

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries



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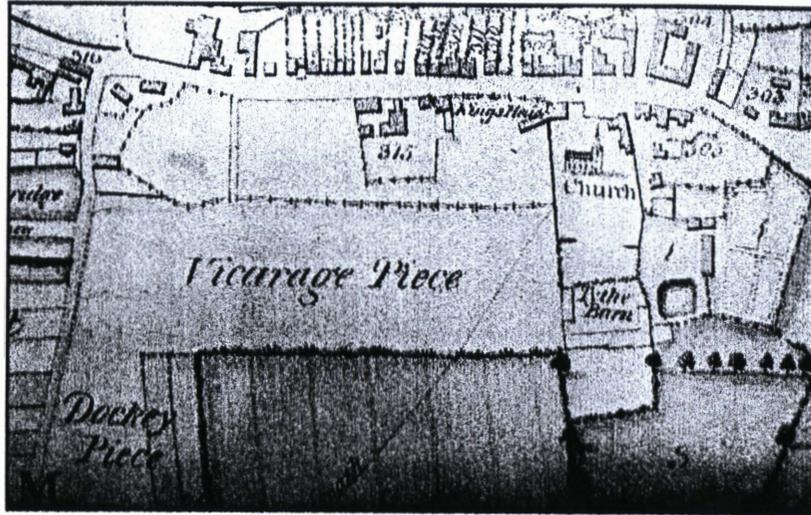
CONFIRMATIONS OF THE ROMAN ROAD

There have been some interesting confirmations of the course of the Roman branch road from Egham mentioned in the last issue. The piece of road by the Edgell Stone visible on the aerial photograph points directly at Egham Church, a nineteenth century building but on a Saxon church site, and the stretch of Stroude Road to the Wickham Lane junction follows the alignment. There is an 1802 map reproduced on the back cover of *Echoes of Egham*, a book of historical photographs of the town by local historians David and Jocelyn Barker (the same David Barker who, in 1964, found the south-western extension of the Egham Causeway which seems to have identified the Causeway as the course of the Roman London-Silchester road remade in medieval times). This map shows a footpath going in a due southerly direction from the church, diagonally across the grid of fields. This would align with Wickham Lane, the stone and the road stretch visible from the air. At Egham Church today, a bank leading away to the south can still be seen.

Also the seventeenth-century drawing of Egham (from a picture by artists travelling with the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Cosmo the Third, in 1669, sold as a postcard in Egham Museum) seems to show higher land that side of the picture, and very marshy ground to the left.



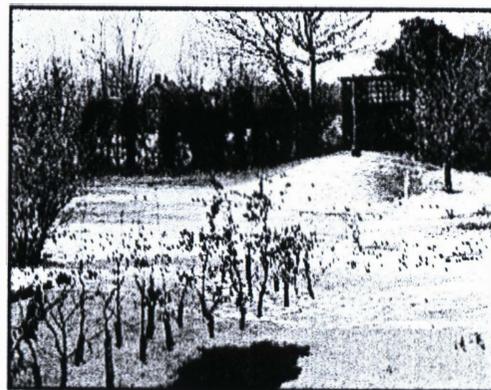
Egham in 1669, seemingly showing marshy ground to the left, but higher ground proceeding from the church southwards



The footpath leading southwards from Egham Church (the High Street runs approximately south-west)

As we saw in the last issue, Frederick Turner's book on Egham theorises that the branch could be going to "entrenchments near Penton Hook" which we identified as the enclosure on Laleham Burway, and said that if this was the case the road would have to make a right-angled turn somewhere south of Great Fosters. A few hundred yards south of the hotel there is a footpath leading off at right angles and roughly eastwards a little way south of Great Fosters. It passes close to Thorpe Church; the stretch from the church to Chertsey is known as "Monks' Walk" and today crosses the Thorpe Park theme park.

The part leading from Stroude Road 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, which the vicar believes was a Mithraeum from the evidence he saw when the church was being renovated. The building would have been on a high point which would have been an island in a marsh at the time; this can be seen when visiting the church.



The right-angled bank at Stroude Road. The line of trees in the background represents the other arm of the right angle.

