

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries



No. 63

October 2003

DISPUTED MATURITY

Fortean Times, the magazine of strange phenomena, have celebrated their 30th anniversary with the latest issue, and have articles on several of the main subjects involved during that time. Two of these were Earth Mysteries (by Paul Devereux) and UFOs (by Jenny Randles). Both regard ideas such as those of Tony Wedd (not mentioned in the articles) of a terrestrial energy network and extraterrestrial visitors (all part of one whole to Tony) with a good deal of superciliousness, both implying that the subject(s) have "matured" since the days of such notions.

Paul Devereux, a former editor of *The Ley Hunter*, has in recent times rejected the reality of leys altogether - a vicious attack by one who has been privileged to have come to be regarded as prominent in the field. He describes earth mysteries as a "messy subject", and suggests that leys have changed in their perceived nature from being "old straight tracks" to "geomagnetic routes for flying saucers" and lines of "unspecified energies". They are of course all these things and more, as was described in the last editorial of *Touchstone*; <http://www.tlh6976.fsnet.co.uk/leytruth.htm> has the details.

Mention of the many instances of straight lines in the landscape, including spirit ways and death roads all over the world is not shown as evidence of the world-wide network of the sacred, but summed up by the arrogant statement that "ley hunting has led to valid research". Traditional ley hunting is described as a "stubborn rump", and ideas of energy systems as "New Age notions". Issues of *The Ley Hunter* beginning in 1969, containing many inspired articles by such people as Tony Wedd and Circumlibra, are now on the web on <http://www.tlh6976.fsnet.co.uk> to show the reality of leys, and my personal journey on the Old Straight Track is on <http://www.leyhunt.fsnet.co.uk>

Jenny Randles writes in a similar vein about what has come to be known as the "Extraterrestrial Hypothesis", ("You believed in flying saucers and you believed aliens flew them here. There was no other perspective"). An implied denial of the existence of extraterrestrials

is called "maturity in the British UFO community", and contact claims do not even get a mention, even less ideas of inhabitability of near planets, which George Adamski insisted on to the end of his life. Much is made of theories of energy fields generated by terrestrial forces affecting brain waves, and Paul Devereux's earth light theories are hailed as "setting UFOlogy on a more promising path". To get another perspective, see *Our Space Visitors Today* by Dan Ross on <http://www.goddardmultimedia.fsnet.co.uk/atpai/danlect.htm> and *All the Planets are Inhabited* on <http://www.goddardmultimedia.fsnet.co.uk/atpai/> There has also been some work done on Solexmal, the interlingua of the Solar System, see <http://www.spacevoice.fsnet.co.uk/language.htm>

THE GREAT FOSTERS ROMAN SPUR AND ITS ASSOCIATED LEYS

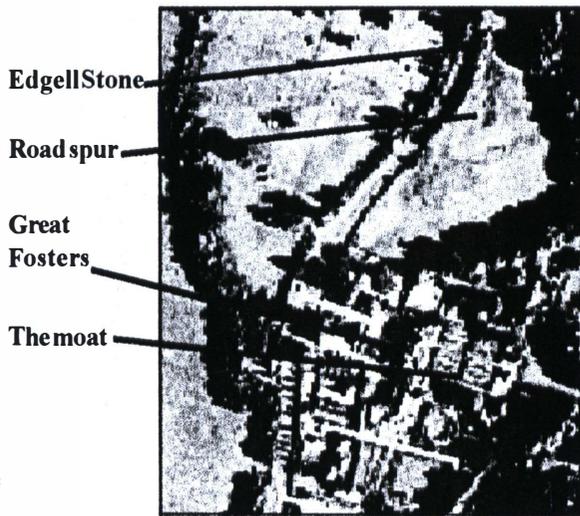


The Edgell Stone

There is a large stone with a Roman appearance by the roadside near Great Fosters Hotel, Egham, put there by Wyatt Edgell in 1850 to mark the course of the Roman road which, it says, runs through the adjoining meadow. However, it does not seem likely that this is the main road from London to Silchester - Turner's *History of Egham* says it is too far to the south, and as mentioned in a previous issue the main

road would seem to run along the Egham Causeway, then turn south-west at the Glanty before running to Sunningdale via Fort Belvedere. Traces can be seen on the aerial photographs at Holloway College, near Virginia Water and by Fort Belvedere; *Roman Roads in Britain* (by John Margary) says it runs "towards Fort Belvedere, where a woodland ride is said to follow it for 300 yards".

