

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries



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RUNNYMEDE, ANKERWYCKE AND STAINES

Eight TEMS and SEMG members met at Runnymede Meadow, Egham ("between Staines and Windsor") on July 21st, historic site of the sealing of Magna Carta by King John, although the exact site of the event was not recorded. Somewhere in the vicinity of the present memorial to the event is one contender; another is the ancient yew tree near Ankerwycke Priory that we were to visit later in the day.

We first visited the John F. Kennedy memorial, on ground given by the Queen to the United States after the assassination. The grounds of the memorial are designed to be philosophically symbolic of aspects of human life, and a winding path of stones leads upwards through trees to the Kennedy memorial itself, a large block of sandstone inscribed with the dedication. Eileen found strong



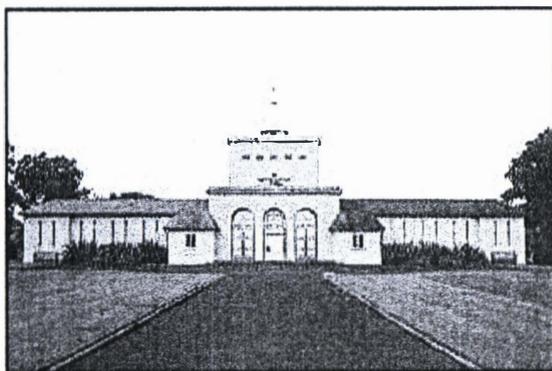
dowsing reactions here, and noted a fine twisted hawthorn nearby, and a clump of pines on the hill above. It was certainly an evocative spot chosen for the memorial.

From here we went to the nearby memorial to Magna Carta itself, a small shrine to the principles of freedom under law set up by the American Bar Association. The shrine was designed by Edward Maufe, who also designed the Air Force Memorial on the hill above, as well as Guildford Cathedral. It has a granite pillar on a stepped plinth, with

columns supporting the roof on the underside of which are depicted stars which seem to show the Plough and the pointers to the Pole Star. The roof seems to bear some resemblance to the flying saucer in "Forbidden Planet"!

There does seem to be a ley joining the two memorial sites; starting at a church in Windsor, running parallel to about half a mile of track and passing through Queen Anne's Gate, where I found a woodland "sanctuary" on a previous trip, of the kind and atmosphere we have found several times in various places. It then goes through the site of a Bronze Age enclosure in Egham where a hoard of bronzes was found, Laleham Church, the war memorial multijunction at Shepperton, the Prospect Tower at Claremont Landscape Garden (18th century), and a Roman villa site on the edge of an earthwork near Epsom.

We continued from here to the Air Force memorial on Cooper's Hill above Runnymede, also designed by Maufe and strangely with a very similar "flying saucer" on the roof! This commemorates the airmen in World War II who lost their lives and have no known grave. In beautifully manicured gardens, this has a courtyard with an altar-like memorial stone and a shrine building beyond it, which contains the names of the dead on book-like stones and a poem engraved on the window, which looks out on the view over Runnymede and the river. An even more breathtaking one is obtained from the room above. This building seems extremely powerful, even though the site is so modern. A ley which runs along Egham Causeway to the Negen Stones site near Staines Bridge goes along the hillside just beneath it; there was nothing discernible, except that it seems to run along the edge of a wood. The Negen Stones (Nine Stones) were mentioned in a charter of Chersey Abbey, on a site now occupied by a roundabout on the Egham side of the present Staines Bridge, and Staines (which means Stones) is thought to have been named after them.



There also seems to be a ley passing through the Memorial going through Ankerwycke Priory, coming from a tumulus on Chobham Common, the Memorial, the priory ruins, a church in South Ruislip and one in North Harrow, as well as several aligned roads and crossroads.

From here we went to have a very pleasant lunch in Walnut Tree Gardens in Egham, site of Walnut Tree House, once occupied by Henry Strode, who in the early eighteenth century founded the school and almshouses nearby which are now Strode's Sixth Form College. The site is now an arboretum planted on the Queen's Silver Jubilee, with a majestic cedar and

containing a water pump from the Glanty near Runnymede Bridge.

After this we travelled over Runnymede Bridge, which now carries the motorway as well as the original road, and saw in passing the roundabouts at each end, which are each on



prehistoric sites, one a Bronze Age enclosure and the other a Neolithic causewayed camp discovered from cropmarks, the aerial picture of which was shown to the group.