At the point where it leads off from Stroude



The house on the right, on the bank alignment, is higher than its neighbour.

Road there seems to be a low bank at right angles to it, on the frontage of two semi-detached houses - seemingly representing the right angle postulated earlier. This bank points directly at the Great Fosters moat, and the right angle can clearly be seen from the kissing-gate at the entrance to the footpath. Stroude Road then diverges from the alignment of the bank to pass the gates of Great Fosters; a house which seems to be on the line can clearly be seen to be higher than its adjoining house. Today the path 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.

Jill Williams' map of Thorpe as it was 1650 to 1810 shows the trackway making an unbroken path from Stroude Road towards Thorpe Church (*Thorpe, a Study in Maps*, by Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society). Her map of the village centre in 1810 shows the path coming southwards from the church (making another approximate right angle), then making another almost right-angled turn to follow a long, narrow field called *The Road*.



The field bank leading away from Stroude Road, the other arm of the right angle.

She also writes that there was also a field boundary continuing the same line, and that the path meets the present course of Monks' Walk on the boundary of Thorpe to cross a stream at Burr ridge Stile. These areas are now flooded by the Thorpe Park lakes, which the present Monks' Walk crosses by bridges. Her maps covering 1650-1810 and 1550-1650 also show the south-running track and the "The Road" track, and of the period 1215-1350 she writes that a causeway was said to link Thorpe and Chertsey. If this is the Roman branch road in its entirety it would mean that it headed for the site on which Chertsey Abbey was later to be built. This was also on an island (Chertsey means "Cerota's Isle") and offers the possibility that there was a Roman building here too, of sufficient importance to build the banked causeway road to it.

Most of the sections of the main and branch roads seem to be coincident with leys, which make an interesting pattern. The stretch of road leading from the end of the present Egham Causeway to the road's reappearance at Sunningdale is not, as previously thought, one straight stretch. Study of the aerial photographs indicates that it made a very slight turn at the end of what is now Grange Road, Egham, in order to run along the stretch of bank by Royal Holloway College, which is so distinct from the air. When it reaches the present A30 it makes another slight turn back to continue through the Virginia Water ruins and Fort Belvedere to the Roman/modern junction by Sunningdale Church. Amazingly, the two alignments, although at such a slight angle to each other, are two separate leys, both of which go through a synagogue when extended towards London.

One of these is the interesting hidden-unity ley described in the July issue, which passes through Egham United Church (originally Wesleyan Methodist), the underground Heathrow Airport chapel with its cairn and considerable head-hum, Hanwell Church, the Neasden Mandir and Norrice Lea Orthodox Synagogue. The other goes through the Egham Church (Saxon foundation) site, the Bronze Age/Neolithic site at Runnymede Bridge, and five more churches and a synagogue at Child's Hill.

The Egham Causeway itself runs along an interesting ley too, as mentioned before. This runs from Cooper's Hill just below the Air Force memorial, through the Runnymede Bridge site, along the Causeway, through the Spelthorne Moot site and a long coincident road at Ashford, and several more churches.

Part of the footpath leading towards Thorpe Church (seemingly on the branch Roman road as outlined above) is on a ley which goes through a Catholic church in Englefield Green, the footpath, Thorpe Church, Chertsey Church, the large (modern) chapel at St. George's College, Addlestone, a small church in Weybridge and Whiteley Village Church.

The moat behind Great Fosters (which the branch Roman road seems to pass through) seems to be an interesting ley centre. One of its leys, coming from Sunningdale Church, continues to go through Buckingham Palace and the Victoria Monument (where of course it meets the Buckingham Palace Ley which goes along the Mall, and Chris Street's London Axis Ley). Between Great Fosters and the Palace it goes through six more churches.

Another of the Great Fosters leys comes from Windsor Castle down a fairly long stretch of ride, through a large multijunction at Old Windsor, the Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede (found powerful on our field trip), the Great Fosters moat and St. Anne's Hill, Chertsey.

