



**SG**

**THE MONTHLY  
MAGAZINE OF  
CROP CIRCLES  
AND BEYOND**

**46**

**NOVEMBER 1995**

**£1.00**

**More  
1995  
Formations**

**CCCS  
In Peril?**

**Alien Autopsy:  
The Controversy  
Continues**

**Stop-Watch  
Anomalies In  
Crop Formations**

"Circular symbols have played an important role in every age; in our own sphere of culture, for instance, they were not only soul symbols but 'God-images'. There is an old saying that 'God is a circle whose centre is everywhere and the circumference nowhere'" CARL JUNG

Those who attended the *Sussex Cereological Bonanza* back in April, will be thrilled to see it, er, immortalised, albeit in a tiny way, in a new book just released by Meridian Television, celebrating a year in the life of their news programme *Meridian Tonight*. Entitled, imaginatively, *Meridian Tonight*, the book contains a week by week rundown of items featured, and the *Bonanza* gets a mention with the words "More than 100 'croppies' gathered at Burgess Hill determined to establish that the designs are not all hoaxes". Actually, I didn't think we needed to establish that anymore, but anyway it's nice of them to remember us from their on-the-spot news report at the time. The book is published by Froglet Publications and costs £9.95. Alternatively, sneak into your local bookshop with a pair of scissors and just cut the relevant bit (page 60) out for your scrapbook. (Just joking.) Meanwhile, the *Bonanza* video will finally be out next month. A flyer will accompany the next issue.

This month we present yet more photographs of this year's crop formations. **SC** has printed more photographs of formations this year than any other circles journal... Now there's a sobering thought, and one which should have you spreading the word of **SC** to all and sundry. Next to *The Circular* (but possibly not for long, given the current disarray with the CCCS membership database, which seems to have lost track of who is a member and who isn't) we now have the largest regular subscription base of any circles publication. So if you have an article or photograph you would like to share with other croppies, **SC** is the place to do it. Contributions to the editorial address please.

Incidentally, on the subject of main CCCS, we have so far held back from reporting any of the current shenanigans (see page 8). However, we would be doing our readers a disservice not to convey recent developments, but have tried to be as fair as possible. For the record, **SC** believes CCCS still has the potential to be a worthwhile organisation and is not going to take sides in any of the current mud-slinging. Readers in Sussex will be happy to hear that CCCS Sussex (which produces **SC**) is as alive and well as ever.

ANDY THOMAS



The Monthly Magazine of  
Crop Circles and Beyond

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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  
Willingdon Trees  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN22 0UJ

Tel: 01323 520054

Front cover: Avebury Avenue, Wiltshire,  
July 1995. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

THAT FILM. I must admit that I was ready to say, along with most of the reports I've read - it's a fake; has to be a fake. Can't be anything else. After attending 'The 8th Bufora International UFO Congress: Examining the Evidence' on 19th/20th August at Sheffield Hallam University, I came out saying, wellll... maybe it's not. Given certain provisos, and they're important ones, I think it may actually be genuine.

The autopsy was done in a small white room, presumably in a hospital, with a window at the head of the operating table through which could be seen a man in a white overall, head-covering and mask. There were two 'surgeons' or whatever. I'll assume that you have seen newspaper and television pictures of the alien and apart from saying that if the body was

a fake it was an excellent one, I will only mention that the most interesting point was that not only did it have no breasts but there appeared to be no nipples and in particular, no navel.

The surgeons, who were completely covered including the head, spent a long time apparently discussing (as well as being in black and white, it was also silent) how and where to cut. Then they proceeded. They cut open the body and removed certain organs which they then put into a glass and later a metal bowl. After this, they cut (sawed!) open the skull and apparently removed the brain which looked very smooth. This autopsy went on for some time. Then there was a blank and a cut to the inside of what appeared to be a tent with little lighting. Debris was shown with labels attached. On one label I did notice that the figure 2 was written as it usually was in the 1940s - looped and curly. Bars (I think they're called 'I' bars) were shown with hieroglyphics on them and I must admit that, once pointed out, I suppose you could turn some of the signs into the word V-I-D-E-O. There were also pieces of metal impressed with six-fingered hand prints which Ray Santilli later said were possibly for literally 'hands-on' control of the craft.

And that was that. No President Truman. No debris field. Ray Santilli said in reply to a question that there was another autopsy but it was more of the same; I personally would have liked to have seen the second autopsy, just to confirm that there

were, in fact, two aliens and not one. I came away from the film still feeling that it was a fake, and I was surprised to find, listening to the general talk that evening, that views were definitely mixed and that some of the audience were apparently willing to consider it further. Next day, we all had a chance to do so.