The other contender for the Magna Carta sealing was the venerable Ankerwyke Yew Tree, reputed to be over 2,000 years old and 31 feet in girth - we were to visit this next, walking across the fields from Magna Carta Lane, Wraysbury. Those favouring

this site for the sealing mention that it would have been neutral territory, and had wide views at the time to guard against ambush; also it was in the grounds of a priory where carrying weapons was forbidden. In June 1992, 777 years after the Magna Carta, David Bellamy and others signed the Green Magna Carta under the Ankerwyke, invoking the intention to work for a sustainable future.

Diana dowsed the site asking if King John had been here - the answer was no, but that he had been within 150 yards of the tree (this could have been in the priory). Lionel asked if there was any undiscovered treasure under it, the answer was no; but when Bob asked if there was any arcane knowledge in the site there was a yes. Eileen then found a dragon simulacrum in the branches as at the yew on the Sussex trip. Proceeding on to the priory ruins, Lionel noted that they were made of chalk, an unusual choice for building material. Eileen pointed out a Bishop's Broom bush nearby, a plant covered in thorns which was used for tenderising meat.

We travelled on to the recreation ground at Staines (with the band in the bandstand playing "Singing in the Rain" on this lovely fine day) and through it to the riverside where the replica of the London Stone stands. This once marked the boundary of the jurisdiction of the City of London over the river; the top part, on which was inscribed "God Preserve ye City of London", is thought to have been a Roman altar (Staines was a Roman town and bridging point of the Thames and Colne, called "Ad Pontes" (By the Bridges) - it was midway between London and Silchester (Calleva) being a day's march from each). The stone had, however, been moved in the seventeenth century from a spot near the old town hall, which would have placed it on the ley running along the stretch of the Roman road from London which aligns

with Staines High Street and the Negen Stones site. It had been visited a number of times by Lord Mayors of London.

After seeing this stone, we visited St. Mary's Church nearby, the parish church of Staines, which was unfortunately not open. Although built in 1828, this church is on the site of a stone church built in 675 AD by St. Erminildis, and it is on the ley through the Negen Stones site which also passes through St. Peter's Church, Chertsey.

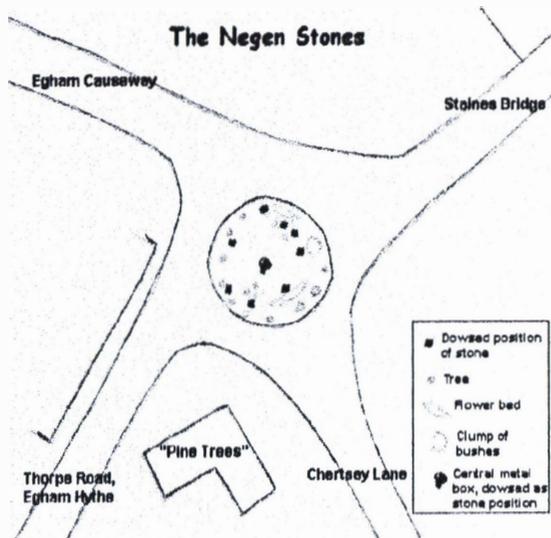


From here we drove over Staines Bridge and passed the Negen Stones roundabout, noting the alignments of the roads. This is an unusual ley centre in that the lines do not all meet at a single point but rather seem to describe a small area, which may indicate the size of the group of stones which were there. In fact, the lines seem to make a small pentacle round the area.

The day was concluded with tea which my wife Doris had made in the church hall of Egham Hythe Church. The church has a massive pyramid-like spire, and is grazed by one of the leys through the Negen Stones site, in spite of only dating from the beginning of the twentieth century. We were then shown round the church by William Newey, the churchwarden and Reader.

Dowsing the Negen Stones

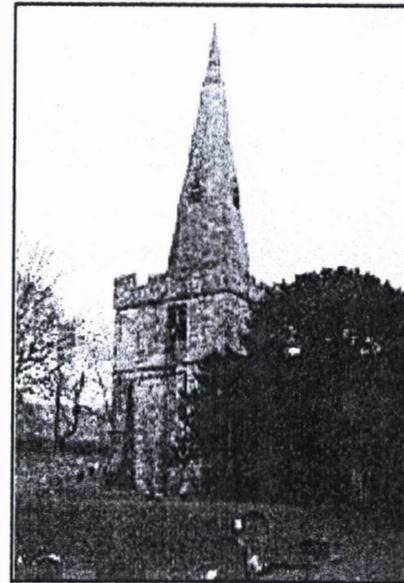
This is a plan of the dowsing reactions obtained on August 15th, 2002, when dowsing for the positions of the Negen Stones on the roundabout by Staines Bridge. It seems to indicate a generally oval north-south oriented stone circle with a central stone (eight and the central one making nine). The alignments of the Egham Causeway and Thorpe Road seem to skirt the site, supporting the original idea that the leys describing the small area rather than meeting at one point indicates the size of the



site. There is a metal box set in concrete in the centre of the roundabout and this dowsed particularly strongly for a stone position; it is not certain what this is.