The Edgell stone does not indicate the spur's direction in the field, but the aerial photograph from Multimap shows it clearly running southwards from the stone halfway across the field. A continuation would take it through a corner of the moat beyond Great Fosters; in the other direction, it points at Egham Church (a Saxon church site), which would be on the course of the main road and thus the



site of the junction of this spur if the Causeway route for the main road is correct. Manor Farm is adjacent to this spot; Turner's book says that a denarius (Roman penny) of Tiberius (the emperor at the time of Jesus Christ) was found there; also that a Roman fibula (brooch) was found at Milton Place, which is fairly close to the spur.

The spur also follows the stretch of Stroude Road leading from the stone to the junction of New Wickham Lane, which is strange as the old road marked on the eighteenth century map (displayed in Egham Museum) did not follow this route - it went the other side of Milton Park, though the Wickham Lane junction was in the same position. The old course of the road can still be seen following a property boundary and as a line of trees. The stretch of Stroude Road is, however, on quite a high bank, and the eighteenth century map does seem to show a long field boundary following the route. There is nothing marked continuing to Egham, however.

It is not clear where the Roman road spur runs beyond Great Fosters. Turner's book says it "could be a branch road leading to some entrenchments near Penton Hook". If this was the case - and presumably meaning the earthwork on Laleham Burway - the road would have



The Laleham Enclosure (visited with TEMS in 1994 when following the Silchester Ley)

to make a right-angle turn somewhere beyond Great Fosters. This could take it past the site of Thorpe Church, where a Roman cinerary urn was found. Also the Vicar, Canon Rothwell, has indicated that the church itself is on Roman foundations. There are remains of early Roman building (Julius to Tiberius) and later brick columns indicating a building of some substance of around the time of Claudius. Also there is a crypt, now sealed, with indications that it may have been a Mithraeum of somewhat later date, with an immersion basin and apsidal end. The building was on an island in a marsh at this time.

The Roman origin of the Laleham earthwork is not certain; an entry in the Surrey Sites and Monuments Record records the opinion that it is "improbably Roman", and more likely a medieval stock enclosure, but does mention its rounded corners which might indicate Roman origin.

There is a path coming roughly eastwards a little way south of Great Fosters which passes close to Thorpe Church; this is known as "Monks' Walk" and today crosses the Thorpe Park theme park. But it goes towards the Chertsey Abbey site and not the Laleham

earthwork. However, the first part of it (running eastwards) does have an appreciable bank adjacent to it on the left, which drops down to lower ground each side, so could be the course of the spur running towards the building that was on the Thorpe Church site. Today it crosses the motorway by a footbridge, then turns south-east to point directly at the church. Past the church it continues in a generally south-east, though curving track towards the Chertsey Abbey site.

The Egham Church-Great Fosters stretch seems to be ley running from the church through the Wickham Lane junction, coincident with the stretch of Stroude Road and Roman road



Great Fosters

stretch, the Great Fosters moat, two crossroads, Ether Hill (a prominent pine clump clearly visible from St. Peter's Way, the motorway link road at Addlestone), a cross-tracks on Horsell Common, and the Six Cross Roads, where it meets the Buckingham Palace Ley (<http://www.ahsoc.fsnet.co.uk/royal-ley>). In the other direction it runs through a

multijunction near Pinewood Studios and another moat at Mopes Farm, Chalfont St. Peter, where it meets the ley which runs along the northern stretch of the Stanwell Cursus.

It is also interesting that the Great Fosters moat, which Turner's book says could mark the position of an earlier building, aligns with Windsor Castle, a long stretch of ride leading from it, a large multijunction at Old Windsor, the Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede (found to be powerful on our field trip, and on a ley with the Magna Carta memorial which could be the Sedona-Pipestone line), and St. Ann's Hill hillfort at Chertsey.