On the Sunday, Michael Hesemann from Germany, who has been assisting Ray Santilli since

January '95, gave a critique of the film and I must admit that gradually my view changed. He presented most of the objections to the film which I had heard and thought of myself and - I believe - made a good job of demolishing them. I think we all know by now that Santilli went to America a couple of years ago to find footage of Elvis Presley (his

company sells 'permission to use', I gather) and was told by the man he bought this footage from that he had something more interesting - film of autopsies on aliens, etc. Santilli was shown the man's US Army discharge papers, other forms which indicated he had been an intelligence photographer with the Army, his diaries and so on; he also stayed with the family for a few days, talked to other family members and decided that this was a genuine offer. However, the man - whose initials are JB but the name is not 'Barnet' - insisted on anonymity and on having the price of the film (undisclosed) in cash. I had known that there had been rumours of this film for a couple of years and I had thought it rather suspicious that nothing definite had emerged until the beginning of this year but apparently Santilli had found it difficult to raise cash and it wasn't until the end of last year that he was able to bring the film back to England. That's understandable - who's going to give a vast amount of cash to someone on the understanding that this person hasn't got the goodies yet but he will - honestly! - bring them back after his plane trip out of the country!

Hesemann dealt with the objections that the coil on the telephone and the clock on the wall were anachronistic by saying that after investigations it had been found that both had been available in the late 1930s. The objection that the surgeon took the black eye-coverings off too quickly was countered by his stating that this was most probably the second autopsy, the first seeming to be done in a

- REPORTS -

## BUSIER BODIES

The infamous 'alien autopsy'  
film continues to cause  
controversy, but SONYA  
PORTER is less sceptical...

tent. Which brings me to the two objections that, firstly the alien doesn't look like the aliens reported at the scene of the second crash near Roswell in July 1947 and secondly, that if alien physiology is anything similar to our own, the autopsy must have been done within two hours of death and the aliens at the second Roswell crash had apparently been dead for some five days when found. According to Hesemann, there had also been a crash at Whitesands/Magdalena on 14th June which is, I believe, the date on the canisters. Understandably, JB doesn't know which crash was involved, only that they were aliens and debris from a crash. (Incidentally, I found it interesting that in the Channel 4 programme about Roswell on 28.8.95, a drawing by one of the witnesses of an alien he had seen at the crash site there, did resemble the body being autopsied.) Hesemann also said that wherever the crash was, the UFO had landed on its back but was fairly complete which would counter the objection that the wound on the alien's leg was not consistent with wounds received in a fall from a height.

It has been said that the name 'Dr Bronk' appeared legibly on a note-pad (although I didn't see it) and that Dr Bronk would have been an odd choice for an autopsy surgeon. Hesemann pointed out, however, that Truman had already convened the Majestic 12 group (has the 'Majic' theory been disproved or not?) and that as Dr Bronk was one of the team, had numerous medical or medical-type qualifications including one in Zoology, this would have made him eminently suitable for the job, although he may not have actually done an autopsy before and so did not do it in the approved manner.

As to the photographer, JB, he had been a freelance photographer before the Second World War, had been drafted into the photographic department of the Army and then into the Intelligence Service and therefore he, too, was suitable for the job. The quality of the photography has been severely criticised but it has to be remembered that the photographer, too, was inside the all-enveloping suit, complete with rubber gloves which would obviously have made the work difficult; also, the camera was not fitted with a zoom lens (were they available then?) so it is not surprising that the shots became fuzzy when the camera went in close. As to the film itself, Hesemann said that according to the coding, Kodak had confirmed that it would have come from either the 1947 or 1967 stock and that it would have to have been used within three years or

it would have, so to speak, gone off. This is a very important point, if correct, as it means that the film could not have been shot later than 1970. So, if the film is a fake there are a number of problems. If it were made at the latest date and shot privately for money, why keep it so long? Surely the people who made it would have wanted their cut long before now. If on the other hand, it is US Government disinformation, again - why keep it so long? There have been many good opportunities to use it over the years and by now most of the film is apparently unviewable (including, so Santilli said, the shot of Truman walking around the debris field): what a lot of work gone to waste! On the other hand, if it were made in 1947-50 not only do the same objections apply but there is the additional query as to whether it would have been possible to make such an excellent dummy at a date when plastics were only just coming into use.

And here we come to the appalling objection that the body was just that - the body of a deformed human, probably female. The idea that anyone, either for private gain or Government disinformation, could butcher a human body is horrific but has to be confronted. That is why I feel it is so important to verify that there were in fact, two bodies and two autopsies. While I can (just) believe that twins could be born with identical deformations, I cannot believe that two identical, deformed, twins could die at the same time and I cannot make myself believe that even a Government would murder such people in the vague hope that a disinformation film made of their butchering might prove useful sometime in the future.

