



**SC**

*THE MONTHLY  
JOURNAL OF  
CROP CIRCLES  
AND BEYOND*

**53**

*JUNE 1996*

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**They're Back!  
New Circles  
In England...  
And The USA!**

**A Psychic  
Perspective**

**The X Files!  
Sinister Hidden  
Agenda..?**

"If (evil) entities exist, then surely there must also be benevolent entities who would be equally eager to influence planetary affairs. Thus, the forces of light and darkness may be waging their eternal war for control of the Earth - but human consciousness has the potential to rise or fall unaided" JOHN WHITE

Up until a week or so ago, it looked like we wouldn't be able to report anything happening in the fields of England as we normally would at this time of year. But at the last minute, reports are coming in! Even so, the circle season has come late. Allowing for the fact that the fields were behind in sprouting this year, to have so few events by June is still quite unusual; the circle-making forces are obviously keeping us on our toes by being predictably unpredictable! But there's plenty of time for the phenomenon to catch up yet, and by the time you read this, the fields may be bursting with elaborate designs. A first-formation false alarm got everyone going when a circular wild patch with tractor tramlines running around it was reported more than once as a crop circle on the M40 road, near Booker airfield. Sadly, although quite convincing from a distance, this was bogus - so if you're driving that way, don't be fooled! Meanwhile, as reported briefly last month, the USA got in with the first formations of 1996, and you can read about these in detail opposite.

This breather before the summer madness begins in earnest (we hope) gives us a chance to make a few little pleas which readers might like to follow in the coming months: If you have any enquiries re. SC subscriptions, addresses, details, etc, that require a reply, PLEASE include a stamped addressed envelope, and be very patient when waiting for a response! Similarly, for any telephone messages you may leave with any of the SC or CCCS Sussex team - if you don't get a reply, please telephone again. Don't take this as rudeness, it's just that sometimes there's so much going on - the 'phones never stop ringing during circle months - that it's impossible to keep up with every caller. Also, requests (and you'd be amazed how many we receive) that ask "Please send me all your crop circle information and databases" will be met with short shrift! Most of what there is to know is published in these pages. We're all (happy) volunteers with 'real' lives to lead, so patience and moderate expectations are appreciated! Oh, and finally, please note the flyer enclosed with this issue for my new book *Fields Of Mystery*, not that I'd sink so low as to use this column to self-advertise...

ANDY THOMAS

SC

THE MONTHLY  
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Front Cover: Longwood Warren, Hampshire, July 1995. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

After a suspiciously slow start, which some were beginning to suspect might herald the long-dreaded year in which the crop circles would desert us completely, the phenomenon has returned to England.

The first formation of 1996 is a little curio at Lympne in Kent - a 3' diameter ring of about 4" width which appeared on somebody's front lawn (!) around May 3rd. The tips of the swirled grass were shredded and had turned a creamy white. There was no evidence that anyone had laid anything on the grass to create such a mark. A scientific neighbour took some samples and came to the conclusion that radiation or microwaves had caused it! Before this event, the owner had recently taken an active interest in the crop circle phenomenon; the circle-making force seems to have returned the compliment...

The Laguna Canyon earth/weed formation in California was first noticed by Tom Ross, a local resident of Laguna Niguel on 9th March as he was driving towards the first 'toll road' overpass on the Laguna Canyon road (route 133) heading towards Laguna Beach.

The formation was comprised of three glyphs; two concentric ringed features, the larger of which had nine rings, and the smaller five rings. Both were actually elliptical and the individual rings varied in thickness within themselves. The third glyph also contained two concentric central rings from which radiated four spokes, each terminated by a small ring. One of the spokes terminated by splitting into three paths forming a claw-like feature and a ring. The width of the entire formation was 230.10'.

The three glyphs appeared on a steep, weed-covered construction embankment, adjacent to the toll road overpass, under construction. A close look

The second event of the season appeared at Girtton, near Cambridge (in Cambridgeshire would you believe), in oilseed rape and was first reported on May 14th. It lies between Junctions 13 and 14 on the West side of the M11 motorway. It's design is a flattened circle of 95.6', with a standing shape at the centre which resembles a comma, calling to mind a foetus in the womb. From the circle emanates a curved pathway, ending in a smaller circle. As we go to print, word of another formation, in Lancashire, is

reaching us and elsewhere in the world, Ove Larsen has reported an event near his home town in Denmark. More as we get it.

So the word is out - the circles are back. Watch your local fields accordingly... AT

Thanks to Michael Newark & Joyce Galley

- NEWS -

## THEY'RE BACK...

They were late coming, but the crop formations have returned to England once again...

