



*THE MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF
CROP CIRCLES
AND BEYOND*

54

JULY 1996

£1.00

**How Not
To Name
A Crop
Formation**

**The Lost
Work Of
Charles
Brooker**

**All The
Latest Crop
Designs Listed
And Detailed**

**First Photos
Of The 1996
Circle Season**

"Consciousness is not as trivial a thing as it appears in the standard biological picture. In fact, it's not a trivial thing at all. It's a fundamental emergent property of nature, a natural consequence of the outworkings of the laws of physics"
PAUL DAVIES

As you can see from the stunning picture on the cover, the crop formations are indeed back - with a vengeance! You can read about the latest goings-on opposite.

Attentive readers will notice that the mailing and subscriptions address (see adjoining column) for SC has changed. This constitutes our biggest alteration since the journal began back in 1992. After four and a half years, our subscriptions secretary Debbie Pardoe, who, with her partner Nigel Tomsett, has had the task of enveloping and stamping up all the mags and flyers each month and keeping the readership database up-to-date, has decided to pass the job on to new blood. Mailing and subs entails more than most probably realise and Debbie and Nigel have put their all into their work, ensuring you get your mags each month and that proper records of subscription renewal dates are kept. These things don't just happen by themselves, and everyone behind SC extends their thanks and appreciation for what they have achieved, in what can sometimes be a thankless task. Even these few words are inadequate in expressing our gratitude. We all wish them well and know they will continue to play a vital role in researching crop circles in Sussex and beyond.

Stepping into the position of mailing and subscriptions, come Diana Knibbs and Jason Porthouse, two characters familiar to anyone who attends CCCS Sussex meetings. Di and Jason have become increasingly involved with researching the crop circle phenomenon in the last couple of years and we wish them the best in taking on the mantle and know that they will keep up the high standards set by their predecessors. Their address is as printed to the right and from now on, all enquiries regarding subscriptions, changes of address and all the rest, should be sent to Di and Jason.

All other contributions regarding the content of SC should continue to be sent to me at the editorial address - don't forget, anyone is welcome to send in articles and photos for our consideration to print. SC has the widest annualised readership figures of any circles journal, so it's a good place to reach people. Get writing now!

ANDY THOMAS

SC

THE MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF
CROP CIRCLES
AND BEYOND

Editor: **ANDY THOMAS**

14 Bishops Drive

Lewes

East Sussex

BN7 1HA

England

Tel: 01273 474711

SC E-Mail Address:

101476.1452@compuserve.com

SC: Edited and produced by ANDY THOMAS with assistance from Barry Reynolds and Kaye 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.

SC Copyright (C) 1996: permission must be sought for any reproduction of material. Copyright for individual articles and illustrations lies with the original authors, artists and photographers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

£10.00 (UK)

£13.00 (Europe)

£18.00 (US and Overseas)

Cheques payable to 'SCR' please.

Cheques & POs must be made out in sterling (ie. English currency), drawn on a bank with a British branch.

Eurocheques accepted. Cash accepted but sent at own risk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MAILING ADDRESS:

Di Knibbs & Jason Porthouse

36 Graham Crescent

Mile Oak

Portslade

East Sussex

BN41 2YB

Tel: 01273 885117

Front Cover: Alton Barnes, Wiltshire, June 1996. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

The story so far: Last month we reported that the crop circle season had begun with strange symbols at Laguna Canyon in California, a tiny grass ring at Kent, and continued with a more traditional-type formation in rape at Girton, near Cambridge. Now read on...

After the very slow start to the season, big - very big as we shall see - things are finally afoot. A radio

report last month stated that the fields are about seven weeks behind in their growth rate due to the winter weather. It has been noted before that the circle-making forces seem to respond to natural biological rhythms - crop that may look tall enough for a formation to us, may not be in a condition useable to a circle-maker for whatever reasons. Certainly, one would expect the barley fields by now (end of June) to be quite yellow; instead they remain quite green.

As usual, a number of formations were around sooner than we thought, however, and just took time to be found. So here follows our summer monthly round-up of what has reached SC's ears and eyes so far. We, like everyone else, are at the mercy of word-of-mouth until photos and full details reach us, so bear in mind that some of this information may subtly change in the next few weeks, and we can give no guarantees of accuracy. Incidentally, unless it plays a major part in a formation's story (like the Silbury formation below), we will not be giving space to any of the ridiculous and now predictable hoax yarns, rumours and nonsense which immediately spring up with news of every formation without the smallest justification or scrap of evidence. By and large this stuff is spread by the usual old suspects who really should know better by now.

Even in America, the disease has spread - road protesters have now laid claim to the symbols which appeared at Laguna Canyon. Proof? Nah.