Victoria Monument and Buckingham Palace

There is yet another interesting ley going through the Great Fosters moat, which links Sunningdale Church (adjacent to the main Roman road) and the Victoria Monument at

Buckingham Palace. This goes from Sunningdale Church through a cross-roads south of Virginia Water lake, Great Fosters moat, and churches in Hounslow, North Sheen, Kensington and Brompton before reaching Buckingham Palace and the Victoria Monument, where of course it crosses the Buckingham Palace Ley and Chris Street's London Axis Ley (<http://www.goddardmultimedia.fsnet.co.uk/semg/hdertstr.htm>). This makes the moat a ley centre, so possibly the site of a monument in earlier times.

FIGURES IN THE CHALK

Landscape Mysteries - Figures in the Chalk was a programme on Channel 4 in October in

which archaeological research was done to date two hill figures - the Long Man of Wilmington and the Cerne Giant. It began by saying that the Uffington White Horse was shown by early silts to be prehistoric - dated to about 800 BC, the end of the Bronze Age, and probably connected with the nearby hillfort. Coming to the Long Man, important to ley hunters of course because of Alfred Watkins' thoughts of him as the "dodman" or surveyor, a seventh century buckle of a similar figure was shown. To make the figure, a shallow trench in the chalk would have to be dug, and there would be dislodged material at the bottom of the hill. Such a layer was found by excavation, and soil from under it was tested by optically stimulated luminescence and gave a date of 1545 AD.



The Long Man of Wilmington

In the case of the Cerne Giant, no record of him could be found in the records of the nearby Abbey - the first mention is in the churchwarden's account of 1694. A survey of 1617 did not mention him. It was postulated that he was carved by a Denzil Hollis, an MP who owned Cerne Abbas. It was shown to be similar to statues of Oliver Cromwell as the British Hercules, which had a club but a loincloth instead of the naked form of the Giant; the figure was thus thought to be a parody of the statues.



The Cerne Giant

Each of the figures is, however, on a ley featured in Paul Devereux's books, and the Cerne Giant is also on the E-line, the widest and most powerful ley found. Also, the white horses of Wiltshire, all of which, except

Uffington, are relatively recent, form the amazingly precise White Horse Triangle - an isosceles triangle with a perpendicular, the Uffington horse being the apex. This was found by Doug Chaundy in the sixties, who also found the long barrows of Salisbury Plain to be



Two layers of chalk?

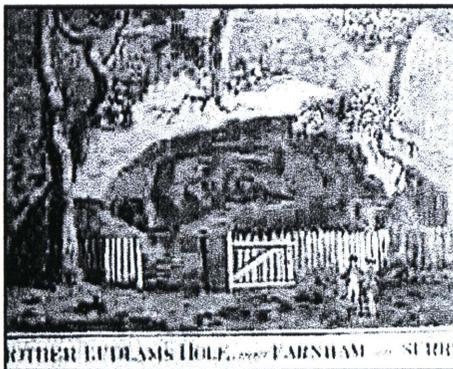
(see *Gogmagog - the Buried Gods* by T.C. Lethbridge). Chalk figures relatively quickly overgrow unless regularly scoured, as the programme showed, but there could be memories of earlier figures that impelled people to put others on those sites. Indeed, the trench shown below the Long Man in the programme did seem to have another layer of chalk fragments underneath the one tested - could this represent an earlier figure?

THE MOTHER LUDLAM'S HOLE FIELD TRIP - July 1987

In spite of a few minor setbacks, the field trip was quite successful. We met with the London Earth Mysteries Circle as planned, and a number of interesting things were found. The main ley of interest in the area is the one linking Sandy Cross cross-roads, Mother Ludlam's Hole, Maverley Abbey, a junction nearby, the Millbridge cross-roads and Fransham church.

At the junction outside Waverley Abbey there was a weir under the road, where there was the familiar middle-C sound of rushing water, and it is exactly on the ley. The age of the water channeling is not known.