- NEWS -

## THE FIRST FORMATIONS OF 1996 - US-STYLE!

The crop formations returned... but not necessarily where the first events of a season were expected. As reported last issue, America started the year off, while England had to wait a little longer for its first visitation. ED SHERWOOD reports on the first events of the year, which, like many US formations, resemble Native American cave art rather than the clear-cut, chunky English designs...

at the formation revealed that the rings and lines were made up of bare earth, with very few plants growing inside them. This was interesting because the embankment was evenly covered with weeds otherwise. There was also no sign of any plants having been removed. Numerous species of weed covered the hillside but only one, English Plantain (!), was found to be bent, inside and along some of the edges of the formation.. Was the glyph-making agent being selective? It seemed more than coincidental. The bent plants found on the outer part of any ring were splayed out as if by centrifugal force.

Dr W C Levensgood made a preliminary statement after receiving the first sample package, saying

he was very impressed by the bending. He went on to say that English Plantain is a dicot, a species of plant that sends two initial shoots through the soil, a characteristic it shares with another plant: oilseed

rape, well known for hosting English crop circles early in the season.

Looking at the ringed centres we found that glyph 1 had a bare earth elliptical centre with a raised ring of earth around it. Glyph 2 and 3 had a flattened ring of earth around an elliptical centre of undisturbed standing weeds.

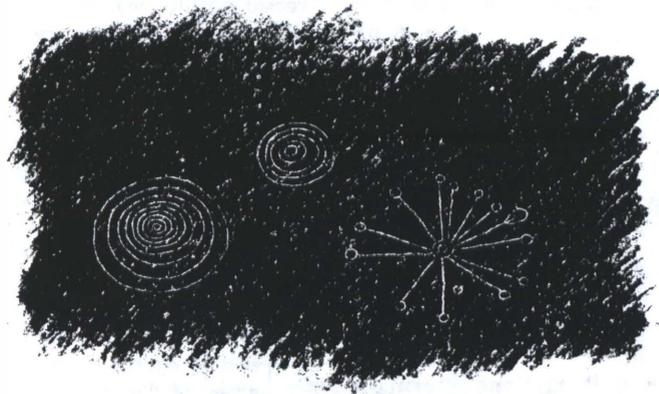
On 7th April, we met Mel, a security guard working for the Irvine Construction Company. He was genuinely surprised when we pointed out the formation, since he had not noticed it before. When asked if he or any of his colleagues had witnessed anything unusual in the area, he told us that both he and his co-workers had seen "strange lights" and what they called "ghosts". One worker had been so frightened by what he saw that he wouldn't work in that area.

The Laguna canyon formations are very Native American-looking in their design. We have discovered that the indigenous peoples of the area, the

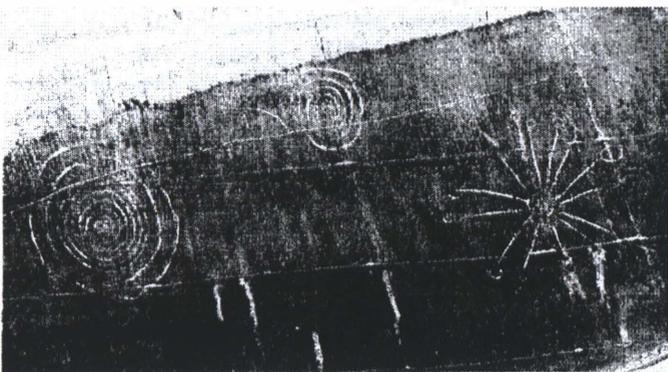
Gabrielino or Tongva, and their friendly neighbours the Chumash, who were greatly influenced by them, both have sacred artefacts representing the sun that are strikingly similar to glyph 3.

A crop circle appeared in wheat last year near Cissbury Ring in Sussex, England. It is interesting to note that this formation is presented in the US 1996 Crop Circles Calendar (produced by Ilyes, National Coordinator CCCS/US Network - not the English calendar) for March! Anyone displaying the calendar would have a concentric, elliptical design prominent in their consciousness throughout March... **ES/KS**

*This article has been extracted from a much longer and excellent full report by Ed and Kris Sherwood. Contact them at 425 Idaho Avenue #4, Santa Monica, California, CA 90403, USA (tel: 310 395 4849) for details - Ed.*



**LEFT:** Artistic representation of the Laguna Canyon formations, drawn by Ed & Kris Sherwood.



**LEFT:** Aerial photograph of the Laguna Canyon formations. Photo by MARGE KRSTIEN.

## USA

**Lebanon, Oregon:** 23/4/95. 11' circle with 3' standing centre, in wheat/peas. Stalks were broken off 2.5" from the ground, leaves were ripped and hanging.