The third comes northwards from the Six Crossroads at Horsell (on the Buckingham Palace Ley), a cross-tracks on Horsell Common, the prominent Scots pine clump on Ether Hill, Ottershaw, two more cross-roads/tracks, the Great Fosters moat, the stretch of branch road leading from the moat along the piece seen in the aerial picture, the Edgell Stone, the stretch

of Stroude Road, the footpath on the old map and Egham Church, a large multijunction near Pinewood Studios, a stretch of coincident track and boundary, and a cross-roads with church at Horn Hill, Chalfont.

**Sky Westbury and Crooked
by Paul Screeton**

(Editor of Folklore Frontiers and former editor of The Ley Hunter)

These somewhat random thoughts were inspired by my latest UFO sighting last autumn. Unlike a similar West Country sighting around ten years previously, this blink and you miss it aerial manifestation has had a deeper influence on my psyche and raised more questions.

As I'll endeavour to explain later, there appeared to be an -- albeit tenuous -- religious dimension.

There's a touching scene which opens the film "Sky West and Crooked", where child actress Hayley Mills buries small animals such as moles, and asks her local vicar if they have souls. In our politically-correct society Ms Mills' character would be described as having "learning difficulties", whereas back then she was given the local rural term "sky west and crooked".

Without straying too far from the subject, the Beagle II project raised questions of "are we alone?" and as there is no mention of life on Mars in the Bible, would faith be in crisis if interpaetary life were to be discovered?

John Polkingthorne, a theoretical physicist and Anglican priest, says: "It is quite an old problem in theology, actually. After Galileo's discoveries, people started to speculate about whether there were Martians or Venusians, and whether they were saved. The theological argument was did Christ die for the Martians". (The Times, 3/1/04)

Frankly, I have no idea what the origin of UFOs is; regarding the extraterrestrial theory least likely and a psychological one most promising.

One writer on the subject who has studied the phenomenon for a great many years had wise words for his readership. John Michell wrote: "One of the things I have learnt is that UFOs are habit forming. After you have seen one you are likely to see others." And: "Quite often, UFO sightings are followed by good luck and happiness". (Daily Mirror, 9/10/03) I mention this because I'm a "repeater" UFO spotter; the most recent occasion being on September 24, 2003, as my train arrived at Westbury, Wiltshire. A gleaming circular "daylight disc" crossed the sky and vanished into clouds. Why me?

I have pondered if by some strange process it had anything to do with my inward journey

from Devon to London Paddington; from Reading I was joined by two Alpha Course (evangelical charismatic) Christians, one of whom insisted on giving me a blessing despite my having insisted that they were preaching to the converted and I explained my take on Gnostic Christianity, which believes in Jesus and salvation. They told me they were off to the famous Holy Trinity, Brompton, and I rather excitedly asked if they knew Samantha Fox, celebrity celebrant there and they seemed not to have heard of the Page 3 topless model and singer so I dumbly added "big tits", even making a descriptive movement with my hands. Alas, no. Since then I've discovered former Spice Girl Geri Halliwell is also a convert there. (I might add my daughter Kathryn was Alpha Course baptised in Yorkshire's River Ure last year and my wife, Pauline, has now joined.

As for the UFO, it was only in view for a few seconds, though for some reason I subsequently got it into my mind that this flat disc had filigree edging. It would seem to have been heading from the direction of Westbury White Horse and, of course, this is an area which also encompasses that Sixties centre of skywatching and strange happenings, Warminster.

Naturally, I consulted the works of that shamanic journalist Arthur Shuttlewood for clues. His *The Warminster Mystery* (Neville Spearman, 1967, Tandem, 1973) did not help (it has skywatch notes by one Jimmy Goddard) nor *UFO Magic in Motion* (Sphere, 1979) speculations (with a Kent robed figure in the sky report by an unidentified Paul Devereux!). However, in *The Flying Saucers* (Sphere, 1976), Shuttlewood claims "that most sightings and all reported landings of UFOs in Britain stemmed from the guidemarks of seven White Horses situated west to east, from the one at Westbury to that at Uffington". My silver disc appeared to be heading from Westbury White Horse towards Bath (coincidentally once the home of John Michell).