The next objection is - just how did JB get hold of the film and why did he keep it so long? Apparently, having shot the film he then developed it and sent most of it by special plane to Washington. The rest he kept to improve the quality and in spite of several requests, the Army never returned to collect it. This could have been, Hesemann said, because just at that point the US Army was splitting into Army/Airforce and in the ensuing muddle each force thought the other had collected it. Possible, knowing the military! Why keep the film so long before selling it? JB said he was keeping it until he needed the money and since he was now 82 and not in the best of health and also needed the money for a family wedding, now seemed the time. Again, possible. Hesemann didn't mention the final objection to the film that I have heard of, that of it being just a clip from an old B film. In my opinion,

that's definitely out since it is not of cinema quality - it is too drawn out, too blurred and obviously filmed with a hand-held camera.

So, now for the provisos. IF Kodak confirm that this film is from 1947 stock and IF they also confirm that film 'goes off' after three years so that the latest it could have been shot is 1970; IF there is definitely

The following concerns strange effects on stop-watches at the crop formation at Winterbourne Bassett (three squares within a ring: see photo last issue - Ed) over a period of three nights. It was decided that we would carry out the experiment at approximately 1.00am on the 25th July 1995. We had heard from various people that the farmer was not too keen on people entering the field, so this seemed a better time to carry out the experiment. Before setting off from the camp site at The Barge Inn, my brother Paul went back inside his tent to fetch his jacket. As he picked up his jacket a bright flash occurred from beneath where it had been lying.

Paul described the flash being as bright as a camera flash but without the dazzling effect; he is certain it did not come from a flashlight. In previous trips, we have both experienced similar flashes of light and have heard that other people have seen these flashes.

We left the camp site at 12.30am, arriving at the formation at 1.00am. We set both stop-watches and placed one of them in the boot of the car. We then entered the formation. After about twenty minutes, our friend Simon Martin's mobile phone beeped twice. A few seconds later the stop-watch in his top pocket beeped. We remained in the formation for a further half an hour and then went back to the car.

On examining the two stop-watches we found that the one we had taken into the field with us had gained thirty-one minutes on the other one. We decided that we would repeat the experiment the following night. This time Simon remained at the camp site.

We set both stop-watches at the camp site and videoed them both running together. We left one watch with Simon and set off for the formation at Winterbourne Bassett, arriving there at 1.10am on

a second alien and a second *viewable* autopsy (Philip Mantle tells me that he and his wife have seen "two separate autopsies on two different, although similar, creatures") then I'll stick my neck out and say I think it's genuine.

Unless anyone can convince me otherwise! SP

26th July. We entered the formation and after twenty minutes I made a request to the circle makers to alter the stop watch once again. We returned to the camp site at approximately 2.30am, woke Simon up and checked the watches. To our amazement we found that the watch we had taken with us into the field was running twenty-one minutes faster than the other one.

We then decided to video the watches. I got the video camera from the boot of the car, Simon held a light above the watches and I was just about to start filming when my brother Paul said "You're not going to believe this". The stop-watch that was running faster had suddenly gone back and matched the time of the other watch to the second.

We all stood in total disbelief at what had just happened. I decided we had to check the watches out and even though they were both new, we reset both and checked them at 10.00am. Both watches were running in time to the second. We decided that one more test should be done, this time with two other witnesses.

We carried out the same test again at 1.00am, 27th July, with two other friends present. This time the watch we took into the formation had gone back by four minutes, but nevertheless we are certain something very strange was happening. We came to the conclusion that somehow something had altered the watches as requested on one occasion and then altered it back. When returning back to the camp site, something had come with us from the formation a distance of fourteen miles and returned to play, if you like, a bizarre trick.

I would like to point out that the stop-watches used were Avia digital watches and were checked out four more times to prove they were working okay.