So here we go with the latest reports then:

East Oakley, Nr Basingstoke, Hampshire: In early to mid-May, two formations popped up in the same oilseed rape field. One is a ringed circle of 83'

with a small standing crescent and the accompanying formation is a circle of 60' with a large standing crescent inside (see photographs, centre pages). Both these formations are placed on the same set of tractor tramlines. The formations could be seen clearly from trains on the nearby London to Winchester railway line. Curiously, as chance would have it, the farm which owns the field belongs to the brother of a well-known BLT researcher!

Denton, Oxfordshire: *Not the Denton in Sussex, this is a single circle of 45' in rape which must have appeared early in May, as it looked very old when first reported on 4th June. The spiral lay is clockwise and the stems seemed pretty undamaged when first surveyed. The formation can just be seen from the A496 road.*

Goodworth Clatford, Wiltshire: First of the Wiltshire '96 formations, initially re-

ported on 15th May, this formation in barley drew little attention and has virtually grown out now. An 80' double-ringer, this apparently has three overlapping rings superimposed over it, a nearby 'heart' shape and an astonishing 28 or so grapeshot circles. Interestingly, the 'loops' formation at Goodworth Clatford in 1995 also had many grapeshot. This formation is closer, however, to the site of a lesser-known pattern in 1994.

Sollum, Lancashire: Briefly reported last issue, this was first seen on 22 May, a 55' anticlockwise circle in rape with a bent pathway leading to a smaller circle. There are also two grapeshot, joined by a curly path. This is opposite the site of a large pictogram from 1995.

Silbury Hill, Avebury, Wiltshire: First spotted 1st June, this is a charming circle with six large standing petals, around six smaller ones (leaving a kind of star design in the centre), reminiscent of the Froxfield 'flower' of 1994. 82'8", this appeared in green barley in the field opposite the famous mound, which has been host to many formations in the past. The crop being so young, the lay grew up again fast and was conversely trampled by visitors, leaving the lay messy after only a day or so. Controversy has dogged this formation because a few days after its arrival six 'post-holes' were discovered inside, at strategic points throughout the formation,

- NEWS -

CIRCLES '96 UPDATE #2

Once again, each month throughout the summer SC rounds up the latest crop formations to have appeared in England and beyond... ANDY THOMAS gathers the latest news.

leading sceptics to immediately brand it man-made. One idiot even stamped out the word 'FAKE' in the field, just so us poor sheep wouldn't have to make our own minds up - a stupid and ignorant action of the lowest (highest?) order. However, reports from witnesses have proved conclusively that the holes were NOT there when the formation first appeared, thus destroying the only flimsy tag the hoax-apologists had to brand it man-made. The holes are thus probably either where soil samples have been taken, survey poles have been driven, or were placed there by mischief makers to produce exactly the arguments we have heard. Further up the field, on 2nd June, a rough, loose-looking spiral also appeared.

Devizes, Wiltshire: A 20' ringed circle, surrounded by six random-looking large grapeshot arrived in a hay field on 1st June. Apparently first discovered by small children who added their own crude efforts to it, according to Peter Sorenson.

Girton, Cambridgeshire: Second formation to appear here this year (see last month for details on the first and photos this issue for both), this design appeared around 12-13th June in barley and was on the opposite side of the M11 to its predecessor. A 104' 'bulb'-style design, this formation has a standing 'squiggle' shape inside, from which the crop is laid radially outwards, leading up to 'shoots' which emanate from the top of the circle.

Barham, Cambridgeshire: First found on 17th June, this is a 110' clockwise circle in wheat, near the A14 road, close to the site of the 1990 Spaldwick celtic cross and only three or four miles from the Bythorn mandala of 1993. Inside the circle, twenty four small 18" by 4" arcs of wheat have been left standing at irregular intervals, intentionally or unintentionally, by the swirl of the crop.

Alton Barnes, Wiltshire: As you can see from the photographs this issue, the most staggering formation of the year so far, back at the site of so many classic events, in the East Field. The pattern arrived in barley on 17th June and is an astonishing 648' long! Made up, like last year's 'asteroid' formations, of many different-sized circles (over 90 of them), this appears to represent a DNA 'double helix' spiral; if one counts the circles apparently hidden by the spiralling design, there would be 93 of them, which may represent the 93 human genes! The majority of the circles, however large or small, have a standing centre of a few stems, and the flow of the laid barley has gone down in ridged bands,

like grooves on a record (rather like the 'seeds' at Overton in 1992). I was privileged enough (by complete chance) to be one of the first into this formation the morning it formed, and it is an absolute beauty... The ingenuity and complexity of the design should leave no doubt in the minds of anyone, however previously sceptical, that with the crop circles we are dealing with something very special indeed... A good view, as ever, can be had from the road which comes down from Lockeridge past the burial mound of Adam's Grave. Visited every year except 1995 by a formation of some kind or another, the arrival of a crop design - and an excellent one at that - back here bodes well for the rest of the season.