**Churchville, Maryland:** 17/5/95. Details unknown.

**Provo, Utah:** 22/5/95. Multiple grapeshot in grass.

**Blueball Hill, Maryland:** 29/05/95. Circle (42' x 48') and rectangle (23' x 110') in wheat.

**Cherry Hill, Maryland:** ?/6/95. Multiple non-geometric shapes in rye. (Initial reports suggested this was the most complicated formation ever. The reality was interesting but rather less impressive than imagined... - Ed.)

**Inman, Kansas:** 20/6/95. Dumbbell with L-shaped pathway in wheat.

**Rock Creek, Aloha, Oregon:** 27/7/95. Fifteen depressions in wheat showing splits, cracks, charring and nodal bending.

**Santa Rosa, California:** ?/8/95. Three circles burnt onto grass in triangular configuration, joined by pathways, on a horse farm inside an area sur-

rounded by an electric fence.

**Great Barrington, Massachusetts:** 4/8/95. An irregular rectangular area, the entire field covered with random and chaotic damage in oats.

**Arlington, Iowa:** 14/8/95. 55' circle with 5' triangular point in sweetcorn, crop laid radially INWARDS...

**Bad Axe, Michigan:** 28/9/95. Three ovoids and a pathway in sweetcorn.

**Grand Rapids, Michigan:** Date unknown. An ellipsoid in grass near a small airport.

**Alva, Oklahoma:** Date unknown. Thirty circles and rings in one field, crop unknown.

## ISRAEL

**Qadima:** 20/1/95. Small circle near fence in grass.

## CANADA

**Agassiz, British Columbia:**

Date unknown. Ringed circle in sweetcorn.

## GERMANY

**Beltershausen:** 16/6/95. Ringed circle in wheat.

**Panschwitz:** ?/7/95. Three rings and a pathway, crop unknown.

**Bealich:** 24/7/95. Dumbbell with 'antenna' in oats.

- NEWS -

# OVERSEAS ROUNDUP 1995

News of overseas formations often takes a while to seep through. BARRY REYNOLDS has compiled the following list of mainly US formations from 1995, with a few other countries thrown in for good measure, from the information available...

When I first became involved with the crop circle system of Sirius, whose energy nearly took my brain out!

I never dreamed that I would immerse myself so deeply in the subject, nor indeed envisage the resulting contacts with 'beings' from other dimensions and worlds (which have been covered in previous SCs - Ed) ie. site guardians (at sacred sites of power) like Emun, Trist, and Rachael, Guardians of Cissbury Ring, the ancient hill fort; Damus, the Guardian of Wolstonbury Hill (or the 'whistling Hill' as Damus calls it); Cened the Celtic Warrior from St Mary's church, Sompting; not forgetting the incredible power of Jeuz from the star

- FEATURES -

# PATTERNS FOR LIFE

Since 1993, a group from CCCS Sussex have been attempting to interact with the crop circle-making forces using psychic communication, originally in an attempt to film a formation being created. PAUL BURA, the main 'channeller' for this work, looks back on the events and gives his personal view of the phenomenon...

I know full well the scepticism towards 'channelling' or mediumship, even though this form of communication, as a line of dialogue between worlds, has been around in various forms in countless cultures since man/woman could think. I also know that today you can hardly turn round without tripping over a channeller of one sort or another! Sorry, that's not my fault. And yes, there are good and bad and average exponents of this art, as indeed there are of all gifts, creative or otherwise.

with my own 'gift' which I trained for at the age of 19 but hardly used until that fateful day on August 13th 1992 when the being known as JoeB first made contact with a bewildered bunch of croppies. I always feel there is room for improvement and am deeply critical of all information that comes my way. Nonetheless, CCCS Sussex has never failed to help and sustain me, even though that meant humping me up inhospitable Sussex hills in the dead of night on a stretcher, not once but twice; pushing and pulling me in a bloody wheelchair up Cissbury Ring for that very eventful 'transmission from Sirius' (see SC 34), and finally last year humping me up Wolstonbury Hill in a force 8 gale, for which I believe was a most successful operation in the forming of a six-element crop formation of rings and circles at Felbridge, East Grinstead (ref. Sx 1995/04), that corresponded with the six-note musical chord that we played during a concentrated meditation. This formation came down in the opposite direction that we had hoped but was on the exact Earth Energy line that we were working with (see SC 44). Sadly we did not capture this on video. The being Jeuz told us that it was unlikely that we ever would. We're still hoping.

As a jobbing psychic I feel that there is little more that we can do (at this time of writing). But my reason for writing this piece is to try and set out my personal view of what the circles are about. My view has changed very little since I first encountered them, in fact it has strengthened.