DC

- REPORTS -

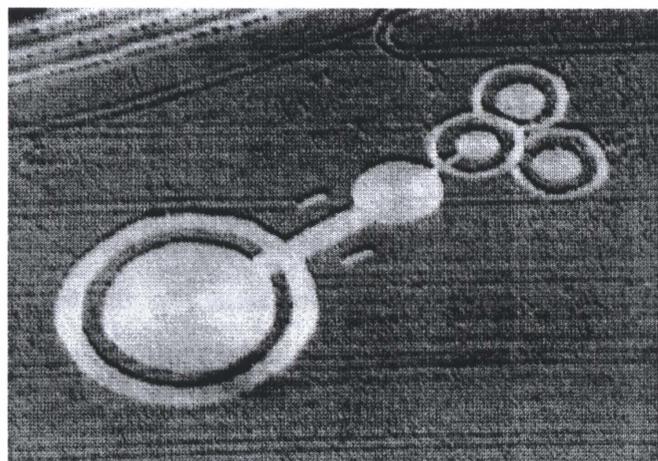
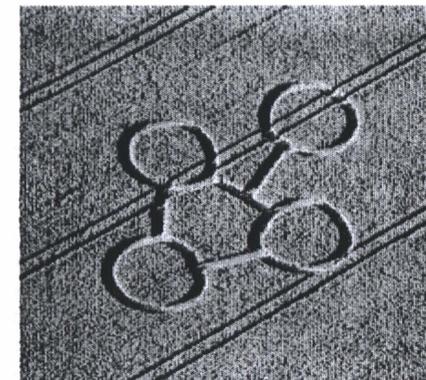
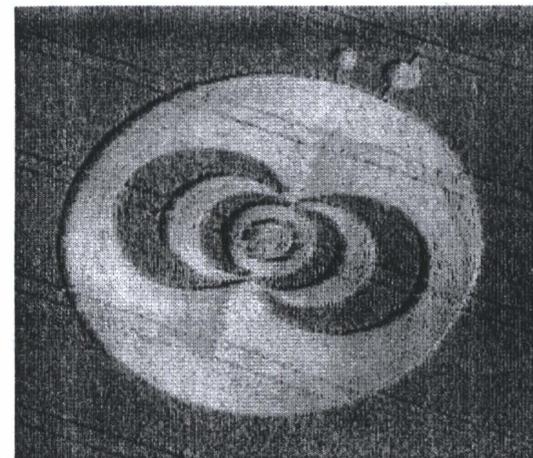
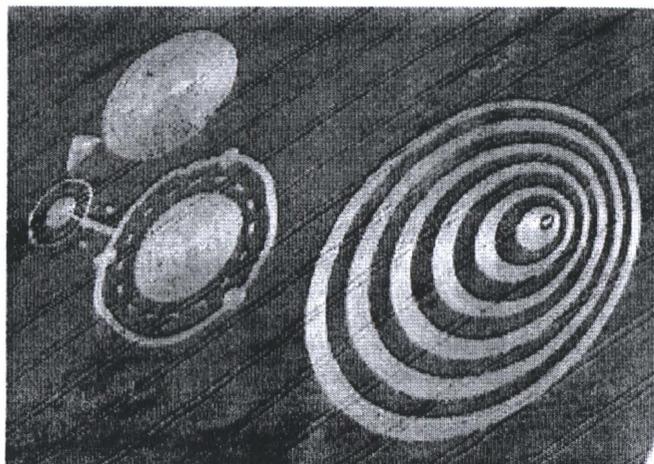
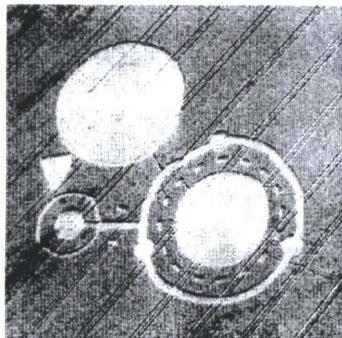
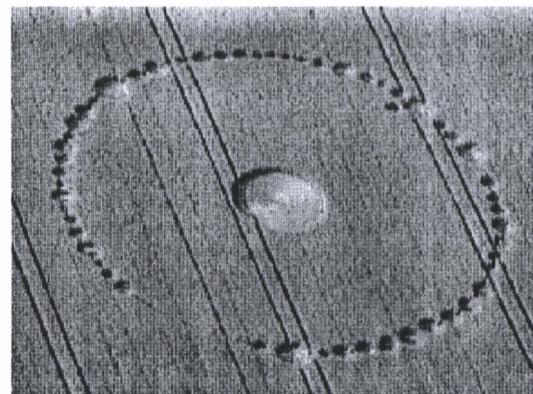
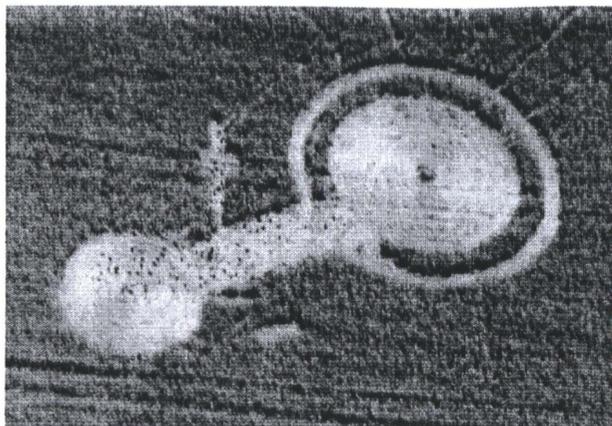
## STOP-WATCH CROP-WATCH

Out in the dark fields of  
Wiltshire, DEREK CARVELL  
experiences some strange effects  
with stop-watches, mobile  
phones and flashes of light...

# THE SUSSEX 1995 CIRCLE SEASON (PART 2)

A second collection of photographs taken from the many formations which appeared in Sussex in 1995.

Photographs by **ANDY THOMAS**, except the close-up Cissbury additions, which is by **MICHAEL HUBBARD**.