Gassington, Nr Oxford, Oxfordshire: Size isn't everything, as they say, but on learning that the formation which appeared here around 20/21st June is over 1000' long, one can't help but be impressed. Found in a field of barley and poppies near the A40 road, the formation's length is largely made up of long thin pathways connecting three circles and two blob-like shapes, not unlike the Sussex 'kebab' shapes of previous years. While the design may lack aesthetic beauty, the layering of the crop is reportedly impressive.

Cherhill, Wiltshire: With the Wiltshire area well and truly reactivated, yet another formation appeared here on 21st June, a 30' single circle near the white horse carving, in the same field as the 'hand of friendship' 1993 design.

Ribe, Jutland, Denmark: Meanwhile, on other shores, a circle in grass has been reported on the West coast of Jutland (see map in SC 52), with "three triangles inside", first spotted on 14th June.

Blue Ball Hill, Maryland, USA: Close to the site of last year's many rough non-geometric shapes scattered across one field, the same effect has been discovered again. Dr Levengood of BLT Research is convinced that these shapes are not the result of wind lodging.

And in Sussex (SC's home county) we still await the circle-making forces, making this the latest circle-season since 1992... Hampshire, site of the majority of last year's crop circle events, has also been skipped so far this year. As ever, the circle-making forces do their own thing. Bless 'em. **AT**

Special thanks (in addition to our usual intrepid reporters) to Peter Chapman, Anthony Cheke & Preben Hansenn

Language remains our first and most effective implement. Without the sentence there can be no interaction, no exchange of ideas, no learning, no culture. We are involved with an enigma which does not hold still for our traditional methods of examination. The crop circles do not easily volunteer to unfold before our enquiries and it has occurred to me that - in some way - we misuse our most important tools - words. In particular, we have become careless, sloppy and above all disrespectful about the naming of these beautiful gifts.

So much time is spent exchanging information and ideas about formations. Obviously we must name them. Often the location is sufficient. Barbury Castle, for all of us, will immediately evoke the huge triangle of 1991; anything more would be redundant. To transcend a naming by simple location, the formation has had to have a clear identity which will satisfy a consensus; the Mandelbrot was so obviously a Mandelbrot set that its location at Ickleton is, in most conversations, unnecessary. Groups of formations arrive and - for most purposes - their similarities are more important than their locations. Someone names them and, if the name is good, the Thought Bubbles, the Keys, the Galaxies, it sticks. I suppose a rotten idea gets no circulation and disappears.

Let me explain how important this is. I was given a tape of a Linda Moulton Howe talk at the San Francisco Whole Life Expo. It was profoundly upsetting. Linda's work on mutilated cows is exemplary but she does have a tendency to appeal to the *National Enquirer* Oooh-Scary view of the world. Now, like many, she is apparently a crop circle authority and, aided by careless names, the circles become agents of the Dark Side. She talked of the "Catherine Wheel" (nick-name for the Alfriston 1995 Sussex formation - Ed) and dwelt on the rotating blades of the torture implement. How was it called a Catherine Wheel? How dare anyone associate the circles with torture?

I have never heard of anything frightening about crop circles but, of course, that does not go down quite as well as paranoia and conspiracies, invasions and abductions, mutilations and autopsies. As we have seen, links are implied between the crop circles and all of these things. Evidence of a connection is rarely forthcoming. Sloppy and disrespectful naming is used to amplify sloppy and

disrespectful thinking. This is passed on with great glee to the public. There are always people hungry for this stuff. Horror and paranoia is popular.

The delight with which *The Earth is Missing* was seized on as a name (for the 1995 Longwood Warren formation) was disturbing. You should have heard Ms Howe on this one. What does it mean? We live here, don't we? Is our lovely blue planet about to be vaporised? If there is a reasoned idea to be explored, let's hear it. There are conferences to address and magazines that need articles. But now the name and its implications are fixed, unexplored and undebated, forever. Printed and published. John Langrish, the pioneer of crop circle surveys, never named

anything. He saw his task as measuring, drawing and recording the information that was there. Likewise Wolfgang Schindler who gives us only locations and dates. Hard, objective information. While I have nothing but gratitude for those working in the field today, am I alone in being repelled by names such as *The Gizmo* and *What Zit?* Is there anyone else who objects to a circle being described as *Funny Lookin'?* The Chilbolton formation was precious to me. Does it not approach blasphemy to name it after an American beer?

These titles are forcibly attached to the wonders in the fields by well-meaning individuals, unaware that what they are in fact perpetuating is nothing more than their own hasty and possibly misconceived opinions. This would be acceptable if the names were kept only to themselves, but in these times of information superhighways, their misnomers are spread around the world in seconds via the Internet. In a matter of moments the consequences of their ill-considered decisions are permanent and global. Surely these superficial names would not be chosen if these people contemplated the potentially disastrous results of their choices?