The abbey being closed until 2.00, we made our way to Mother Ludlam's Hole along a very pleasant wooded track. The cave is very spectacular with its seventeenth century entrance arch, its trickling stream and mysterious cavernous depths. At the entrance and at right angles to it there are two natural-looking fissures which run very deeply into the rock. They are aligned with each other but are not on the line of the Fransham ley. The main cave is large, but narrows towards the back to a very narrow passage through which the stream flows.



MOTHER LUDLAM'S HOLE, near FRANSHAM

positioned similarly to the stars in the northern sky.

So they all seem to be in significant places - could it be that the relatively recent figures are carved on spots where there were originally older ones? The Westbury White Horse is said to be on the site of an older horse, and T.C. Lethbridge found figures on hillsides long overgrown by plunging a heavy implement against the ground to find obscured indentations in the ground

After visiting the cave, a small group scaled the hill to reach the much smaller Father Fook's Cave, higher up and completely dry. It too had side alcoves, though these were smaller and looked man-made. The "Mithraic Temple" at Chiddingstone has similar alcoves at the entrance.

There is a group of three Scots pines above Father Fook's Cave, but Chris Hall told us they had been put there in the seventeenth century. During this and the following century many "ornamental" clumps were placed on hilltops. Chris regards these as red herrings, but I tend to feel there could have been a strong subconscious urge to build them, to re-mark the leys.

There are three possible origins of the Ludlam name, Chris informed us. One is from Lud the Saxon king of Ludgate fame. It could also come from a Saxon word for meeting place, or one meaning "loud". The sound of the stream at Waverley Abbey came to mind then. I tend to favour the "loud" possibility, for the original name was Ludwell, and the derivation of Ludwall in Wiltshire is "loud stream". It does not seem likely that the stream through the cave was ever loud, but it flows into the Wey near the very loud wair mentioned earlier.

I was asked by one of the LEMC members if I had the sandjar, and if I still used it. The answer is no, not because it has become less effective, but because of the rogue variable of health. My health has deteriorated somewhat, and the energy accumulated by the cork seems to flow back into me (going from higher to lower potential) instead of going into the quartz and activating it. This renders it ineffective to me, but it would not be so for a younger person in good health.

We proceeded from here to the Millbridge cross-roads near Fransham, where the ley passes through. We found a small stone near the fence of a house (a little way down the road), and one of the LEMC members asked the occupier if he knew anything about it. He turned out to be the local historical society chairman, and he told us that the stone, broken by gas workers, was not old, but an older one had existed by the cross-roads - exactly where the ley passed through! (It had been removed by the council to make room for some rather ugly bollards).

After a pleasant lunch on Fransham Green, we went to Fransham church, which, like the well, is dedicated to St. Mary. No visual alignment was in evidence, but the bend in the river the ley passes through confirmed the line of it, and two double trees were adjacent though not quite on it. There is a group of four Scots pines in line with the west end of the church, and some interesting external window grotesques, including a pig, a skull and a demon! A window of St. George and St. Michael by the altar was evidence of the church's ley importance. The church was founded in the thirteenth century.

The cauldron we had all come to see was a huge metal bowl about three feet in diameter on a separate three-legged trivet. The writer of the church history, though recounting the

legend, says the real purpose of the vessel was to contain ale drunk at "church ales" in the middle ages. There was said to be a mineral spring nearby, but there is no evidence of this today.

We then went back to Waverley Abbey and looked around the site - beautiful on a sunny afternoon, with blue damsel flies skimming over the river and forget-me-nots by the water's edge. At this point our group had to leave as some of us were feeling the effects of the heat. We called in on our member Brenda Spinney in Grayshott on the way back, and had a pleasant chat to round off the day.

THE EVENING PART OF THE MOTHER LUDLAM'S FIELD TRIP

by Robert Stephenson

After our joint exploration of Waverley Abbey ruins was completed it was time to take a peaceful rest in the sunshine. This is a tranquil spot, with the River Wey curving placidly round the abbey meadows. Most of us were drawn to the water's edge and on this day many damsel flies were darting across its surface.