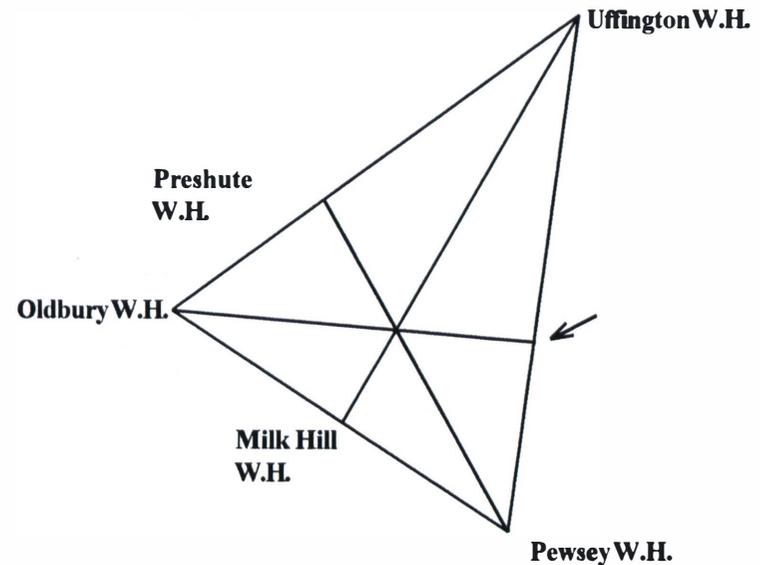
My previous sighting was also a late afternoon one, having alighted at Tiverton Parkway, I stopped to ask a gardening householder the bus times into Tiverton itself. As she flicked through a timetable I glimpsed a similar silver disc, which was higher in the sky than the Westbury one, and politely listened to the woman's directions and did not see the UFO again.

As for Michell's good luck comment, as I waited in the dark on the platform at Newton Abbot, I was astonished to see heritage Deltic diesel electric locomotive 9016 Gordon Highlander pass through from delivering another preserved engine to the South Devon Railway running as quiet as a ghost and being the other spotting highlight of the day. Do UFOs come from the past, present, future, another dimension or even a Martian heritage class? Maybe we aren't alone.

Since we have this article involving the White Horse at Westbury, here are two others which also feature the white horses, as well as another by Doug Chaundy on other landscape geometry.

The White Horse Triangle by Doug Chaundy, 1966

Between the white horse at Oldbury Castle and the one at (or near) Pewsey Hill, there is another white horse at Milk Hill. The amazing thing is that these white horses are spaced five and a half miles apart: i.e., from Oldbury Castle to Milk Hill is five and a half miles, and also from Milk Hill to Pewsey Hill is the same distance. The three sites are in alignment.



Eighteen and a half miles roughly north-west of Milk Hill horse is the famous Uffington White Horse. If these points are connected a triangle is formed which is so symmetrical that it seems it could only have been formed by a high standard of technology.

Apart from the white horses mentioned above, there is one six and a half miles north-east of Oldbury Horse on the Oldbury-Uffington line. It is near Preshute Down. The resulting diagram is perfectly symmetrical

There is no white horse at the point marked by the arrow, but there is a large wood, and it is my belief that there was once a white horse there.

The technology of the builders of this amazing White Horse Triangle speaks for itself. I believe it was either built by or for the Space People. Could it be an arrow? If so, what is it pointing to?

It may be of interest here to point out that the Uffington-Preshute Down line points straight to the centre of the Glastonbury Temple of the Stars discovered by Mrs. Maltwood.

**The Salisbury Star Map
by Doug Chaundy, 1966**

When reading *Men among Mankind* by Brinsley Le Poer Trench, I was interested and amazed to see the Somerset Zodiac discovered by Mrs. Maltwood. It made me wonder whether there was more to be found, and so I bought the Ordnance Survey map of the Salisbury Plain area.

The map showed, among other places of historical interest, many long barrows. Ignoring all other sites, I concentrated on these, placing an X on as many as I could find. When I connected these up I was excited to find that they coincided with some of the constellations near the north pole of the heavens - namely, Ursa Minor, Ursa Major, Draco, Triangulum and Andromeda. I also found that where I could not find the long barrows to fit other parts of these unfinished constellations, in many cases towns had been built where the long barrow should have been.

I believe they were built in conjunction with the Temple of the Stars (Somerset Zodiac) and Stonehenge.

