 1980 Martin Brennan published a book called 'The Boyne Valley Vision' in which he introduced the notion, along with a lot of convincing evidence, of a great astronomical calendar in the region, a whole complex of stone circles and dolmens with staggering mathematical proportions. Together with a Frenchman by the name of Jean Michele, Brennan formed 'The Concordance of High Monarchists in Ireland' whose aim it was to revive paganism, appoint a Pagan King as Spiritual Leader, allowing each county to make its own laws in an attempt to put an

end to Catholic/Protestant hostilities. Needless to say, he antagonised the authorities and the media spoke of an "LSD Guru" who, with his "Satanic sex coven" had been performing regular rituals at New Grange. They accused him of everything from blasphemy to "loitering with intent to gawk" and it wasn't long before the Council decided to put a stop to his 'wicked', 'blasphemous' rites. Apparently the best way to do this is to pommel a tall, thick iron column into the ground so that the rays of the Winter Solstice Sun will no longer shine through the opening to illuminate the spiral carvings on the inner passage. And while they're about it they may as well initiate plans for a Visitors' Centre. Such is the likely future of New Grange.

Other sites under threat include the Merry Maidens in Cornwall - rumour has it that these stones are rapidly getting smaller since persons unknown have been chipping away large chunks; Longstone Circle, standing in isolation on the north west of Dartmoor has been under fire from the army - shells and pieces of broken stone are littered all around it; Sidbury Hill, one of seven hillforts encircling Quarley Hillfort in Wessex, is scarred by tank tracks and, like countless other old sites, remains out of bounds as army property; out of 640 round barrows on The Plains, an estimated 250 have been blasted by army shells; the Lunway on Crawley Down is threatened by oil wells - several tumuli and at least one long barrow have already gone. And meanwhile BR want to lay their rail links through old burial chambers in Kent.

It seems that even the French are following the British example. The stone rows at Carnac are systematically being ringed with iron railings, a project initiated by Uncle Sam who thought that tourists visiting Eurodisney might like to see the French monuments. Unfortunately Eurodisney, that "monstrosity of cardboard and wood based on an idiot mythology" is close enough to Carnac for the French to step up plans to turn it into a major tourist spot.

Many ancient sites appear to be on the 'doomed, desecrate, destroy' list but as the tribal spirit gathers strength and the dragon stirs, raising an eye, the crop circles continue to bemuse and give hope to the 'faithful'. Meanwhile, it saddens me to see so much of our ancient heritage sent into oblivion - more than that, I think it is deplorable that Cissbury, along with other Sacred places, is not protected by law. Unfortunately, last year's attempt at channelling the Guardians of Cissbury Ring (see

SC 34) did nothing to highlight the problem of its future demise when the road building programme gets underway and I would have thought this would have been their main concern. (Actually, the Guardians *did* refer to their fears about this, but this was not recorded in the article - Ed.) But perhaps the traditional Guardians of the Ring, the Serpents of folklore, will raise their hissing heads and call up

the tribes to Her defence, just as the Win-Tun Dragon awoke on Twyford Down. And maybe the Mayan Indians are right and the circles are indeed luring us back to Ancient Sites, Ancient Ways and Ancient Wisdom in order to wake us up to the desecration of our Sacred Land and lend our strength to the healing Dragon Spirit, the pulse of life that courses through Mother Earth. **DP**

Anyone who admits to meeting an ET at the age of nine must have something to say and Ed Sherwood certainly fits that category. At first he saw a point of light but it quickly developed into a "being with almond-shaped eyes". He met the ET twice more in his teens but then not again until he was 27. He now claims to see ETs and UFOs regularly from three miles to 30 feet away after receiving mental voices telling him where to go up to a week in advance. The UFOs usually turn up within five minutes of his arrival which it has to be said is far better than British Rail can manage.

- REPORTS -
TALES OF SHERWOOD
Ed Sherwood has been doing the lecture rounds recently, and stopped off at a CCCS Sussex branch meeting. **BARRY REYNOLDS** was there too...