It was now getting on for late afternoon, and the Surrey Earth Mysteries contingent had to take their leave. So we said farewell, and on a final look round the position of the church high altar was found. Close by a magnificent yew tree was growing from the ruined east end; this, like the other large trees growing from the walls, testified to the length of time since the abbey's dissolution.

Chris Hall, who has researched the area, stayed on to guide us through the evening. A lashing of string was quickly improvised to secure his bicycle to the mini-bus roof rack. The next stop for us was, however, at a garden centre refreshment house for a leisurely round of tea and cakes. But it was not too long before we were parked on Frensham Common and climbing the sandy slope to see the tumuli. Standing on the highest gave marvellous views over miles of common, with the vast Frensham Great Pond unmistakable in the valley below.

We drove south to our final destination - Stony Jump, one of the Devil's Jumps whose folklore significance has been given in previous Touchstones. Only after walking some distance was it possible to fully realise the ascent ahead of us. Standing at the bottom of this natural eminence one could look up and see a great staircase of log foot steps stretching up into the sky.

A long but enjoyable climb brought us to the rocky outcrop on its summit - from this craggy crag a splendid panorama was spread before us. We looked for crevices in the rock to contact the fairies through and watched the sun sink closer to the horizon. I think it was about nine o'clock when we finally left.

LETTERS

from Norman Darwen, Bolton, Lancashire:

Many thanks for the latest Touchstone - it is always good to see such solid ley-hunting material.

A family holiday in Anglesey in north Wales did not offer much time for ley-hunting but the island itself would surely repay in-depth research. Anglesey's druid associations are well-known but there are numerous far older sites. I visited the dramatic Gawres neolithic chambered cairn high on a hill overlooking the Irish Sea, and the curious Castell Bryn Gwyn, described as possibly being for ritual use in the neolithic and reused in Roman times. The map indicates "standing stones" to the west-south-west of the latter site.

I was not prepared for what I found! Over several stiles and across a couple of fields, a path led me to a dead, withered tree in a field boundary. Next to it, partially hidden (though not if you know where to look) were a couple of very large stones - one oval and roughly fourteen feet high, the other vaguely diamond shaped and about 12 feet tall. Both were covered in lichen, and the oval one had several marks in it showing where chunks had been hacked out (so perhaps there was a tradition of healing use). There were several smaller support stones and the taller stone had a couple of bird feathers stuck (deliberately) into one of the holes. The track to the stones was overgrown but someone had obviously been to the site - a very tranquil and serene spot.

The other site I visited was much more recent - Llys Rhosyr is a royal court of the Welsh princes dating from before the invasion of Wales by the English in the Middle Ages. It was only excavated in the last few years and lies on a bend of a country lane - which actually means that the road is aligned directly to the site! The road itself runs in a reasonably straight line for several miles, twisting and turning but always running in a south-west to north-east direction.

(The same direction as the Buckingham Palace ley, and the Mall aligned with it - JG.)

NOTES AND NEWS

TEMS meetings

Sunday 16th November - Montauk and Time Travel, by Norman Oliver.

Sunday 14th December. Christmas Party.

Meetings at Hampton - please 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, Osna burgl Street, London, NW1.

11th November - Doctor Dee and Things Enochian, by Rufus Harrington.

25th November - Paganism in the 21st Century, by Shaun Aston.

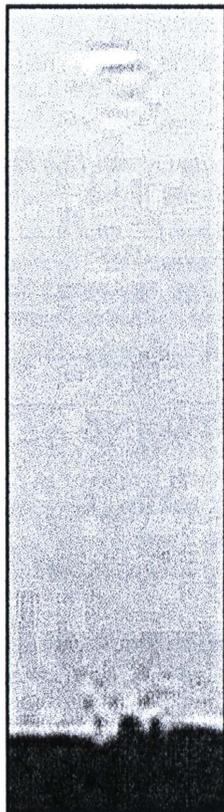
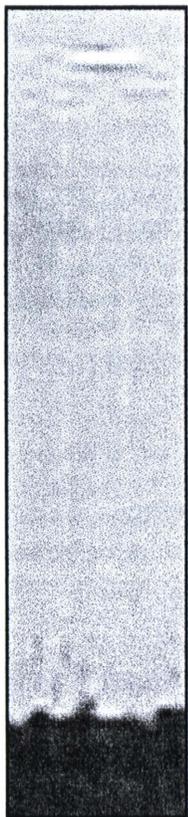
9th December - Open Forum and Social Evening.