# THE 1995 CIRCLE SEASON

A fifth collection of photographs from the summer of 1995... Don't forget, if you have any of your own photographs of formations not yet featured that you would like to see in *SC*, please send them in to the editorial address for our consideration. Photos must be clear and have good contrast between dark and light.

Photographs by **STEVE ALEXANDER**

**TOP:** Shoreham, main dumbbell

**MIDDLE:** Cissbury Ring, with later additions

**BELOW:** Upper Beeding

**ABOVE LEFT:** Cissbury additions in close-up

**TOP:** Andover, Hampshire

**MIDDLE:** Exton, Hampshire

**BELOW:** Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Avebury Avenue, Wiltshire

Regional branches aside, many of which function perfectly well on their own, the central body of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies has never been the most harmonious of organisations, perhaps because at its core there is no ultimate agreement over what is actually behind the phenomenon the group was set up to research. Some prominent members can't even seem to agree that there is a genuine phenomenon at all. Unlike, say, the Campaign for Real Ale, which has a fixed and united purpose, CCCS has an uncertain identity about what its true role is. Perhaps because of this, it seems very prone to personal squabbles and infighting, all of which it has managed to survive so far. Even so, things have come to a head somewhat in recent months.

The flashpoint came this summer when Lucy Pringle, after having aired several grievances, either resigned her post as Hampshire branch convenor or was removed, depending on who you listen to. A stream of volatile accusation and denial consequently went back and forth between members of the CCCS Council, covering such subjects as to whether Barbara Davies was coerced into resigning as editor of *The Circular*, the potential misappropriation of funds, misuse of Council authority, objections to alleged secret meetings being held, that sort of thing. Where the truth lies in all this is debatable and irrelevant. What it has done is stir up questions about the validity of the organisation in its current state and what it stands for, ie. does its current structure perform enough of a role to justify its existence?

Certainly, there are a few problems to be sorted out; Council membership and meeting attendance has dropped sharply, as have the general membership numbers (also, Pat Palgrave-Moore recently resigned as membership secretary); funds are at an all time low for varying reasons and there is a general lack of confidence in the CCCS's abilities from both members and outsiders alike. On the other hand, despite all the trauma, some good results have been achieved: The Andover Conference, although modest in numbers of attenders, was a success, postcards have again been produced, with another calendar in the offing; another string of the excellent London Winter

Lectures has been put together and work with the Ministry of Agriculture's ADAS has borne some fruit, although firm results are awaited.

An unofficial meeting was organised, largely by dissenters, and held at Alton Barnes on October 15th to discuss the future of the organisation and who should control it. Chaired by John Haddington, patron of the organisation, who, together with president Archie Roy has voiced his own concerns

about the structure and state of CCCS, about 27 people attended, less than expected. The meeting was civil and remarkably restrained; views were expressed and letters read out from those who wished to make their feelings known. Predictions of announcements about the formation of new rival organisations by

dissidents didn't come to pass, although such fragmentary actions still threaten.

The one firm decision that was reached by the meeting was that an Extraordinary General Meeting should be held as a matter of urgency to clear the air once and for all: only such an official meeting could carry any weight in influencing any kind of change within CCCS. A date in December is expected to be announced.

One point which has been raised on several occasions by those less concerned with power struggles is; does any of this actually matter? It has been remarked that there are local research groups out there (mostly CCCS branches) doing exemplary work in the fields and liaising very well thank you with other active groups, who will continue to do so with or without a central governing body. Those who share this opinion believe CCCS works best as an information exchange network and that it should accept this role instead of trying to exert influence and win public credibility. Up against such struggles from within and indifference from without, those 'in power' and those who wish to be have a substantial task ahead in justifying their worth to the paid-up - and the many currently non-paid-up - members as controllers of a national organisation with a practical role to play. A few white flags may need to be waved before too long from certain quarters. Crop circles, meanwhile, will continue to appear in the fields, oblivious to such weighty distractions. **AT**

- NEWS -

## DISHARMONIC CONVERGENCE

All is not well within the ranks of main CCCS; revolution is in the air, although there's hope for the empire yet. **ANDY THOMAS** examines an organisation on trial...

Another in our occasional round-ups of crop circle merchandise currently available, and upcoming events...

One thing people regularly contact **SC** for is how to get hold of good colour crop circle photographs. At least two sources have produced sets of postcards this year: The CCCS has issued two lots, each packet containing eight different photographs of various 1995 formations, generally from the earlier part of the season. For those in the UK, these cost £3.50 per set (inc p&p), cheques payable to 'CCCS'. The overseas price per set is £4.00. These can be obtained from **Ray Cox, 4 Lulworth Close, Halesowen, B63 2UJ**.