A Derbyshire System

A visit to Derbyshire in August with Doris to see the Gilbert and Sullivan festival at Buxton revealed three interesting ley centres, all seemingly powerful and all in relationship with each other. The Peak District itself has power of its own - an imposing presence of ancient majesty. So it is not surprising that powerful leys and sites should be found here - as I found this year as well as when visiting many years ago.



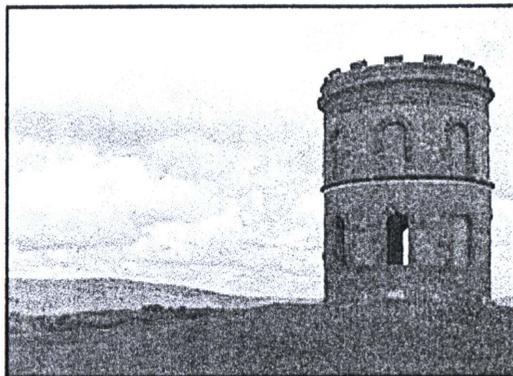
The thirteenth century Chelmorton Church in Derbyshire is particularly powerful - this was felt by me as head-hum even when entering the gate, and it increased considerably when inside the building. The village is one of the highest in the county, and the church vies with Chesterfield to the west in having a slightly crooked spire. This was, according to a poem displayed in the nearby Church Inn, caused when the weathervane (a locust, the symbol of John the Baptist, the church's dedication) blew off in a high wind and twisted the spire as it did so.

It has a ley with a closely mean-following track linking it to the next village of Taddington - this could be called a "text-book" Watkinsian ley. It comes north-eastwards through the eighteenth century church at Flash, the highest village in England, through Colshaw (significant name) to a cairn on High Edge and then to Chelmorton Church. From here a track leads over Sough Top to Taddington Church, built about 1350 with a stone altar top set in the floor below the present altar. The line then goes through a tumulus at Little Longstone and runs along Longstone Edge and through High Rake to Calver Peak, now crowned with a television mast. Finally it continues to a small church in Dronfield.

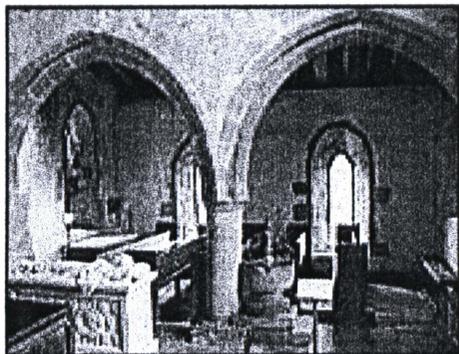
Another ley through Chelmorton comes from Burbage Church, Buxton and runs along Green Lane there, goes through Chelmorton Church, a tumulus by a wood on Bole Hill and a cross-roads/tracks nearby, Grind Low tumulus, Cocking Tor and a church at Ashover Hay.

The third ley through Chelmorton goes through Grin Low, a hill south of Buxton bearing "Solomon's Temple", a round tower folly built in 1896 by a local farmer, Solomon Mycock, to provide work for some of the town's unemployed. This is the second of the ley centres

mentioned; there was head-hum felt here too - it is built on a Neolithic burial mound which was found to contain three skeletons and food jars when excavated in 1894. The view from the top is stunning and includes Kinder Scout, Mam Tor, the Wye Valley, Axe Edge and Burbage Edge. The ley, after passing through the tower and Chehmorton Church, meets a tumulus at Sheldon, a cross-roads in Bakewell, then half a mile of coincident track followed by another half mile of mean-following track near Fallange, and a cross-roads with a quarter of a mile of coincident road and church at Alton.



Another alignment from the tower continues through Fox Low at Harpur Hill, Nether Low cairn near Sterndale Moor, a group of tumuli at Knotlow near Monyash, Ringham Low tumulus, Youlgreave Church and Matlock Bank Church.