The circles themselves, I believe, have been around for at least ten thousand years. In their simplest forms stone circles/complexes were built on these etheric, dowsable shapes in the landscape. These were Places of Power, Earth meridian points. They were used for worship and communication with the 'Gods', but also as a line of communication with the Earth Mother. This was commonplace and not just in Britain but dotted throughout the Earth in varying modes of expression. Each religion/belief system expressed these Places of Power in their own way. Some good, some not so good. I believe now, as then, that these etheric shapes in the landscape were put down by beings outside of this solar system. But not all of them. Many were formed by the Earth Mother Herself in order to make communication with human beings easier. The Earth Mother, being a Devic being, tolerates us humans, allowing us to evolve on Her surface, and all the other varieties of Nature Spirits and streams of consciousness also tolerate us. I say 'tolerate' because there

was a time when man and womankind worked in harmony with these beautiful beings. There is now a wide divide because of the way us humans have violated this wonderful, diverse planet. But in order for us to evolve further we have to find again this harmony and friendship (and making friends with ourselves would be a good start!). The Earth Mother will evolve whether we like it or not; we either evolve/ascend with Her or we destroy ourselves. She will not allow us to destroy Her. Make note of that. She will not allow it. Now is the time to extend the hand of friendship and harmony and balance to the Devic world.

At this moment new lines of communication are being opened up along the Earth energy/courier line system. The old suppresser plugs that up until a few years ago held back the old esoteric knowledge, that would have been used and abused by the negative forces (Global Elite), are being removed. As all sentient beings are connected to these courier lines by their chakric systems, they now have the ability to draw on this knowledge if they so desire, but it is not compulsory. The whole planetary grid system is changing. Many of the crop circle patterns are encodements of esoteric knowledge gradually being fed back into the grid where they belong, a kind of cosmic superhighway. They are coming home, we are ALL coming home. How long it will take I don't know. But I DON'T believe, as many do, that the spiritual evolution/'ascension' process will culminate in mass ascension to orbiting spacecraft where we will all be instantly transformed into masters of wisdom, upon which we will then descend once again to lead the world out of chaos (all 144.000 of us. Huh?!).

Sorry, it's too simplistic. Evolution takes a long time and as that old gag runs: when God made Time He made an awful lot of it! I do believe, however, that we will experience Earth changes and a gradual breakdown of society, education, politics and religion etc. A "certain clear-out" as one spiritual master put it. It's gonna get worse before it gets better. I believe a lot of this is going to happen before the year 2014 but it will go on much longer than that.

Those beautiful creations in the corn are screaming at us to get our act together and they will continue to yell at us down the energy system and from the fields.

All we have to do is listen...and act! **PB**

When *The X Files* first sneaked quietly into the television schedules in 1994, it seemed like a breath of fresh air for anyone with a bent toward the strange and unusual. Two FBI agents investigating crimes of the metaphysical kind, one male, the other female, both on equal terms, a perfect balance of 90s political correctness juxtaposed with the rather more incorrect but increasingly trendy cynicism expressed towards those running our countries. Around every corner lurked dark revelations of official corruption and suppression. Here, at last, was a series which championed the cause of the paranormalist, which popularised subjects only previously referred to in crank circles. Thinkers of the 'new world-view' hailed it as one of the flagships of the movement toward freedom of information concerning other-worldly activities, clearly being instigated by authorities eager to tell all but wishing

to break the populous in gently, even stooping to criticise themselves as part of the ingratiating technique.

To the audience at large, here was simply a programme that was very good indeed, with a glossy cinematic quality unknown to most schedule-fodder, and some rather original stories. Little did they suspect that they were being treated to the programme of public education ufologists, global conspiracy theorists, ghost-hunters, psychics and croppies would have them believe.

Two years on and *The X Files* is still very good indeed as a piece of television drama, way above most of the pap produced elsewhere. But what of its supposed part in the public education programme of cosmic awareness alluded to by those most wishing it to be true? Is there really a hidden agenda to these weekly tales of weird goings-on? The answer is, possibly yes - but it may not be the agenda which many of the paranormalists have assumed.

From the very start, the programme was always dark and brooding. This pessimism set it apart from the competition. Tacked-on happy endings were

not the business of this show. The concepts explored within the context of *The X Files* were daring and appeared to pander to those whose views had been ignored and ridiculed for decades, most prominently UFO enthusiasts and government conspiracy theorists. Despite the presence of Agent Scully, originally posted with Agent Mulder to debunk his outlandish beliefs and methods of solving cases, the viewer was left in no doubt as to the

paranormal truth of the scenarios explored. We would always be witness to the events which Scully would attempt to deflate and would know the core of Mulder's beliefs to be genuine.