Alternatively, Lucy Pringle has produced her own 'postcards', which are available for the same price as the above and also come in two sets (eight in each). Some of the formations included replicate the CCCS choice but Lucy's also feature the later part of the 1995 season as well as the 1994 Avebury Web and the 1993 Bythorn Mandala thrown in for good measure. These can be obtained from: **Lucy Pringle, 5 Town Lane, Sheet, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 2AF**, cheques payable to Lucy.

Various factions (see article this issue) will probably lobby you to buy only one or the other, but you can make your own minds up, or purchase both and keep everyone happy.

If you don't fancy having a whole set of pictures however, and just want photos of individual formations, both Steve Alexander and Michael Hubbard, whose excellent pictures have been extensively featured in **SC**, have original photographs available on request. Contact **Steve Alexander, 27 St Francis Road, Alverstoke, Gosport, PO12 2UG (tel: 01342 322854)** or **Michael Hubbard, Burts Cottage, Donkey Lane, Horley, RH6 9SZ (tel: 01293 775829)**. Steve and Michael have superb photographs of many, if not most, of this year's major formations between them. Michael has, in particular, aerial shots of most of this year's Sussex formations.

More photographs are also included in the forthcoming CCCS *Crop Circle Calendar 1996*, a project which last year was such a success. Word has it that this year features less formations than before, for reasons we shall explore when we review it, but

its quality should be as good as its predecessor. These cost £7.50 each, plus £1.00 for p&p UK or £2.00 overseas. "Buy 10 and get an extra calendar free!" assures the promotional blurb. Cheques again payable to CCCS. Orders should be sent to Ray Cox's address as above for the CCCS postcards. There is - as yet - no other circle calendar.

As far as crop circle events go, the CCCS has set out its programme for the quite excellent London Winter Lecture series, which was hugely successful last year. Held at **The Friends' International Centre, 1 Byng Place, London WC1** from 7.00pm to 10.00pm on the first Thursday of every month, six circle researchers have been arranged to speak in the warm, friendly atmosphere of the

Friends Centre over the dark months: **Steve Alexander & Karen Douglas** Nov 2nd; **Carol Cochrane** Dec 7th; **Jim Lyons** Jan 4th; **Andy Thomas** (yep, that's me!) Feb 1st; **John Sayer** Mar 7th. A flyer giving full details should be included with this issue of **SC**. Entrance is £4.00 for CCCS members, £5.00 for everyone else. The meetings will this year be chaired by Michael Green. I can't recommend these evenings enough to anyone living in the South East wanting to get out of the house on a gloomy winter's night, to be reminded of the magic happening in the fields in the brighter summer months. The venue is cozy (usually about 60 or so attend) and the vibe always sociable. Tea and biccies are served half time for the price of your ticket. What more could you want?

For those *really* wanting to think ahead, however, CCCS has announced its next two-day conference to be held on **20th-21st July 1996**, again at the **Cricklade Theatre, Andover**. Hopefully, this early announcement ordains *lots* of pre-publicity this time, well in advance. With that, the event may well be a 'happening joint'.

Lastly, for now, computer-buffs on the Internet can now tap into specific crop circle pages, entitled *Crop Circle Connector*, initiated by Mark Fussell and Stuart Dike. These pages include as much up to date circle information as can be crammed on, with lots of plugs for various circle publications and merchandise. These pages can be accessed with the following code: at **http://www.hub.co.uk/intercafe/cropcircle/connector.html** Surf that Net! **AT**

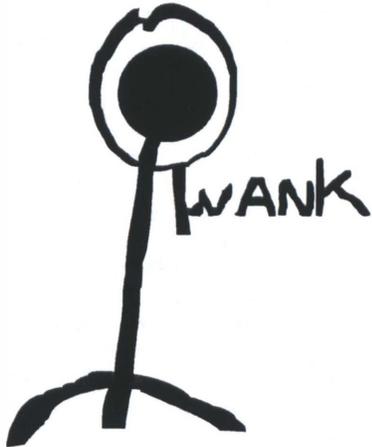
- FREE PLUGS -

## CROP SHOP

**ANDY THOMAS** rounds up the latest wares & events...

- FORMATION SURVEYS -  
**SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95:**  
**7) SALTDEAN**

Report by ANDY THOMAS



Ref: Sussex 1995/07  
 Date of Appearance: 1st/2nd July 1995  
 Description: Single circle with probable man-made additions  
 Crop: Wheat  
 Crop was laid anticlockwise  
 Location: Saltdean, East Sussex  
 O.S. Map No: 198  
 Grid Ref: 388 028  
 Surveyed by: Andy Thomas

Single circle 30ft diameter approximately, other measurements unknown.