If you own a racehorse, you can invent any name you like. Naming implies a kind of ownership. But the circles are common property, they belong to everyone. The first one in, the first to draw it, has no rights over it. They have volunteered, bless them, to be of service. Their greatest contribution, from now on, would be to give us location, date and crop. Nothing more. **MG**

- STIR `EM UPS -
**CALLING
NAMES**

What's in a name? For crop circles, quite a lot, argues MICHAEL GLICKMAN...

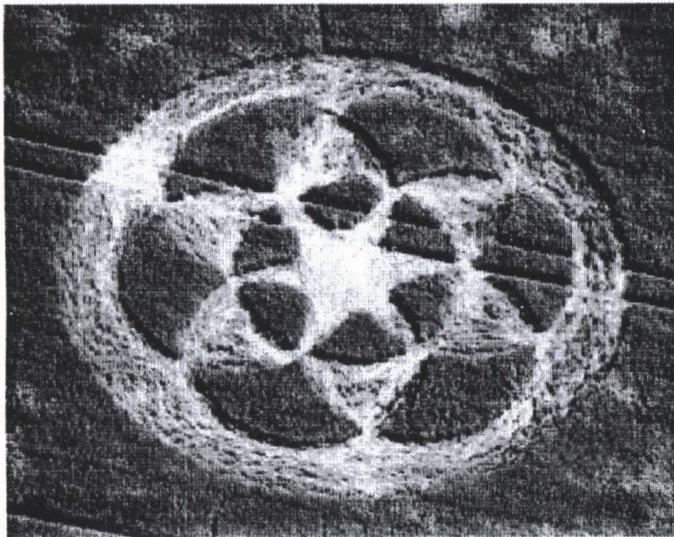
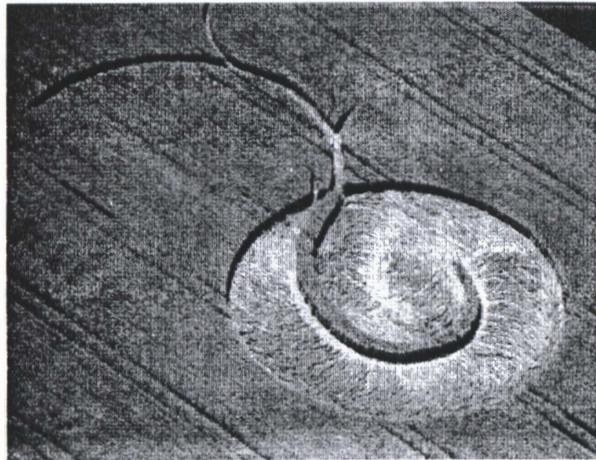


CIRCLES '96: PHOTO- SPREAD # 1

Photographs from the 1996 crop circle season, taken by STEVE ALEXANDER



RIGHT: Pole shot of the Silbury flower, with Silbury Hill in the background

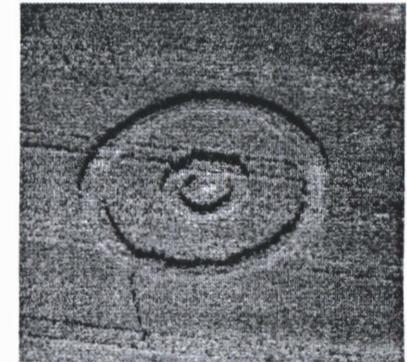
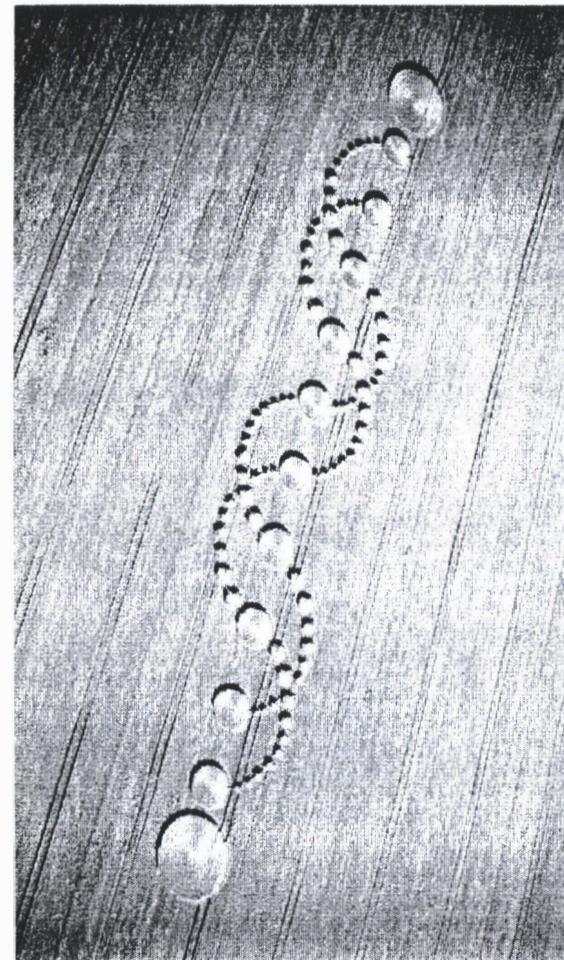


TOP: Pole shot of the first formation at Girton, Cambridgeshire.