Surrey Earth Mysteries 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.

UFO on editor's photographs

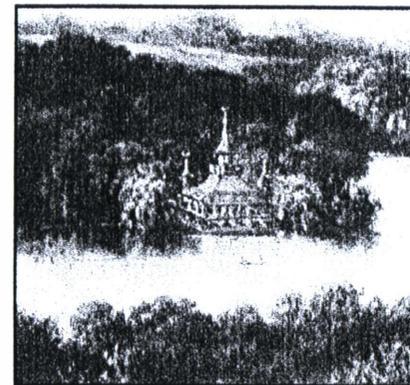
On Friday, September 5th at about 4.00 p.m. I was on top of the tower at Fort Belvedere at Sunningdale (famous for being the place from which Edward VIII made his abdication broadcast) photographing the panorama to see if any evidence of the Roman road through there could be seen from that vantage point. When I looked at the digital pictures on returning home, I noticed there was a strange object on three of them, taken towards St. Anne's Hill, Chertsey, visible with Holloway Sanatorium on the distant horizon.

The object was not seen at the time as the viewfinder minimised the size of the vista seen, and may have been too distant to have been seen anyway. The pictures were taken on maximum zoom, and later enlarged even more on the computer; this is the reason for their pixellated appearance. The photographs were taken in fairly rapid succession to get the complete panorama round the tower.

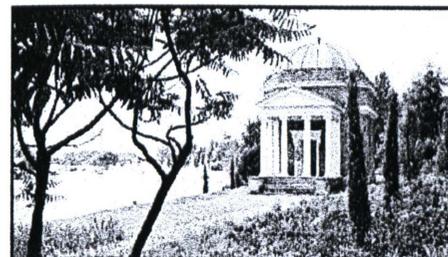


Some unusual "temples" on leys

The Leptis Magna temple at Virginia Water, brought from Libya by the Duke of Cumberland, is on the course of the main Roman road from London to Silchester. As described in the last issue, the following ley when extended goes through a variety of places of worship, including the Swaminaryan Hindu Temple at Neasden, the Norrice Lea Synagogue and the Heathrow Airport chapel. A postcard in Egham Museum shows that it also goes through the site of George IV's Fishing Temple (as it goes through that promontory in the lake). This was built in 1826 in oriental style.



The Temple to Shakespeare at Hampton, visited on the TEMS field trip there earlier in the year, was built by the renowned actor-manager, David Garrick to celebrate the genius of William Shakespeare, commissioning the sculptor Roubiliac to provide a life-size statue of his hero to be placed inside. It is on the Buckingham Palace Ley.



MY NINETEEN WEB SITES

My web sites, including the Buckingham Palace Ley site, the Tony Wedd site, the Surrey Earth Mysteries Group site and The Truth about Leys site are all link-listed on the URL below.

Please visit!

**http://
www.ahsoc.fsnet.co.uk/
jimsites.htm**

<p>MEYN MAMVRO Ancient stones & sacred sites in Cornwall</p>
<p><i>Earth Energies * Ancient Stones * Sacred Sites * Paganism * Leypaths Pre-history and culture * Megalithic Mysteries * Legends & Folklore</i></p>
<p>Sample £2.20 Annual Subscription £6.50 from:- 51 Carn Bosavern, St. Just, Penzance, Cornwall, TR197QX. Web site: www.meynmamvro.co.uk *****</p>
<p>Also available: EM Guides to ancient sites in Cornwall, 'Pagan Cornwall: Land of the Goddess' & 'In Search of Cornwall's Holy Wells' Details from the above address</p>

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:**