The third ley from Solomon's Temple goes through the third of the centres - the chapel at Haddon Hall, the home of the Manners family (Duke of Rutland), and subject of an opera by Sir Arthur Sullivan (though not with Gilbert). It is one of the best preserved medieval houses, having had little alteration since the time of Henry VIII, whose elder brother was a frequent guest and had he survived would have been another King Arthur. The house

is built on a limestone outcrop and the path to the entrance is very steep.

Before extensions to the house in the fifteenth century the chapel was a free-standing church and its alignment to the east puts it out of alignment with the rest of the walls of the house. The building was felt to be very powerful and the difference in feeling after stepping over the threshold seems very marked. The ley from Grin Low goes through two cross-roads and about three miles of mean-following road north of Flagg, a tumulus on Burton Moor, the Haddon Hall chapel, a milestone at Rowsley and Black Hill (significant name). Another comes southwards from a large multijunction at Great Hucklow, passes through the chapel, the Nine Ladies stone circle and a cairn on Stanton Moor, a church at Wensley, a coincident road with cross-track near Spout, and a cross-roads at Blackbrook (significant name). The third comes from a cross-roads near Butterton, through Hartington Church, a tumulus at

Moneystones, a cross-roads at Middleton, a track multijunction at Haddon Fields, and the Haddon Hall chapel.

A Life of Ley Hunting



This is my latest web site (No. 17!), and outlines in detail how my life has been centred round the ancient alignments since 1961 when, with Philip Heselton, I was enthused with the subject, along with that of flying saucers and communication with them, and drawing forgotten knowledge from past lives; these were all thought of as part of one philosophy then, and were not separated as they have become, and even rubbished by one well-known individual who had come to have the subject in his care.

Ley hunting, experiments and theories and important events are given on a year-by-year chronological basis, showing its development since the revival by Tony Wedd in the early 1960s, when I was enthused by the subject as a fifteen-year-old schoolboy.

The URL is: <http://www.leyhunt.fsnet.co.uk>

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BOOK REVIEWS

Stone Age Soundtracks - the Acoustic Archaeology of Ancient Sites, by Paul Devereux, published by Vega, £12.99 ISBN 1-84333-447-X with Secrets of the Dead - Sounds from the Stone Age, Channel 4 TV programme.

This book and programme deal with the phenomenon of sound at ancient sites, and follows the findings of researchers who have found that the resonance frequencies of many varied prehistoric sites to be in a very similar range. It explores the use of sound at sacred sites from all over the world, and shows that sound was of great importance in ancient times, something largely overlooked by archaeology, and compares findings at ancient sites with the known use of sound by various cultures today.

Unfortunately, these are all still interpreted in terms of delusion or self-delusion (possible sonic patterns in smoke at Newgrange when the solar ray enters at midwinter, interpreted as spirits, strange echoes from sites as their voices, the use of substances to produce hallucinations, etc.) rather than real knowledge possessed by the ancient people, or any connection with earth energies or leys. This is in marked contrast with many articles in the second series of *The Ley Hunter* (Paul Screeton's editorship), such as those by Circumlibra, which I hope may one day be republished. It has been noticed more recently how sound such as of church choirs can boost the perceptible energies in a significant place, and there has even been a report of light phenomenon which appeared when humming at a site in accordance with carvings there.

The book is illustrated with many interesting sound-related pictures of ancient sites; the TV programme has some really beautiful views of the sites.

The Kingston Zodiac, by Mary Caine, published by Capel Bann. ISBN 186163111-1

This book, an expansion of a much smaller work, goes into incredible detail of the Zodiac around Kingston, so similar to the well-known Glastonbury one in essence although with many differences in detail. The author has been closely connected with the Somerset Zodiac and was at first reluctant to admit to one around her home area, but then noticing the plethora of significant places found the zodiac revealed itself. And it is an ongoing saga, as was shown by the naming of the Chertsey Community Health Council's offices "Cerberus House" (because it is a watch-dog) on the Great Dog of the Kingston Zodiac. The author was excited to hear of this at her recent talk to TEMS.

This is a deeply philosophical book, and the subject has been exhaustively researched in history, local customs and folklore which all support the Zodiac in reflecting the different characteristics of each sign, and bringing out the story of the whole. The author discusses zodiacal influences on time, from the great cycles of precession to such things as the cycle

of English monarchs in which each star sign is uncannily seen. If affecting time, she says, why not space as well - it is significant that terrestrial zodiacs seem to be reverse versions of the one in the sky, as if imprinted on the earth by the circling heavens themselves. "All things both great and small are comprehended in this vast clock".