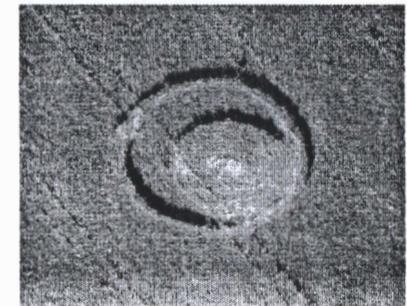
MIDDLE LEFT: Aerial shot of the first Girton formation.

MIDDLE RIGHT: The second formation at Girton - spot the running theme of sprouting seeds/bulbs!

LEFT: The flower at Silbury Hill.



ABOVE TOP: Ringed circle with small standing crescent at East Oakley, Basingstoke.



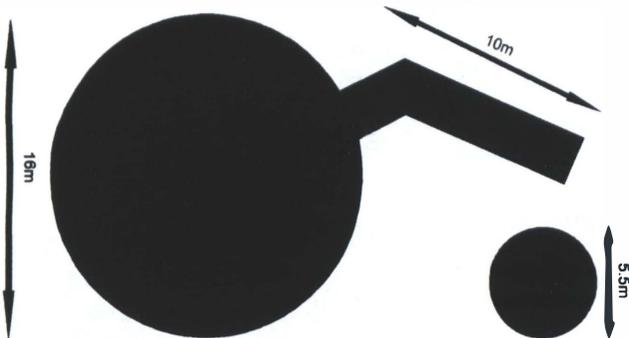
ABOVE MIDDLE: The standing crescent at East Oakley

LEFT: The astonishing 'double helix' at East Field, Alton Barnes.

- FORMATION SURVEYS -

SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95: 13) COMPTON

Report by BARRY REYNOLDS



Ref: Sussex 1995/13
 Date of Appearance: July 1995?
 Description: Circle with emanating bent pathway, next to smaller circle
 Crop: Wheat
 The large circle was laid clockwise
 Location: Compton, Near West Marden, West Sussex
 O.S. Map No: 197
 Grid Ref: SU 776 147
 Surveyed by: Anthony Harding, after harvest

LEFT: The Compton formation, with approximate dimensions shown in metres

First seen on Saturday 22nd July 1995 by Anthony Harding, a member of CCCS West Midlands who was staying in Sussex for a few days holiday. He was pleasantly surprised to discover a harvested formation whilst he was down and then even more sur-

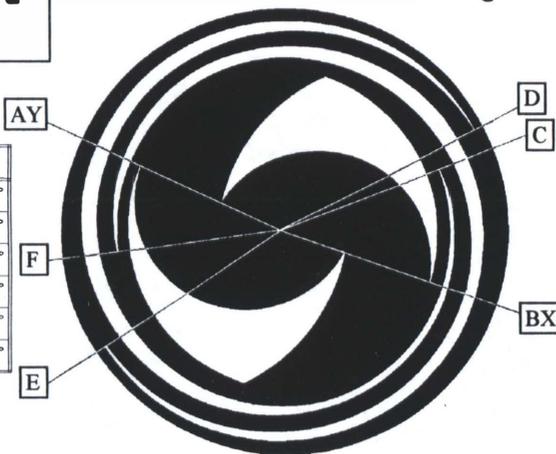
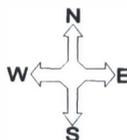
prised to find that he could actually see the formation from the B&B where he was staying! Unfortunately the field had been cut down by this time so all details available are from Anthony viewing it after harvest. **BR**

- FORMATION SURVEYS -

SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95: 14) WILMINGTON

Report by BARRY REYNOLDS

BELOW: The Wilmington formation, showing degrees from centre: try drawing this in a hurry!



From Centre	
D	062°
C	068°
BX	109°
E	237°
F	263°
AY	295°

Ref: Sussex 1995/14
 Date of Appearance: 25th July 1995
 Description: Four standing interlocking crescents
 Crop: Wheat
 Crop was laid clockwise
 Location: Wilmington, E. Sussex
 O.S. Map No: 199
 Grid Ref: TQ 540 037
 Surveyed by: Nigel Tomsett & Debbie Pardoe

First seen on Tuesday 25th July 1995 by Danny Winn, presumed formed same date.