However, as the seasons have progressed, the darkness, which was simply an element to begin with, has become all-encompassing, both metaphorically and visually. Many of the episodes seem to have been filmed during a powercut. Even sunshine in outdoors

scenes has its colours sapped by blue camera filters. The air of menace which pervaded the first season has developed into a continuous morass of doom, gloom and misery. Child murders, demonic possession, mutilating infections, bodies being minced up in chicken-grinding machines... this sort of thing has taken the place of the more varied and, relatively speaking, lighter tone of the more alien/UFO-orientated topics of yore. Dramatically speaking, it's effective. The horror content ensures that tension grips you to your seat for the full forty-five gruesome minutes. The umpteen occasions the lights inexplicably go out gives the producers a chance to use the old torch-beams slicing through the dust trick, before settling on the shock of the week. Darkness sells, and it's cheap.

But this all-pervading darkness throughout the show is beginning to look suspicious in its connection with portrayals of paranormal events. By continually associating other-worldly events and crossovers into other-dimensional realms with negative forces and outright evil it creates an air of repulsion towards anything outside of this material reality. Thus the show no longer champions the

- **MEDIAWATCH** -

## **X DOESN'T MARK THE SPOT**

**As *X Files* fever continues to sweep the entire western hemisphere, ANDY THOMAS asks, is the show really the friend to paranormal researchers some believe? If so, what is *X Files* creator Chris Carter doing addressing the debunking organisation CSICOP at their forthcoming conference..?**

stimulation of interest in the paranormal but instead engenders fear of it - and encourages resistance towards tampering with such opportunities as may arise in real life.

When the show does return to examining its earlier themes, it even appears to have stepped back from its apparent commitment to the idea that extra-terrestrials are among us. Recent allusions seem to point toward more earth-bound sources for those previously perceived as aliens, through some unspecified process of genetic engineering, or simply as a cover-up for some deeper government plot to abduct and experiment on its own citizens. I do not suggest that the ET element has been abandoned completely (this is too valuable a fictional tool to dispense with) but it is interesting to see how the writers now seem less sure of supporting this notion. Added to this shying away from the commitment to the ET-hypothesis, there are increasing suggestions within the narrative that the government may actually be justified in covering up what it does and that Mulder may be wrong in attempting to make these things public, thus further discouraging subversiveness and wagging a disapproving finger at any in the real world considering doing the same thing...

Worse, the writers have taken to toying with the expectations of the viewers in regard to the ET element, even showing contempt for their audience at times. Some prime examples: firstly, the total non-explanation for the apparent 'abduction' and disappearance of Scully for a number of episodes. We all know the *real* reason (actress Gillian Anderson took time out to have her baby) but we also expect at the very least some discussion of the fictional context - instead, Scully simply reappears and all is back to normal in the course of one episode with barely a question raised as to what happened to her. Allowing for the fact that this mystery will be profitable for the series to pick up at a later date, this is still not fair on the viewer. Another example: a girl is taken from her bedroom at night. We are even shown brief shots of 'greys' committing the abduction. Yet by the end of the story, it is proved that normal humans simply took her. The greys are a red herring for no-one else but we the viewers. This is the programme-makers playing with our expectations. Sometimes perhaps just plain incompetence is to blame. Take, for instance, an episode where animals are being abducted from their cages and reappearing several miles away, on the loose. At the beginning of the

story, we witness an invisible elephant break free of the zoo on a rampage, leaving a trail of destruction. Later we see a gorilla zapped away straight up to wherever, with no invisible escape trail being left. No explanation is made for the elephant incident - all the characters seem to have forgotten it even happened by the end. Of course, the invisible rampage simply made for exciting television. TV execs don't need to justify themselves. Do they?

But then one only has to look at the way paranormal enthusiasts are themselves portrayed on-screen to understand the attitude the creators of *The X Files* have towards their real-life counterparts, and thus some of their audience. Witness the 'Lone Gunman' group of individuals, a bunch of sub-Wayne's World eccentrics who monitor global conspiracies and weird events, appearing now and then to help Mulder in his investigations. Although some of their beliefs are proven correct within the context of the show, they are clearly shown in a 'wacky' light throughout, not people whose opinions should be trusted or even respected. Mulder himself, though finding them useful at times, seems to look down on them with little more than mild amusement. The Lone Gunmen portray paranormal enthusiasts as the geeks the makers clearly believe they are. These people are supposed to be the likes of us (ie. the sort of people who read SC). So much for championing the cause of the paranormalists.

By putting forward these fears for the endangered integrity of the programme with regard to its attitude towards people with a genuine interest in the paranormal, am I simply succumbing to the kind of paranoia that Chris Carter and his production team seem to be laughing at Lone Gunmen-types for? *The X Files* is simply a television programme, no?