TEMS meetings

Sunday 27th October - Green Man Family - A Global Perspective, by Peter Hill

Sunday 24th November - Past Lives, by Alan Hilton.

Sunday 15th December - TEMS Christmas Party, with Malcolm's Personal Casebook, by Malcolm Robinson. *Booking is essential for this event.*

Venue of all the above: Hampton. Ring Lionel: 020-8979-3148

London Earth Mysteries Circle meetings

7.00 p.m. Tuesdays (2nd and 4th in the month) at the New Diorama Centre, 34, Osnaburgh Street, London, NW1.

22nd October - Healing from a Pagan Perspective, by Liz Gale

12th November - A Walk through Avebury, by Terry Dobney

26th November - The Dragon's Place in Earth Mysteries, by Janet Hoult

10th December - Open Forum and Social Evening

SURREYEARTHMYSTERIES GROUP holds its meetings on the second Thursday of each month (except August and December) at 25, Albert Road, Addlestone at 8.00 p.m. We would be pleased to see you.

Some early ley hunts

Sunday, 31st October 1965 - Jimmy Goddard, Stephen Goddard (father) - Silchester and Cottington's Hill

We climbed to the top of "The Brow", a hill in Silchester, Hampshire, and noted two things. Firstly, the Imp Stone (a markstone mentioned by Alfred Watkins in *The Old Straight Track*), The Brow and a field gateway (these are mentioned by Watkins) seemed to be in line; secondly, Cottington's Hill, The Brow and the Roman city of Calleva Atrebatum seemed to align. We had no map to corroborate this, but decided to go to Cottington's Hill without delay (approximately eight miles away).

Same date - Jimmy Goddard, Stephen Goddard (father), Winifred Goddard (aunt)

As soon as possible after these finds we drove to Cottington's Hill, near Kingsclere, a very high vantage point with a clump of very old beech trees on the top. My father estimated that they were several hundred years old at least, as they were gnarled and stunted by the ever-present wind. This made a roaring sound through the leaves that had to be heard to be believed.

Very soon after arriving at the tree-crowned summit, my father noticed a curious phenom-

enon. Most of the trees were randomly placed, as in any other clump, but about ten or so were arranged in a dead straight line, found by my compass to be due east and west. This aligned westwards with another hill, which seemed to have a hedge or linear clump (it was difficult to tell which), lining up with the clump of trees. As we had no map of the area, we had no certainty that it was a ley, but it seemed fairly conclusive. Certainly the trees had either been planted there with the special purpose of indicating a ley or had grown naturally along the line (this could be possible if the ley is a force-line; it may well stimulate the growth of trees on its length, whereas other trees around might die off). In any case, it was clearly not just a forestry plantation line for three reasons: 1) the trees were very old, 2) only the one line was evident, going east west and aligning with the hilltop, 3) forestry activities could hardly be carried out in such a small area on top of a hill.

When descending the hill we found what appeared to be some kind of linear earthwork, straight and at right angles to the alignment mentioned above. Photographs were taken of this, and the line of trees.

All in all, the finds were worth the scrambling through mud and electrified fences that was necessary before we could reach the summit. Map research will follow as soon as the map has been obtained.

Later findings on Cottington's Hill

It was found to be the centre of at least three leys, though no ley could be found going to the Roman city. The east-west line was a 7-point one, there is one coming down from Inkpen Beacon (famous beauty spot) and also passing through Basing House. The other runs through Linkenholt Church.

Thursday May 4th 1967 - Jimmy Goddard and Stephen Goddard (father) - Arbor Low, Derbyshire

The object of this ley-hunt was to visit Arbor Low in Derbyshire. My mother and two other relatives from the Midlands area were with us, but they remained in the car when we stopped at the farm near Arbor Low, and did not walk up to the site itself.

As we had not known we would be coming to Arbor Low, we did not have the map with us, so at first mistook the nearby tumulus, Gib Hill, for the site. This quite large mound had small stones round it with "VR" on them, and on the top had quite a large rough-hewn stone with a brass plate on it saying that it had been replaced as nearly as possible in its original position by the executors of a will.

Gib Hill was quite interesting, as the only place where the top stone was visible when standing at the bottom of the mound was from the north-west, when a V-shaped notch in the hill made the stone visible. This was seen to be aligned with a clump on the horizon, too far and dim to photograph.