Saltdean is really a large housing estate which sits in the valley between Rottingdean and Peacehaven, and cropfields surround it on the downs overlooking the area. During a conversation with a friend about crop circles on 7th July, Kim Besly was told of one which could be seen widely from the Saltdean estate, which had appeared on the 1st or 2nd July the previous weekend. Further investigation by Andy Thomas led to its discovery on the east side of the downs above a sharp grassy cliff. The best view to be had was by ascending the steep road on the west side of Saltdean and looking back across the valley, which revealed a ringed single circle with a long path below it and some kind of lettering to the right.

Closer inspection revealed the formation to be a neat single circle, flowed anticlockwise, which appeared to

have had several crude additions put on to it afterwards. The path below it, which split off into three, looked like some kind of attempt to turn the circle into the head of a stick figure, the ring had also apparently been added, and the unidentified word turned out to be "WANK" (a rude word meaning 'to masturbate' for any innocents out there). Michael Hubbard's aerial photography helped clarify this! All these additions were very crudely constructed and the lay was extremely messy and bore no relation to the quality of the actual circle itself, which was neatly spiralled and layered in the time-honoured way. Consensus (in the absence of any hard information): The single circle was 'genuine' and local youths, spotting it from the estate, went up and added their own 'artwork' later. **AT**

SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS

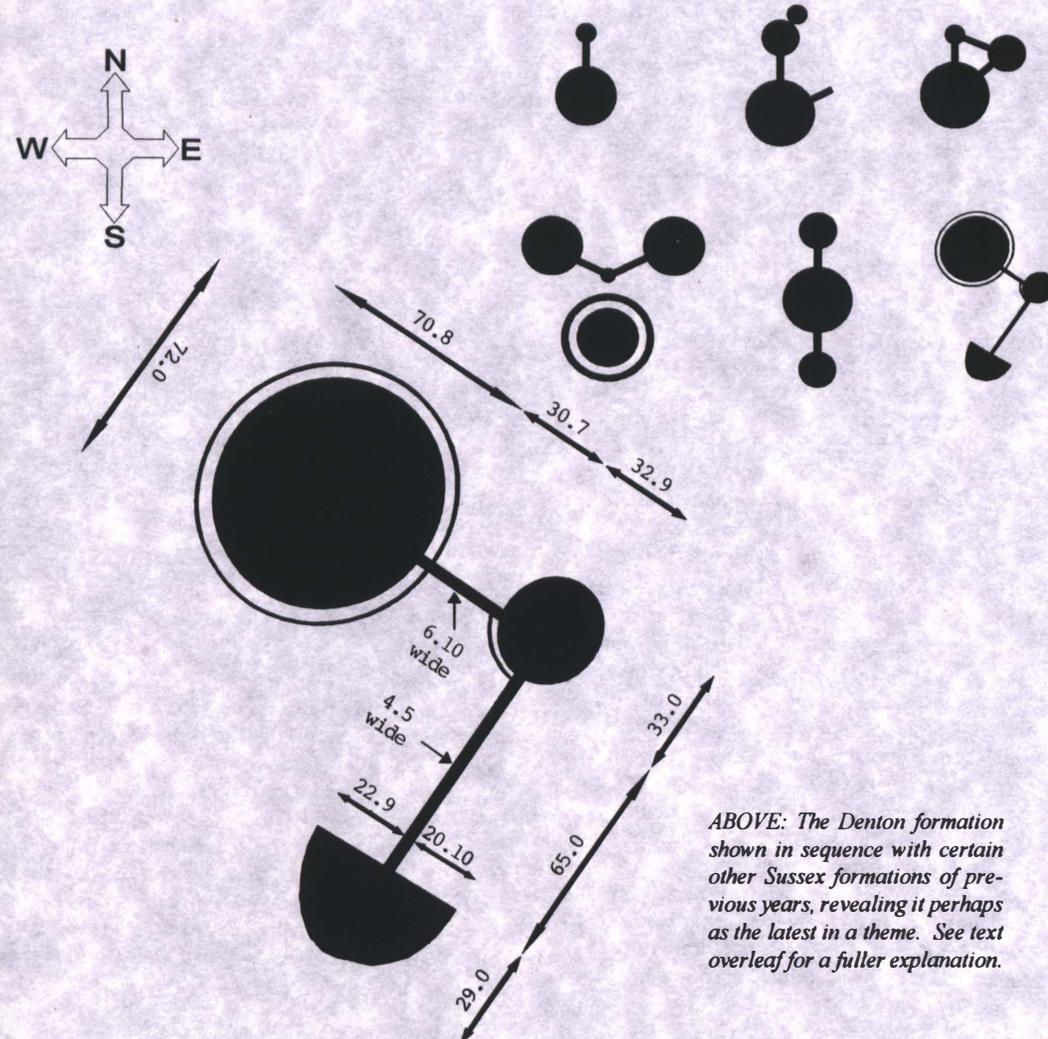
For those unaware, although a publication which covers crop circle events everywhere, **SC** is produced by members of CCCS Sussex, whose task it is to investigate and survey all crop formations which appear in the counties of East and West Sussex in England. **SC** can never hope to include full surveys 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.