During his encounters Ed has apparently had missing time experiences and been allowed on a craft during an out-of-body-experience. However, this was only allowed after he had "overcome fear". As if these claims aren't amazing enough, Ed also reports that he once saw an "ambler-gambler" or "orange plasma ball" as he likes to call them make a crop formation in front of ten other people. Any claim like this deserves further interrogation and over the Potters Arms later he confessed what had actually happened. The "orange plasma ball" descended, at some considerable distance from them, until it was lost from sight behind some trees. When they checked some time later they discovered a formation in the general area in which they deduced the "orange plasma ball" had gone. Now I'm not sure this actually constitutes "seeing" an "ambler-gambler" make a crop formation but maybe I'm getting fussy in my old age. Ed says that camera equipment and the like prevent an encounter experience taking place. *The intention to photograph actually blocks the craft appearing and doing its thing.* Instead, we need to

interact with them by meditation. He then went on to tell us how UFOs are appearing over Mexico to just about everyone at any time and that *many fine photographs and films have been obtained.*

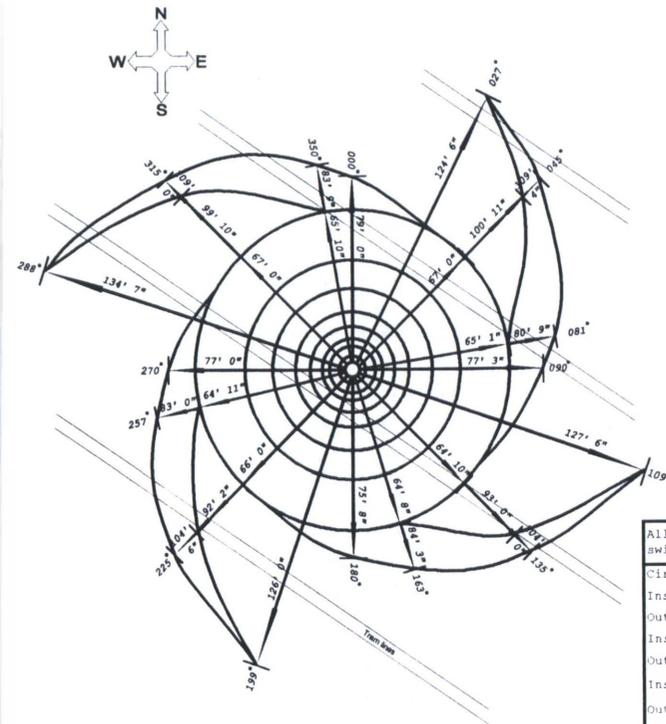
Ed then told us that he had managed to decode the Alton Barnes 1990 pictogram in East Field and that *no TV cameras would work* in this formation. Unfortunately he could not show us the exact meaning of it as he had left his diagrams at home. Luckily for me I was able to check some of his weather symbol interpretations by watching it on one of several video recordings I have of it. It has to be said that some parts of the pictogram bear an uncanny resemblance to international weather symbols, but as to whether they show the "cloud amount and type, temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction within the field itself both 12 hours before and 12 hours after the formation appeared" remains to be seen.

Ed also reckons that during his 10 years of circle research he has discovered that the circles' appearance is connected to sun-spot activity. 1990 was a high spot for sun-spots and so it was with the circles. He says that this 11-year cycle is also connected to UFO activity.

Ed has recently been helping Andy Collins with his orgone research. He doesn't concur with Andy's beliefs, yet had some success with telling Andy where to point his cameras. Several photographs were thus obtained showing strange blobs in the sky. Unfortunately he had left these at home as well. Ed will be continuing his meditations this summer in the Wiltshire valley to attract further UFOs and ETs. Anyone interested in taking part in one of these weekend sessions should contact Ed direct. **BR**

- FORMATION SURVEYS -
SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95:
2) ALFRISTON

Report by **BARRY REYNOLDS**



All distances from swirl centre	Average Diameter	
Circle	6' 4.8"	76.8"
Inside 1st Ring	11' 9.0"	141.0"
Outside 1st Ring	19' 3.0"	231.0"
Inside 2nd Ring	25' 3.3"	303.3"
Outside 2nd Ring	34' 10.5"	418.5"
Inside 3rd Ring	47' 1.3"	565.3"
Outside 3rd Ring	66' 1.0"	793.0"
Inside 4th Ring	89' 9.0"	1077.0"
Outside 4th Ring	132' 5.0"	1589.0"