Arbor Low itself, some way away, was found to be a huge circle, almost like a clock face, of stones lying on the ground, radiating outwards from the centre. In a NW and SE direction respectively, a clump could be seen on the horizon, thus both aligning with Arbor Low and each other.

Arbor Low is reputed to have fifty leys going through it, found by K.H. Koop, an early ley hunter. A dictionary definitions of "Arbor" is "The axle on which a wheel turns, the main support of any machine". I found this very interesting, as Arbor Low is in the shape of a large wheel.

A Somerset Ley Hunt - July 1969

During our stay in Glastonbury in early July, Miss Barbara Crump very kindly took my fiancée and myself to see some of the interesting ley sites of the area. Proceeding from Glastonbury the Wells road runs straight for a mile; this was later found to align to the south with Dundon Hill (head of the Gemini or Orion figure of the Somerset Zodiac) and to the north with a tumulus near Priddy, a cross-roads in West Harptree and a piece of straight track near Bristol. In Glastonbury the line skirts the base of Chalice Hill.

We then visited Fenny Castle and took alignments on the Tor; there is a ley joining the two. We then found the base of an ancient cross near there. From here we went to St. Leonard's Church, Rodney Stoke, which dates from 1174 and has ancient yew trees near. In the Rodney Chapel here both Doris and I had strong humming in our heads as we do at some ley centres (though by no means all). As I expected, I found this to be a good ley centre. It is aligned slightly north of east, to align with two tumuli north of Wells. Strangely enough, the Rodney Chapel was only added in the 15th century.

From here we continued to Nyland Hill, a main ley-orthotenic centre, but found it inaccessible; both Wedmore Church and the Tor were visible from the base though.

MY SEVENTEEN WEB SITES

My web sites, including the **Buckingham Palace Ley site**, the **Tony Wedd site** and the **Surrey Earth Mysteries Group site**, were originally hosted on the Netscape Online web server. When this was closed down at the end of June, 2002 I had to transfer them to another site - Freeserve. However, getting the search engines to realise that the original URL no longer exists but the sites still exist on another one has been no easy matter.

But the sites seemed quite popular - particularly the Buckingham Palace Ley Line one, which generated over 8,000 hits in the time it was on Netscape. It still exists, and so do the others! I have created a new page, with links to all seventeen of my sites.

Please visit!

<http://www.ahsoc.fsnet.co.uk/jimsites.htm>

THE HIDDEN UNITY and BEGINNINGS

The Hidden Unity looks at the strange phenomenon of subconscious siting of ley points, and notes that places of worship, of all religions and all ages, tend to predominate on leys. The environmental and philosophical implications of this are discussed, and the apparent necessity of worship but irrelevance of doctrine. Two ley centres are given as examples, and investigated in depth - the Shah Jehan Mosque in Woking and the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple, Scunthorpe. There is an appendix by Eileen Grimshaw on the significance of the Pagan religion to this study. Illustrated with photographs, maps and line drawings. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

Beginnings is about a series of potentially useful discoveries, mainly made by Jimmy Goddard over a period of about twenty years, but having some overlap with discoveries made by others. For various reasons, the investigations are all in their early stages, and some have not been continued. They include earth energy detection, natural antigravity, subconscious siting, ley width, and the solar transition effect. There is also a chapter on cognitive dissonance - a psychological factor which seems to have been at the root of all bigotry - scientific, religious and other - down the ages. The booklet is concluded with an account of the discovery of leys by Alfred Watkins. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

EARTH PEOPLE, SPACE PEOPLE

In 1961, Tony Wedd produced a manuscript *Earth Men, Space Men*, detailing many claims of extraterrestrial contact. It was never published, and I had thought it was lost, though it has recently been located. To try to make up for the loss in a much more modest size, this booklet was prepared. As well as giving details of some of the more prominent contact claims, there are articles on the history of the STAR Fellowship and some of its personalities, evidence for life in the Solar System and investigation into extraterrestrial language.

£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

THE LEGACY OF TONY WEDD

This **CD-ROM** is an electronic form of the travelling exhibition Tony planned, using his voice, writing, photographs and drawings to illustrate his research and findings in the fields of flying saucers, landscape energies and lost technology.

£12 from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

TOUCHSTONE is the newsletter of the Surrey Earth Mysteries Group. **£2** for four quarterly issues from J. Goddard, 25, Albert Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15. 2PX. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard. **IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE AN "X" WILL FOLLOW THIS SENTENCE:**