Yes, indeed, according to Chris Carter, the show's creator - and this is why he will be addressing the paranormal debunking organisation CSICOP this summer. The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal have long been involved in conducting public battles against the spread of anything that threatens the place of conventional science. Astrology, UFOs, psychics... the very things *The X Files* thrives on. CSICOP are suspected to have been involved in the major and ongoing crop circle debunking campaign through the likes of Jim Schnabel (described in detail in SC 33). James Randi and Carl Sagan, who recently launched his own onslaught against the circles, number among their ranks.

He's back... And it's about time!

According to *Dreamwatch*, the monthly cult television magazine, Carter has been invited to speak at CSICOP's 20th anniversary conference at New York State University on 21st June this summer. CSICOP have been openly critical about the coverage such a popular programme has given to topics which they see as threats to the integrity of science, leading the populous into a new dark age of superstition and belief in the supernatural. Carter himself, in a number of interviews, has expressed his own scepticism towards the subjects which have become his bread and butter. He is expected to attempt to reassure CSICOP devotees that *The X Files* is nothing more than harmless escapist entertainment.

Anyone thus *still* believing that the show champions the cause of new freedom of information and stimulation of open interest in previously taboo subjects may now begin to doubt that standpoint. CSICOP and belief in the paranormal do not mix. And neither, as we should have realised, does 'the Truth' and TV schedules.

However, as time has gone on, the huge popularity of the programme has ensured that any suspected subliminal agendas, if they do exist, are now well and truly buried in the intense interest in the surface details, such as the pin-up lust expressed by fans of both sexes salivating over each of the show's stars and the obsession with such major details as the size of Gillian Anderson's expanding breasts (yes boys, ladies' bosoms get *bigger* when they're pregnant). Find a magazine right now that doesn't feature *The X Files* and it's called *Country Life*.

Chris Carter has a lot to answer for. Interest in ETs, UFOs and the paranormal is at an all-time high, with many television companies and publishing houses jumping on the bandwagon, producing programmes and magazines with little or no real understanding of the true nature of the subjects they exploit for cash. Quality seems not to be an issue for these bogus journals and soundbite schedule-fillers, which simply spread and dilute the old cliches

In SC 51, we regaled you with the tale of the Stratford 'eye' formation, the logo of the hardcore rave band *Pitch Shifter* which, in an example perhaps of the phenomenon's liking for psychological games and synchronicity, seemingly appeared in response to one of their concerts which was held nearby. The band's claim that they had no part (manually, at least!) in creating the formation would

and icons on nothing more than an anorak level. One can see why CSICOP must be upset.

*The X Files* is still a very good show and deserves its success. But those continuing to witter on about how it is the saviour of their own cherished beliefs and a vanguard of a new freedom of information need to look again at the programme's development. Fear and terror of anything to do with other-worldly events have replaced excitement and fascination in the fictional context and scepticism is openly creeping into the production team outside of it. The fear-factor though is perhaps the most harmful aspect, and this fear is beginning to spread through other mediums, especially Hollywood movies, which, after the niceties of *Close Encounters*, *ET* and the like, is rapidly throwing itself back into 50's- style paranoia with such films as the forthcoming blockbuster *Independence Day*, the story of 'the last three days before the end of the world' at the hands of nasty aliens who basically blow up anything in their way in gun-metal spaceships. This movie boasts to be the first to include crop circles as part of its itinerary - what a marvellously positive association!

Some who study of freedom of information concerning UFOs and ETs are warning that if and when an official announcement about the authenticity of alien presences on Earth is ever made, it will be based on a creed of fear - we will be encouraged to distrust and be wary of our new visitors. The recent scare articles in the *Daily Mail* by ex-MOD Nick Pope on UFOs ("a serious threat to Mankind") and crop circles are evidence of this. We must be kept in our place. Authorities must retain control. And fear is the best way to achieve this, a fear that is now being spread through the likes of *The X Files*. The truth may well be out there, as each episode of our favourite paranormal programme declares, but the chances of finding it here are lessening. Picking up on another recurring catchphrase from the show may be more fruitful: "Trust no-one". AT