- FORMATION SURVEYS -  
**SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95:**  
**8) DENTON**

Report by 'THE X TEAM'

Ref: Sussex 1995/08  
 Date of Appearance: 9th July 1995  
 Description: Dumbbell with attached semicircle  
 Crop: Wheat  
 Crop was laid clockwise in the circles & semicircle  
 Location: Denton, Newhaven, East Sussex  
 O.S. Map No: 198  
 Grid Ref: 458 016  
 Surveyed by: 'The X Team'

BELOW: The Denton formation, with dimensions



ABOVE: The Denton formation shown in sequence with certain other Sussex formations of previous years, revealing it perhaps as the latest in a theme. See text overleaf for a fuller explanation.

First reported by Richard Hopkins on Sunday 9th July 1995. This formation was very visible from the A259 road at Denton Corner, just outside Newhaven, and was consequently much visited by passing sightseers, despite the anger of the farmer at its appearance. Its exact shape could not, however, be discerned from the road, where it looked like two separate formations, the shaft connecting the semicircle being invisible from that angle.

Surveyed by 'The X Team' on Thursday 13th July 1995 under the cover of darkness, it was discovered that the formation had a beautifully complex floor lay to it. The crop in the dumbbell pathway flowed from the large circle into the small circle. The crop in the pathway connecting the semicircle flowed into both the semicircle and into the small circle. It managed this by flowing in opposite directions, with a rough centre, approximately 12ft from the edge of the semicircle. Where the pathway entered the semicircle it continued on a straight course for several yards before getting swept round into the complicated swirls and layers of the semicircle which had several spiral centres, two particularly prominent each side of the path.

The dumbbell pathway was at a bearing of 145 de-

grees. The semicircle pathway was at a bearing of 232 degrees giving a bearing of almost 90 degrees (87 degrees actual) between the two pathways.

There was a very thin ring (8" wide) around the large circle approximately four feet from its circumference but it was roughly laid and was possibly man-made although it looks quite good in aerial photographs. On the west side of the small circle there was a small arc 3.2ft wide tapering to 1.3 which was not present when the formation originally appeared. The arc veered off from the circle and curved towards the shaft.

The formation bore a passing resemblance to a nuclear weapon mushroom cloud and appeared shortly before France restarted its nuclear weapons testing program in the Pacific Ocean. The 'mushroom cloud' of the formation pointed towards the cross-channel ferries port at Newhaven and ultimately the French coast across the English Channel.

The formation was also reminiscent of the three that appeared in the Patcham area during June 1992 (ref. Sussex 1992/01, 03 and 04), and going back even further, of Houndean Bottom and Pyecombe from 1990 (ref. Sussex 1990/04 and 06). Are these formations all part of a series?

In the Autumn '95 issue of *Kindred* - **LETTERS** - begin facing up to the dark side of events? *Spirit* magazine, the mountaineer Gordon Stainforth talks of the spiritual experience of mountaineering and recounts among his strange experiences encountering two absolutely perfect grass circles on Brandon Mountain, County Derry in south-west Ireland. He says "However close I looked I just could not see what had caused them..." It is interesting to know that the phenomenon in its pure form still exists out there somewhere.

But if this is the pure, un sullied aspect of the phenomenon I think we have to face up to the unpleasant obverse face. The fact that the Hampshire 'Horse Ripper' attacks seem to be occurring in the same areas as our beloved circles is disturbing. So disturbing in fact that cerealogists have, on the whole, chosen to ignore the parallel. The truly weird surgical precision of the Ripper attacks is either glossed over or ignored in most press reports, but they are obviously not simply the work of a human perverser as we are expected to believe. In many ways attributing the Ripper attacks to human agencies is the same 'debunking' approach that has been taken to crop circles. We are considered not ready to face the truth and must be protected from its implications. Are we, as cerealogists, now 'grown up' enough to

I am not suggesting for a minute that the same agency that causes the circles is surgically mutilating horses and cattle, but there are links there. Maybe if the energy being manipulated in circle formation is Ch'i or Orgone, then the Ripper attacks are using Sha or DOR (Deadly Orgone Radiation)? I don't know, but I do know that we won't really understand the circles until we understand the dark side of the Force.

**SIMON BURTON**, Southampton, Hampshire

*The geographical connection of circles to horse attacks was noted by SC back in 1993 and the horse ripping phenomenon is covered extensively in SC 17. Whether the Hampshire horse attacks are the same as the classic cattle mutilations, however, is more debatable; unless we are being lied to, the injuries inflicted by the horse rippings are quite different. Incidentally, it should be noted, perhaps worryingly, that precision-mutilated cattle were found in very close proximity to some 1994 crop formations in pasture at La Veta, Colorado, in the US... - Ed.*