This truly superb set of four interlocking standing crescents appeared on the north side of the South Downs just below the Long Man of Wilmington chalk hill figure. This area has many important ancient sites including barrows, the Cursus, the South Downs Way and Wilmington Priory. This area was also home to a crop formation in 1990 (Sx 90/08 only 1/2 mile - 750m - distant). It was also only 9/10 mile (1.4 km) from the Alfriston formation (Sx 95/02) earlier the same year. Many lines can be drawn through this formation linking it to various surrounding churches and previous formations (see SC 48).

So complex is the design of this formation, producing scale drawings of it has proved quite a challenge! To date, this is the last formation to have appeared in Sussex, if one discludes the additions to the Cissbury Ring formation (Sx 95/10), which arrived on the same night (see SC 49). Seen together, the formation and the Long Man were an impressive sight, although standing in the formation itself, all that could be seen of the hill figure was his head and shoulders! Is it also coincidence that if one squints a bit, the letters 'SC' can be seen in this formation..! **BR**

Survey

Distances from Centre along D	
Inner edge, standing crescent	32' 2"
Outer edge, standing crescent	51' 4"
Inner edge, standing crescent	59' 4"
Outer edge, standing crescent	66' 0"
Tip of standing crescent	70' 2"
Outer edge of formation	75' 0"

Distances from Centre along E	
Inner edge, standing crescent	30' 0"
Outer edge, standing crescent	50' 6"
Inner edge, standing crescent	58' 1"
Outer edge, standing crescent	64' 0"
Tip of standing crescent	68' 8"
Outer edge of formation	73' 2"

Distances from Centre along C	
Inner edge, standing crescent	34' 3"
Outer edge, standing crescent	51' 2"
Tip of standing crescent	55' 0"
Inner edge, standing crescent	59' 10"
Outer edge, standing crescent	66' 2"
Outer edge of formation	74' 0"

Distances from Centre along F	
Inner edge, standing crescent	38' 5"
Outer edge, standing crescent	50' 0"
Tip of standing crescent	54' 6"
Inner edge, standing crescent	59' 0"
Outer edge, standing crescent	66' 0"
Outer edge of formation	70' 3"

Distances from Centre along BX	
Tip of standing crescent	21' 0"
Tip of standing crescent	50' 0"
Inner edge, standing crescent	54' 7"
Outer edge, standing crescent	58' 0"
Inner edge, standing crescent	62' 8"
Outer edge, standing crescent	69' 0"
Outer edge of formation	73' 9"

Distances from Centre along AY	
Tip of standing crescent	22' 0"
Tip of standing crescent	51' 0"
Inner edge, standing crescent	54' 8"
Outer edge, standing crescent	57' 1"
Inner edge, standing crescent	61' 5"
Outer edge, standing crescent	67' 7"
Outer edge of formation	72' 0"

Well about time too; at last we have a quality book about crop circles packed from cover to cover with information, drawings, and beautiful photographs (both colour and black and white), covering all aspects of the phenomenon, thoroughly and accurately, in the region of Sussex.

With a preface by Denis Healey (the Right Hon Lord Healey of Riddlesden) who received a lot of publicity

- REVIEWS - THE MYSTERY CONTINUES

MARTIN NOAKES reviews Andy Thomas' new book *Fields of Mystery: The Crop Circle Phenomenon in Sussex...*

when he photographed the Alfriston quintuplet in 1984, and a foreword by Michael Glickman, this book is a must for any circle enthusiast, and at only £6.95 is great value for money. **MN**

(Thanks Martin - here's the fiver I promised you - Ed.)

Factual books on this subject have diminished in recent years, and it's a breath of fresh air to see this 100 page A5 book.

Andy takes the reader on a guided tour of the phenomenon in East and West Sussex from the earliest known formations to the present day in an articulate fashion, paying close attention to detail. He also includes a full history of the crop circles overall and looks at the many theories behind them.

Fields of Mystery: The Crop Circle Phenomenon in Sussex is published by S B Publications (not by Andy Thomas) and is available at £6.95 in bookshops throughout the South East of England and selected outlets beyond. ISBN 1 85770 096 1. Alternatively, the book is available by mail order from: 14 Bishops Drive, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1HA. Please make cheques payable to A S THOMAS and include £1.00 extra to cover packing and postage.

UNEX (Unexplained Phenomena Research Society), was founded on the 1st February this year in response to local demand. Whereas I have been actively involved for many years in studying and researching the physiological and psychological effects on people when visiting or being in the vicinity of crop circles, also animal reactions and electrical failures, and will continue to peruse this line of enquiry, I realised I was being drawn into

many other areas of study and have just finished writing a book, *The Sky is not the Limit*, about crop circles and all paranormal events for which I can find no rational or logical explanation.

It also became apparent to me that I was not alone in this realisation and that many other people also were now feeling that crop circle investigation was too narrow and restrictive a remit on its own and their research and interests were taking them

into other fields where broader issues were quite naturally a by-product. It would seem increasingly likely that there is a connecting link, however tenuous, between all so called paranormal events.