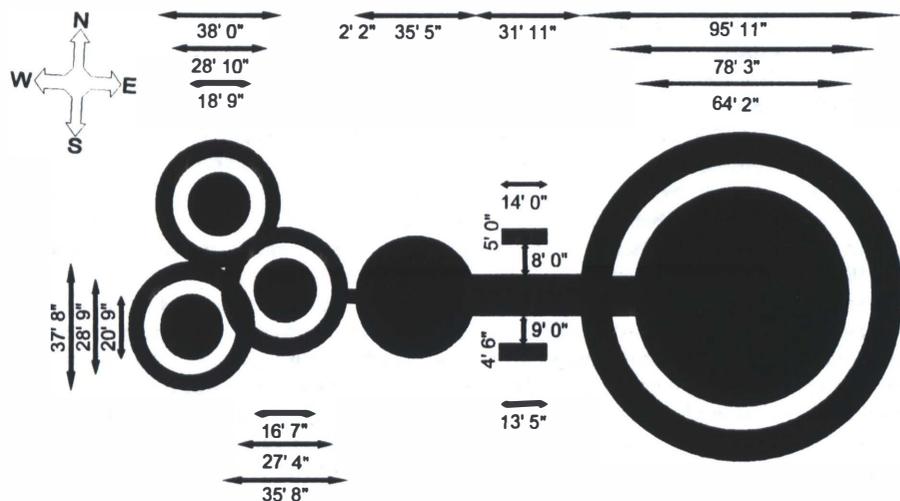
appear to be true, going from recent mysterious ads which have started popping up in various hip and trendy magazines. The advert shows just a photograph of the formation on a television set, with a 'phone number - that's it. When this number is called, you get an advert for the band's new single and a plea for any information about the crop design and who - or what - made it! AT

**EYE  
UPDATE**

# SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95: 12) UPPER BEEDING

Report by BARRY REYNOLDS

BELOW: The Upper Beeding formation, with dimensions



Ref: Sussex 1995/12

Date of Appearance: 23rd July 1995

Description: Dumbbell with two adjacent boxes joined to three touching ringed circles

Crop: Wheat

Crop was laid mostly anticlockwise

Location: Upper Beeding, West Sussex

O.S. Map No: 198

Grid Ref: TQ 199 096

Surveyed by: Barry Reynolds, Martin Noakes & Nigel Tomsett

mately 150' from this area.

Amazingly, the other field at Shoreham that suffered the same fate at the hands of the protesters had an almost identical formation appear in it. The relevance of this really needs to be appreciated: The two fields are 2 miles (3.25 km) apart; the two fields both had animal rights protest graffiti daubed along the bottom; the one at Mill Hill, Shoreham, read "BAN LIVE EXPO1" (presumably they were interrupted or ran out of creosote, never managing to get past the unfinished "R") whilst this one at Upper Beeding read the full "BAN LIVE EXPORTS". Undoubtedly, both formations were not man-made. The formation at Upper Beeding was witnessed forming (yes that's right folks, read on). Both formations were incredibly

similar in design - a dumbbell with one circle ringed. Both had boxes on either side of the shaft. Both had three touching ringed circles. At Mill Hill the circles were separated from the dumbbell, at Upper Beeding they were joined to it. Mill Hill also had a separate triangle.

One set of geometries in the design is immediately obvious, that is the length of the dumbbell shaft (383") is exactly one third of the diameter of the largest circle (1151") and the centre circle (770") is 2/3 of the diameter of the largest circle.

Whilst the CCCS Sussex/BLT Research Teams were doing their field research late on Monday evening (24th July) the farmer arrived at the edge of the field, by driving up the adjacent South Downs Way footpath in his four-wheel drive Jeep. After shouting a couple of unidentifiable obscenities at the group from the edge of the field he soon left. Seeing as those present had his permission to be there they were not particularly concerned and took their time in finishing off. However, it seemed strange that the farmer had gone to all the bother of driving out to the edge of the field only to drive off without a confrontation. The reason for this was soon to become evident.

As the group approached their cars, the farmer returned in his Jeep and blocked off the small car park that they were in (he was lucky to catch them still there, if they had packed up immediately they would have been long gone by this time). Barry decided to do his PR bit (all the others had run off and hidden - chickens) and approached the farmer. After a short discussion it was agreed that there had been a misunderstanding and that although he had given permission to enter the formation, that was for three people in the afternoon (still members of the research teams) and not eight in the evening. Anyway, a piece of bent crop was thrust into his hand and a full blown mini-scientific conference was held on the spot. During this discussion the farmer's son arrived in his car and the farmer explained that he had telephoned him and asked him to help out as there were so many of us. The police had also been called and would be

along shortly! As the farmer said "It's a good job there's not a murder" as the police took almost twenty minutes to arrive.

By the time the police eventually turned up the group was extremely jovial and having a good laugh about the entire situation. The farmer decided there was no longer a problem and the police decided they didn't want to get involved with whether or not the formation was the handiwork of humans or aliens. This was not surprising really, picture the charge sheet.. Wanted: Two bug-eyed monsters answering to the names of Plook and Zork. Last seen boarding a saucer-shaped craft near the A283 at Upper Beeding heading towards...