All distances from swirl centre	Radius							
	000	045	090	135	180	225	270	315
Circle	3' 5"	3' 1"	3' 1"	3' 4"	3' 1"	3' 3"	3' 2"	3' 2"
Inside 1st Ring	5' 9"	5' 10"	5' 10"	5' 11"	5' 8"	5' 9"	6' 1"	6' 2"
Outside 1st Ring	9' 9"	9' 7"	9' 8"	9' 6"	9' 4"	9' 7"	9' 11"	9' 8"
Inside 2nd Ring	12' 11"	12' 8"	12' 8"	12' 6"	12' 4"	12' 3"	12' 11"	12' 10"
Outside 2nd Ring	17' 10"	17' 8"	17' 6"	17' 4"	17' 3"	17' 3"	17' 4"	17' 4"
Inside 3rd Ring	23' 9"	23' 7"	23' 6"	23' 4"	23' 5"	23' 5"	23' 7"	23' 10"
Outside 3rd Ring	33' 7"	33' 1"	32' 10"	32' 8"	32' 9"	32' 10"	33' 1"	33' 6"
Inside 4th Ring	45' 8"	45' 2"	44' 9"	44' 7"	44' 3"	44' 5"	44' 7"	45' 7"

Ref: Sussex 1995/02
Date of Appearance: 31st May 1995
Description: Quadruple-ringed circle with four galaxy arms
Crop: Seed Barley (varying in height between 26" and 36")
All crop was laid anticlockwise
Location: Alfriston, East Sussex
O.S. Map No: 199
Grid Ref: TQ 5270 0330
Surveyed by: Barry Reynolds, Martin Noakes, Karen Douglas and Andy Thomas, Thursday 1st June 1995.

SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS

For those unaware, although a publication which covers crop circle events everywhere, SC is produced by members of CCCS Sussex, whose task it is to investigate and survey all crop formations which appear in the counties of East and West Sussex in England. SC can never hope to include full surveys of all the many formations across the country so it is continuing its tradition of featuring detailed reports of the formations on its own doorstep. Reading these are a useful exercise for all readers, however remote from Sussex, because surveys of any formations in this amount of detail are very hard to come by. We hope that these on-the-spot and in-depth reports give a good idea of the nature of the circle phenomenon across-the-board and all the many facets involved, such as important geometries and correlations, which often go unreported with the simplified news of major formations elsewhere.

First seen on Wednesday 31st May 1995 by a neighbour. First reported to CCCS Sussex independently by Chris Mansell and the *Sussex Express* newspaper on Wednesday 31st May 1995.

All crop was laid anticlockwise even though the formation represented an object apparently spinning clockwise. The formation was clearly visible on the hillside from several country lanes to the north of Alfriston with the River Cuckmere below it to the west only 380 yards (350m) away. It was again within sight of the A27 (just over one mile - 1.8km - to the north) with the South Downs Way actually bordering the field it was in (140 yards - 125m to the north). The Long Man of Wilmington chalk hill figure was 1 mile (1.6 km) to the east with the High and Over chalk hill horse actually visible from the formation itself 1.75 miles (2.8km) to the south-west.

The formation was 4.5 miles - 7.2km - as the crow flies from Debbie Pardoe and Nigel Tomsett's house (SC subscriptions address) which was handy as it saved them having to travel far to do their dawn electrostatic EVM readings! As Nigel Tomsett discovered, to accurately plot the location of the formation, draw a line from Berwick Church (grid ref. TQ518049 just over 1 mile - 1800m - to the northwest) to Lullington Church (grid ref. TQ528030 300 yards - 275m - to the southeast) and a second line from Wilmington Church (grid ref. TQ544043 1.25 miles - 2km - to the northeast) to Alfriston Church (grid ref. TQ521030 680 yards - 625m - to the southwest). The formation sits exactly on the point where the two lines cross.

The formation contained several interesting features; Chris Mansell was the first to visit, but not enter, the formation the afternoon after it appeared (ie. within 12-15 hours of it forming). Even at this early stage the crop was not pressed flat to the floor, it was as though it had been lightly pushed down and there were many completely standing stems. Even though young barley recovers quickly it does not recover that fast. Five days later the vast majority of the crop had recovered to within 50% of its original height thus enabling the farmer to lose no

crop at harvest (the farmer's wife had estimated that the formation covered half an acre which represented a loss of some £300 - £400).