With this in mind several of us joined together, hence the birth of UNEX.

Our aims and objectives are: To study, record and collect information on crop circles and other related phenomena such as free energy devices (or sustainable universal energy), unidentified flying objects, spiritual, holistic, magnetic, crystal and other therapies, anomalous powers of the human body and brain, extrasensory perceptions, contacts with non-human intelligences; in short, everything that has eluded explanation by the experts to date. We aim to share and exchange information with like-minded or interested societies and to publish or assist in the publication of research papers and relevant data in suitable outlets. We aim to start slowly, bringing out a newsletter (which will hopefully turn into a journal) three times a year, under the aegis of retired electronics engineer Keith Wakelam, whose knowledge, experience and expertise in the field of science and the paranormal is

renowned. We will hold four public meetings or workshops per year, mainly in Petersfield, at which we plan to have speakers on a variety of subjects. We also hope if possible to take members to places of interest and when possible get permission from a friendly farmer to visit a crop formation.

Whenever possible we aim to promote projects of scientific investigation. Our first project, backed by

the Engineering Department of University of Cardiff, is to try and replicate the work of Charles Brooker, chief engineer at the BBC who, until his death in 1988, lived in the hamlet of Lodsworth, near Petworth in West Sussex.

His work lay dormant until one chance occasion when friends of Brooker's in Lodsworth, hearing about my interests in energy lines said "I wish Brooker were still alive, you would have had so much in common, especially as neither of you may ever be able to prove your theories to the satisfaction of the scientific world!"

Brooker's work seemed to have vanished into thin air; his wife had predeceased him, his solicitor was dead and both his sisters were ill and unable to help. After following many dead ends I eventually traced it to Jean Voorderman, (mother of Carol from TV's *Countdown*) who had entered into a long correspondence with Brooker over the years; she was delighted that someone was at last taking an interest and within days I received a large bundle of papers, manuscripts and drawings. I passed Brooker's work to Keith Wakelam who instantly recognised its potential importance and discussed it with fellow scientists on his travels world-wide.

We held our first meeting at my house in the Spring of 1995, which was attended by several interested scientists and people who had been colleagues of Brooker's.

But where were Brooker's machines? They had been left to King Edward VII Hospital at Midhurst. They did not want them. Their next destination was thought to be Sussex University, but enquiries drew

- FEATURES -
**THE LOST
WORK OF
CHARLES
BROOKER**

LUCY PRINGLE recounts "the birth of a new society and its first project", the rediscovery of important work on the Earth's natural energy fields and their importance to us...

"Echoes with the sound of saltmen..."

a blank. By another chance meeting I was informed that they were in Wales with Dr Roger Coghill, psychologist, specialising in electro-pollution and author of 'The Dark Side of the Brain' with Harry Oldfield, also 'Electrohealing and Electro-Pollution'. But it was not until February this year after an article by Keith Wakelam published in the *Scientific and Medical Network* that Coghill got in touch. Keith and I went down to Wales and now four years later, a research project has been set up to try and repeat Brooker's findings. The tests will be conducted in Coghill's laboratory by an undergraduate under instruction from Keith and Roger. A Trust Fund, backed by UNEX, is being set up to further this work. All contributions are most welcome.

So what were Brooker's findings? Keith, author of *Discovering Eternity*, tells us that after Brooker retired "he devoted himself to the study of the effects of magnetism on animals and humans with the aim of discovering if it was related to dowsing ability and bird orientation". Following his death in 1992 his papers have come to light and though his work was largely ignored during his lifetime, as often is the case, the importance of his discoveries is only now being realised.

In an effort to see if the detection abilities of dowsers was related to magnetism Brooker enclosed certain subjects in a degaussing coil arrangement to neutralise the Earth's field. When this produced no effect Brooker deduced that the Earth's field might have an additional, variable component, capable of inducing electric currents into the human nervous system. An alternating field was ruled out, because no such component, of any frequency, had ever been detected. This left a field which was moving constantly in one direction across the surface of the Earth. Such a field might be possible if it was stationary in space, while the Earth constantly rotated within it. This field would then move East to West with a velocity and angular inclination varying with latitude, and would thus

constitute an infallible direction indicator and would also indicate the location of buried water and metals because the eddy of fields formed around them.