Ridgeway trip, Saturday 13th June 1981

On this trip I was accompanied by Elizabeth Robertson and Andy and Jenny Roe. Turning into a minor road leading to the Ridgeway, we could see a tall crossroads stone. The car was parked a little way up this road, and we continued on foot, and turned right for Waylands Smithy, a prominent long barrow with large kerbstones. The first chamber and its side chambers could be entered, but the rest had been blocked off by a large stone, probably recently. Elizabeth set the scene for the walk by mentioning the curious wording of the Department of the Environment notice: "It is an offence to injure or deface this monument. "Injury" usually implies damage to a living thing, and this unconscious admission by the D of E of a kind of life at these places seemed in keeping with the atmosphere of the place. Head-hum was received in the central part but none in the side chambers. Andy could not feel the effect. The stones seemed to be limestone, in keeping with my former theory, though I could have been mistaken.

From here we walked along the straight track to Uffington Castle, part of the Ridgeway. This part goes for about two miles and coincides with a ley joining Waylands Smithy and Uffington Castle (which it skirts). It also passes through Hinton Parva Church, two cross-tracks on the stretch mentioned, a crossroads at Kingston Lisle (Blowingstone Hill), a church at Grove and some minor junctions.

We continued to Uffington Castle, walked round the walls and came to a spot with a striking view across Dragon Hill, with part of the White Horse visible. We rested here for a while - the atmosphere was tremendous - and (surprisingly for a supposedly military structure) very peaceful. The weather could not have been better - there was hardly even any wind,

and the slight breeze was warm. There was an interesting view of a large clump through a gap in the earthwork.

We then made our way back by a slightly different route to the Ridgeway and the car. On the way back, passing Blowingstone Hill, Elizabeth mentioned that the Blowing Stone had a hole which one could blow into making a sound like blowing across a milk bottle. This would be interesting to investigate later in connection with the sound/energy transduction theory.

Also visited during the weekend was Charney Bassett Church, next door to Charney Manor. A very unusual shape, it did not at first appear old, but may be older than it looks. It seems to have a "squint", the south door may be Norman (with weird pagan-like faces). There was a strange old carving in the church obviously brought from somewhere else and fitted in. Old chests with the name of the church in faded paint suggest the church is old. Head-hum was felt here too. The church has a strange "half-tower".

BOOKREVIEW

Seekers of the Linear Vision, by Paul Screeton, published by Stonehenge Viewpoint 1993, £5.95 inc. postage (available from Paul Screeton, 5, Egton Drive, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS25 2AT)

This book, published in California by *Stonehenge Viewpoint* magazine, is the most complete and detailed history of ley hunting so far seen, and the charismatic figures associated with it, with their different viewpoints and approaches to this multi-faceted and far-reaching phenomenon. It was first published as a series of articles in *Stonehenge Viewpoint* magazine, and later published in its entirety, with the addition of a second section by Donald Cyr, editor of *Stonehenge Viewpoint*, on the science of ley hunting. Paul Screeton was editor of *The Ley Hunter* magazine from 1969 to 1976.

From Alfred Watkins himself (and even some which preceded him in an interest in alignments in the landscape), Donald Maxwell and others in the early days, to the revival through Tony Wedd and his rediscovery of ley energies with a connection with UFOs, and the intuitive work of John Michell, the course of the subject over the years is laid out in fine detail, with a very full bibliography illustrating the varied work which has been done on the subject in many directions. The common thread is that each person involved has been inspired, as the title suggests, by the linear vision of the landscape, and its depth and breadth of meaning for everyone living on Earth.

Donald Cyr's section outlines extensive research he has done on many prehistoric sites, seeking the many relationships between them, including such things as a landscape calendar in the surrounding area at Men-an-Tol holed stone arrangement in Cornwall, and sighting geometry in the arrangement of sites, and the overall intuitive approach to the

landscape which makes the whole subject, in the author's opinion, an art rather than a science (in seeming contradiction to the title of the section). It was also taken from the *Stonehenge Viewpoint* magazine and also includes such work as Bob Forrest's statistical studies of leys, study of Professor Thom's work on site arrangement and structure, and even input from opponents such as Professor Atkinson.