There were two sets of tramlines passing through the main body of the formation and all of the way along both these sets a standing curtain of crop existed on the opposite side of the tramline compared to the direction of flow. The anticlockwise flow appeared to have dissipated down the tramlines (like water following the path of least resistance along a channel) leaving a very thin curtain effect a few inches wide. The next area of crop was then firmly flattened to the ground with the flattening lessening with the distance from the tramline until after 12-15 inches the crop was pressed only lightly like the rest of the formation. This occurred along the entire length of all wheel marks across the whole formation.

The points on the outer ring where the Arms abruptly left the main formation were the only places where a change in flow direction took place. Although all the crop was laid anticlockwise, including the Arms, it was at these points where the crop had to decide whether it was going to be part of the Fourth Ring or part of the Arm. Some of the crop had obviously not made its mind up until it was too late and was pulled from the Fourth Ring towards the Arm. Other crop started to travel towards the Arm and then changed direction to go into the Fourth Ring instead. The crop involved in this was bent many times AT THE NODES and eventually flowed beautifully with the rest of the crop. These nodes were VISIBLY swollen when compared to control samples.

Unlike the rest of the formation, the Central Circle contained no standing stems. Here much of the crop had been shredded inbetween two of the nodes. There appeared to be a complete lack of moisture in this part of the plant.

The width of the Second Ring was determined by the distance between the wheels of the tractor!

The inner and outer edges of the Arms were formed from one single ellipse sweeping from the tip of the

Arm in to the point where the Arm left the Fourth Ring. It is important to note that these curves were not arcs (sections of a circle) but ellipses (sections of a parabola ie. an egg-shape). The point at which the outer edge of the Arms left the Fourth Ring was not discernible from the ground and was only identified from Mike Hubbard's aerial photograph.

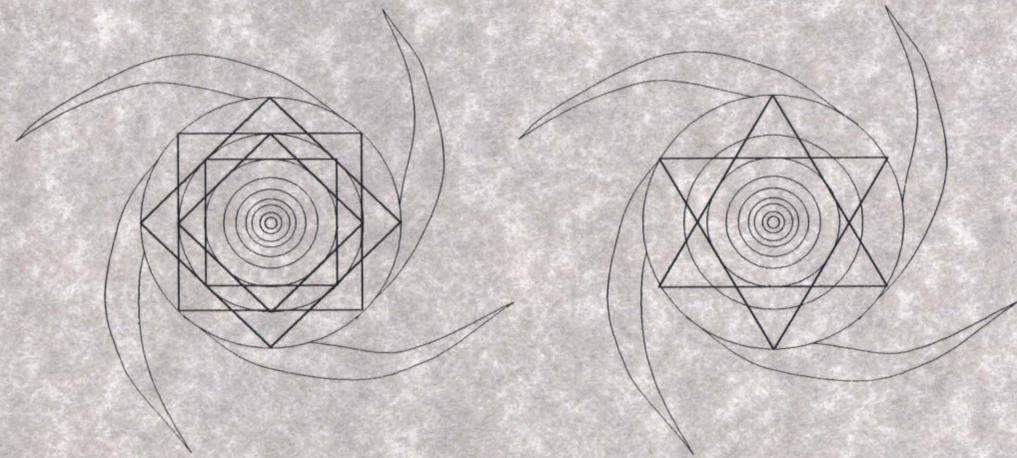
Chris Mansell was discovered in the formation (once permission had been gained from the farmer) by the police on Thursday 1st June who thought they had caught him actually making it! As the police were leaving, Meridian TV arrived and started filming, apparently without permission. Some footage was broadcast on the local news that night stating where the formation was without having first consulted the farmer.

On Monday 5th June, Barry Reynolds spent five hours filming in and around the formation with a camera crew for Anglia Television's *Magic and Mystery Show*. The presenter, Lynn Picknett, a well-known paranormal researcher, author and lecturer, was initially sceptical about crop formations but like the rest of the camera crew was soon convinced otherwise. Before they entered the formation Barry warned the camera crew of the possibility of equipment failure as this has been reported many times from previous formations. The crew were sufficiently concerned to do considerable filming outside of the formation first. Later on the camera crew left Barry and Lynn alone in the formation to film from the other side of the valley.

They left them with a mobile telephone and said they would call with filming directions. The first two telephone calls came through with no problems at all. The third did not connect. Barry checked the mobile telephone which now showed no signs of life. He presumed that the batteries were now completely drained. A car appeared across the valley flashing its headlights, so Barry and Lynn left the formation. When they eventually reached the car Barry handed the telephone to Chris Ratcliffe, the programme researcher, who checked it. The telephone was now functioning correctly!