The formation was harvested the following day, Tuesday 25th July, so was only in existence for about 58 hours. Jason Porthouse, Di Knibbs and Andy Thomas managed to hire a plane the next day, just in time to photograph the formation - the combines were just outside the formation as they circled above.

During the early hours of Sunday 23rd July Mr Fred Starley, who lives opposite the field in question, was looking out of his window. He was particularly interested in the fields of potatoes, sweetcorn and wheat as he owned them. At around 02:00 he described seeing coloured lights shooting from the ground up to the sky and back down again. The following morning the formation had appeared and was in the spot where he had seen the lights a few hours earlier. This story was recounted by Mr Starley to Karen Wolf of CCCS Sussex on Monday 25th July at the same time that he gave permission for the team to enter the formation. Several days later, after realising that this witness was the same Mr Starley who had called the police and claimed, in front of them, that it was all done by kids, Barry called him. He denied the lights story completely and said that it was a case of mistaken identity although he was present when 'somebody' related the story to Karen. However, Mr Starley's housekeeper confirmed the original story to Barry. Mr Starley had seen the lights but for reasons best known to himself, now didn't want to talk about it. **BR**

### 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.

# Cornography

with Michael Glickman

Before the recent AGM, like many of us, I feared that I was about to witness the death throes of the CCCS. What made it worse was the undeniable fact that their problems were entirely self-inflicted and entirely brought about by obstinacy. Above all, they could have been entirely (and easily) resolved.

In the event, and as reported in SC 52, we were blessed. A simple intervention from Richard Smith showed just how close the parties were and how painlessly matters could be resolved. Every vote was so nearly unanimous that a count was never needed. There was an atmosphere, by the end of the morning, of optimism. Instead of death throes, could this be a rebirth?

This was an overwhelmingly democratic meeting which properly and clearly demonstrated its wishes. Will the Council have the grace to see this as the opening of a door to a strong and unified future? Or will they use every excuse to block change and cling to the old order? Will they have the maturity to end the bitterness of the last months and accept their new role? Or will they continue to disseminate yet more criticism and paranoia?

Council membership clearly drives people crazy.

I suggest, in all seriousness, that there should be some kind of therapist on hand to deal with disproportionate ambition and self-regard, rage, secrecy, wounded egos (real or imagined), obsession, delusion...

One could go on. I suppose, though it has not yet gone physical, we could call it Council Rage.

If things became overheated, individuals could be sent to an adjoining room for a sympathetic chat with a qualified counsellor. Or perhaps they could simply be required to look at pictures of crop circles.

The old Council had made a decision, on the farthest reaches of surrealism, that Richard Andrews should be put in charge of the 1996 telephone Hot Line. Richard was one of the first croppies I met and he was supremely generous. His pioneering achievement is unquestionable.

But Richard has, for many years, argued that information about the circles should not be given out. It is an article of faith for him that the only people who should be allowed to visit the circles should be "the experts" (though who *they* might be is unclear). He also asserts that the majority of circles are man-made and that he, uniquely, has the power to discriminate.

Now, I personally cannot agree with these views, though I am happy that the general stew is flavoured by Richard's ideas. The Hot Line is supposed to be - above all - an *information* service. To give it to a man who is philosophically committed against information is folly.

Now we learn that Richard has stepped down from this position, to be replaced by Busty Taylor - who shares his views.

Once again, the fox has been put in charge of the chicken coop.

*Live TV*, a company I had not heard of, asked me to appear on a late night interview show. I was led to believe that the half-hour programme would be devoted to an interview on the circles.

Prior to the interview, I was put in a corner outside the studio with a TV to watch. When I saw that the programme before mine was *Topless Darts* I realised that it would be downhill all the way. Let me explain *Topless Darts*. Two young women, dressed only in bikini bottoms - I swear! - play darts on a sunny beach. The winner gets a T-shirt.

But the real horror was yet to come. Instead of an interview, this was a ragbag of a programme called *Weird Night*, with crystal-ball gazers, a tarot reader in funny clothes and, as you would expect, assorted weirdos. There was a live link-up with New York where it was explained how we could hear our "departed loved ones" by staring at a blank TV screen at 3.00am and listening to the hiss. I had three minutes to deal with the most superficial questions. "So tell us all, Michael, who's doing it then? Is it those little green men?" asked the blonde interviewer in the sparkly black top.

Your deeply embarrassed weirdo columnist has had to endure merciless torment from friends ever since.

This afternoon, as I was finishing this piece, I heard news of the season's first formations, in Kent and Cambridgeshire. Another brilliant summer ahead. As I said last year, here we go again! **MG**