NOTES AND NEWS

TEMS meetings

Sunday 29th February - Two Roman Roads and their Leys, by Jimmy Goddard.

Meeting at Hampton - please ring Lionel, 020-8979-3148

Sunday 28th March. Dowsing, by Joan Meech of Surrey Dowsters.

Meeting at Wimbledon - please ring Ann, 020-8452-3110

London Earth Mysteries Circle meetings

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

10th February - A History of Grimoire Magic, by Gareth Medway.

24th February - Dragons - A Wondrous Overview, by Jeremy Harte.

8th March - Old Paths and New Ways - a Fresh Look at Leylines, by Rose Heaword.

23rd March - Open Forum and Social Evening.

13th April - The Pentagonal Geometry of Rennes-le-Chateau: Is it Real? by Gordon Strachan.

The 'Earth Spirit' Moot

John Billingsley writes of this event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Northern Earth: Come and join us in marking the occasion with a weekend in the Yorkshire Dales. We have chosen the Spring Bank Holiday because it's a lovely time of year up here, we've hired a large room in the Town Hall at Skipton, North Yorkshire, and we've gathered some of the leading lights of our mercurial milieu to excite and entertain you around the theme of 'Earth Spirit' - the presence and the perception of 'otherness' in the world around us. Let me introduce our presenters:

Paul Devereux, at the cutting edge of research on spirit landscapes and their constituent elements. **Jeff Saward**, an international authority on labyrinths and mazes. **Robert Farrah** breezes in from Cumbria with dire warnings not to mess with a megalith. **Dr Vivienne Crawford**, will introduce the medicinal magic of local knowledge of the old English **Philip Heselton**, the very first editor of Northern Earth and author of *The Elements of Earth Mysteries*, will recall the founding and first ten years of the Northern Earth Mysteries Group. There will also be music by **Bob Dickinson** and storytelling by **Christine McMahon**. **For further details:** write to moot@northernearth.co.uk ; or send self-addressed stamped A4 or A5 envelope to Northern Earth Moot, 10 Jubilee St, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire HX7 5NP ; or watch our website at www.northernearth.co.uk

BRITAIN'S X-FILES

This title, which had been used previously for two radio programmes, was used for a TV documentary on British UFO sightings, which, although it did describe some incidents, such as one seen by two police officers which had been televised on the BBC News, and the Rendlesham incident, spent a lot of time trying to show the association with the 1960s LSD culture, when there were "dancing gnomes, flying saucers, ley lines and mystical experiences". People were said to go "from the King's Road to Glastonbury, and often saw flying saucers". There was an enjoyable aerial swoop over Glastonbury Tor at this point.



Paul Baines

The Aetherius Society were shown, as well as a piece from a television programme called *Can You Speak Venusian*, in which Bernard Byron, interested in extraterrestrial languages, was interviewed by Patrick Moore. Bernard wrote the song "Ms Anya Ray", the words of which have been shown to have correlation with other words put forward by George Hunt Williamson, Tony Wedd and the tape recordings of Philip Rodgers. Work on all of these together has seemingly shown the words of the song are about the construction of a spaceship. See the current issue of *Amskaya* for fuller details on this.

There was a small piece showing the late Paul Baines, embalmer and medical herbalist, on a skywatch with UFO detection equipment. Paul was a member of Surrey Earth Mysteries Group for a number of years, and was one of the team (with Philip Heselton and myself) who produced *Skyways and Landmarks Revisited*, about the investigation of the work of Tony Wedd on leys and flying saucers. The piece was taken from the programme *Out of This World*, televised in May 1977, one of only two occasions when an Adamski-type flying saucer has appeared on the front cover of the *Radio Times*. (The other was May 1995, and was advertising the science fiction series *The Outer Limits* - there did not seem any connection with the Adamski craft, but it was a better picture). A piece from the *Out of This World* programme, featuring Paul, also appeared in the science fiction play *The Flipside of Dominick Hyde*, about a time traveller whose craft was a flying saucer which had to go out of the Earth's atmosphere to travel in time. The time traveller was in a pub and the UFO programme was on a TV screen there.

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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:**