During filming, Barry was accompanied by his wife, Linda, and two children Mark, aged 8, and Peter, aged 5, who were still on half-term holiday. The boys spent almost three hours in the formation most of which was spent in the Central Circle. They spent the whole time extremely quiet and subdued which is unusual for them! Afterwards, both Barry and Linda complained of feeling unduly tired. The next morning Peter slept in until 09:00 which is the latest he has ever slept. He has rarely slept in beyond 08:00 before. Andy Thomas and Jason Porthouse entered the formation the day after it appeared and both also felt an abnormal drain and exhaustion of energy after only an hour inside it.

The geometries appear to be predominantly eight-fold, whereas Southease's (see last issue) were mainly six-fold. However, they both share some interesting properties, but more about that later... BR



ABOVE: *Extracted geometries*

Comography

with Michael Glickson

I have been called a fanatical cultist, a zealot and similar mind-concentrating epithets because I find it hard to believe in hoaxes. Call me old fashioned, I just can't stretch my stolid, conservative mind around these new ideas. My grandmother could not explain them and what was good enough for her is certainly not going to be challenged by me.

These revolutionary ideas are distasteful and, above all, dangerous. Just looking at the unappetising individuals who support these millennial notions - man-made indeed! - should be enough. Who would choose to belong to a team like that?

However, I must admit my faith was shaken earlier this year. I was lecturing in New York and CNN wanted to film the lecture and interview me and the audience. The reporter, Jean Moos, seeking background information, accessed the CNN news database (which one might imagine is reasonably comprehensive) only to find that, on the subject of crop circles, it had been severely edited, indeed scorched down. There were only two items left in the database - both about Doug & Dave. Now who in the world has the power to edit the CNN database and whyever would they want to?

Even I, bigot and fundamentalist that I am, thought for a moment that this might be evidence of a larger, high-level, orchestrated conspiracy. Thank goodness reason prevailed! The scorching of the database must have been a simple computer error. Of course. We can all go back to sleep.

The long-awaited John Martineau book-launch was a wonderful event. Croppies came in from great distances. The Dreads and Ed Sherwood from Wiltshire, Peter Sorenson from San Diego, Lucy Pringle from Petersfield, Stanley Messenger from Stroud, Roland Pargeter from Glastonbury and Paul Vigay from Southsea. The London contingent included John Michell, David Percy and Chairman for Life, Michael Green. Needless to say, our revered editor was also there in a questionable waistcoat-like confection (*you're fired* - Ed). The cream of the croppies! I am sure that I have missed

names of real eminence! I apologise.

The point of this enterprise *A Book of Coincidence* is the culmination of the last two years of John's geometric work into the inherent order of the Solar System. It is a prodigious and, I suspect, a historically important book, breathtaking in its scholarship. The debt to the crop circles is both evident and acknowledged. At £10 a shot it's the best deal in town. We must all own at least one.

It is my view that John's work has produced the most accessible and confirmatory research we have. One of the most interesting aspects is the widespread take-up of geometric analysis. In the last issue of *SC*, the Southeast circle and rings were geometrically analysed using the methods pioneered by John and it is now absolutely standard procedure that formations are checked this way.

There is a logic to this. Insofar as the crop circles could be said to have opened a conversation with us, it is a conversation in formal, geometric and mathematical terms. It is hardly surprising then that it responds so elegantly to formal and geometrical analysis.

Someone once called the human race "Information Harvesters". As poetic and charming as this phrase is, it leaves me with certain reservations. I guess the idea must have been conceived well before the electronic explosion; now, with the benefit of hindsight, we see how limited this idea might be. Would it not be better to belong to a race of "Wisdom Harvesters"?

I raise this because I see that, in crop circle circles, we seem unable to see the difference. If as many of us now accept, the phenomenon is drawing us towards something, I hope it will be wisdom rather than information.

The much-vaunted "scientific breakthrough", should it materialise, will be information rich and wisdom bankrupt.

Meanwhile, despite the reservations, it appears to me to be a very good start to the 1995 season. This is written at the end of June and we have already had the Nine Coil Spiral at Cherhill, the Quintuplet of Quintuplets at Cheesefoot Head and the beautiful Asteroid belt at Alresford.

This is the kind of material we usually expect in July or August. Are we having a whizz-bang year or what? *MG*