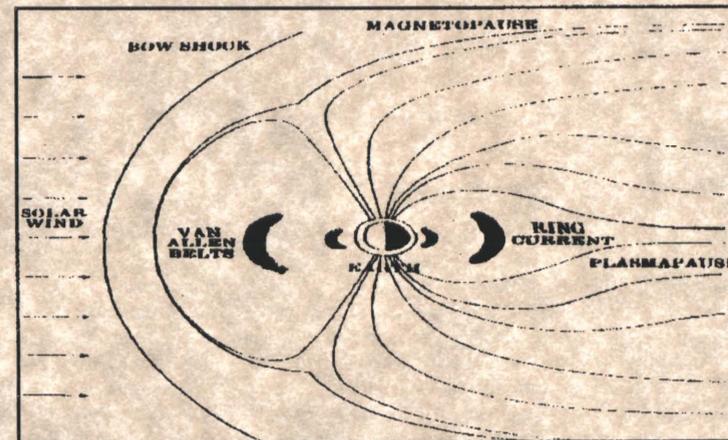
The detection system might be the long nerves in birds and mammals which are suitably arranged in pairs along wings and legs, so enabling stereo effects to occur. While the effect of uni-directional flux would be cancelled in any device where there is a return path for current, like a coil or battery circuit, the long nerves generate potentials electro-chemically in the brain and these potentials travel uni-directionally down the nerves to be absorbed in the muscles and sensors. Nerve potential transmission could thus be inhibited or enhanced according to which direction it was pointed in relation to the sweeping magnetic field - and its difference felt by the animal. Most air travellers know that 'jet lag' is more pronounced when travelling from West to East, ie. against the sweeping field.

In order to prove the existence of the moving magnetic component of the Earth's field Brooker designed a split-coil generator in which the potentials generated by two halves of a rotating coil could be separated by a suitable commutator and the generated voltages compared when the half coils were rotated at different angles in the Earth's field. The top half of the coil would be travelling towards the sweeping field and the bottom half away from it in some inclinations.

The place where the apparatus was used was Lodsworth, West Sussex. It is 51 deg. north and the

Top half (Eastwards)

$$= 292 + 28.5 = 320.5 \text{ m/s}$$



Bottom half (Westwards)

$$= 292 - 28.5 = 263.5 \text{ m/s#}$$

velocity of the Earth's rotation at this latitude is 292 metres per second. The peripheral velocity of the 'active' halves of the coils, when driven at 2,000 r.p.m. was calculated to be 28.5m\s. The relative velocities of the two coils were therefore as depicted in the diagram.

The ratio of these velocities is $320.5 \div 262.5 = 1.22$ and this would be the predicted ratio observed when the experiment was carried out and the brushes were in a horizontal position. Different voltages were still recorded when the apparatus was enclosed in a de-gaussing coil.

Brooker's results also explain the diurnal variations, which are known to occur in the Earth's magnetic field, on the assumption that the magnetic field surrounding the Earth varies in strength at difference points on the Earth's orbit. The obvious choice for the origin of the field surrounding the Earth is the Solar wind, streams of charged particles emitted by the Sun which create a magnetosphere around the Earth.

The Earth's static field is thought to be created by a self-excited dynamo effect which produces a current loop circling the Earth below the Equator. The maximum magnetic moment generated by such a loop is along the polar axis, falling to zero as $B \cos$

Theta around the Equator. Such a scheme creates minimum interference with the static magnetosphere. It would also drive electrons North to form the Aurora Borealis (which incidentally moves Westwards with the Earth's rotation) and create a hole in the ozone layer at the South Pole. Needless to say, this explanation of the Ozone Hole did not find favour with the scientific establishment.

Brooker's other work is related to measuring the way that steel structures, steel frame buildings and underground minerals could cause local distortion of the sweeping magnetic field, even when the current was switched off. The ability of dowzers to sense such local distortions around water and minerals under the ground is possibly enhanced by the speed of the magnetic wind, which multiplies the effect many hundredfold. The magnetic eddies may also be the cause of the 'sick building syndrome'. LP

Please send any donations to the Charles Brooker Trust Fund to The Hon: Treasurer Sue Story, 4 The Spain, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3JL. Tel: 01730 265180

UNEX membership: £10 to the same address.

Other enquiries to Lucy Pringle, 5 Town Lane, Sheet, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 2AF. Tel\Fax: 01730 263454.

- NEWS -

STONED, MAN

Some pleb has sprayed paint on eight of the famous Avebury stones... What implications could this have?

RIGHT: *The vandalised stones at Avebury, photograph taken from the Daily Telegraph*

Around the 19th June, someone decided it would be a good idea to spray 'runic' symbols all over eight of the beautiful stones at Avebury, Wiltshire, centre of so much crop circle activity. The identity of the vandals remains unknown, although it's likely it was simply passing ravers on the way to their next drink, but more worrying is the amount of coverage the story has drawn from the media. Already, calls have been made from some areas to shut the stones off from the public to prevent this kind of incident happening again. This is being used as a good excuse, in other words, for English Heritage to instigate the kind of



programme which has resulted in the national treasure of Stonehenge being reduced to a money-grabbing tourist curio - and a fortress at certain times of the year. If the stones at Avebury were to be shut off, preventing people having the essential experience of walking amongst them and touching the ancient edifices, it would be a tragedy. Be ready to protest if the need arises... AT