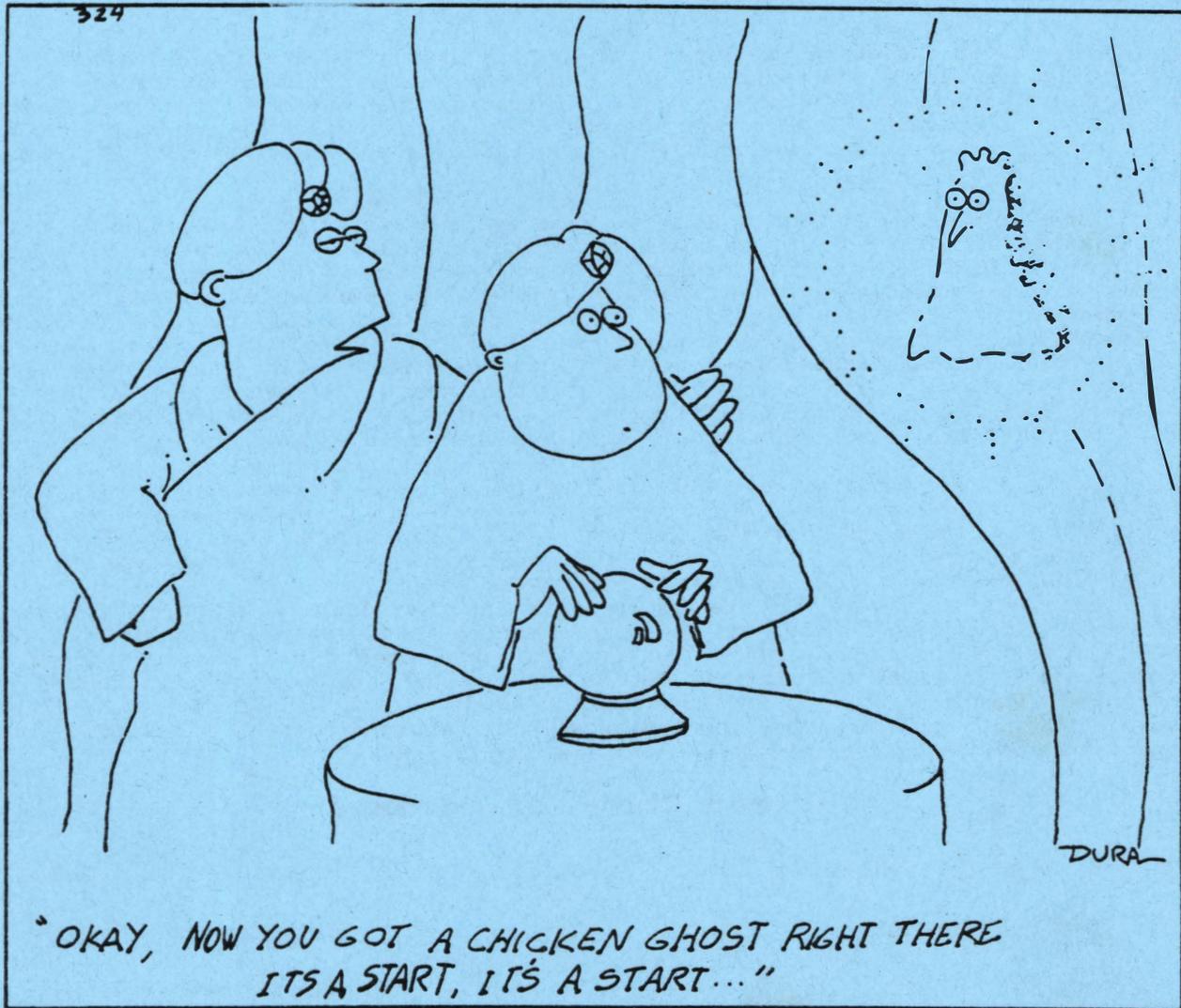


Ghost Trackers Newsletter

The Official Paranormal Publication of the Ghost Research Society



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Ghost Trackers Newsletter

The Ghost Trackers Newsletter is the official paranormal publication of the Ghost Research Society. The GRS was founded in 1978 by Martin V. Riccardo and this publication soon followed in September of 1982. It is published and edited by Dale D. Kaczmarek, President and is put out in February, June and October.

The **Ghost Research Society** is a membership organization devoted to collecting, analyzing and researching all forms of the paranormal with an emphasis on ghosts, hauntings, poltergeists and life after death. Different memberships are available for those wishing to become more actively involved. We are also looking for officers, State Coordinators, Field Investigators and Area Research Directors for various states and countries.

Regular memberships are \$12.00 per year and include three issues of the Ghost Trackers Newsletter, GRS button, membership card, discounts to GRS sponsored events and tours, FREE photo analysis service and discounts on new and used books with FREE finder service available. Send wants! **Sustaining Memberships** are \$17.00 and include the above and the opportunity of helping with ghost research and attending field excursions (Midwest members only and subject to interview) at least twice a year. **Contributing Memberships** are \$22.00 and besides the above receive a free newspaper clipping service for your particular state (or country) sent on an irregular basis with your subscription. Multi-year, Patron and Lifetime Memberships are also available. If interested in those, please request further information.

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Editors page:

The last several months beginning in March have been a bit hectic for me since I've been off of work due to a shoulder injury. In July I went into the hospital for rotator cuff surgery on my left shoulder and the recovery and physical therapy has been slow and painful. By the time this newsletter goes to print I should be getting ready to return to work. Thanks to all those who sent their prayers and concerns during this stressful time!

I wish to thank Mary Nelson, Diane Laurent, Richard Senate and Tom Perrott for all the clippings. Thanks also go out to William Hauck for all the articles which will be appearing in future editions of Ghost Trackers and the wonderful publication "National Directory of Haunted Places". All current GRS members may take 10% off the price of the book when ordering. Received a postcard from Atlanta, Georgia from Andy Jarett, the wonderful SPR Journals and the cassette program "Hatches, Matches and Despatches" from Tom Perrott and the two very interesting pamphlets from Shinichiro Namiki. The first dealt with a strange skull shaped design on a mountain and the other concerns a triangular UFO seen over Sagaken. A thank you also goes out to Tom Baker for the get well card and the crystal good luck charm from Lucy Solis. I really appreciate all of the donations!

I would like to officially announce that Diane Laurent is now a Field Investigator for the state of Pennsylvania and David Goodwin has assumed the position of State Coordinator for Missouri. Let's show these new officers some support in their respective states by either upgrading your current membership to active or by recruiting new members to begin a core group in the state.

New Sustaining Members include: Jean Kleivo, Carol Banach, Mike Schmicker, Diane Laurent, John Kahl, Kenneth Powell and Nancy Andrews. New Contributing Members are Lou Cutaia and David Goodwin and Patron members include Mark Weaver and Donna Boonstra.

We have added 14 new members and received renewals from 15 others since our last newsletter.

The newsletter of the Quarter is PSI Researcher put out by the Society for Psychical Research in England. The Summer 1994 issue had some fascinating articles on haunted houses, Ouija board communication, ghosts on videotape and Fire walking. The publication is sent free to SPR members. Inquire about subscription prices by writing to: SKS, 20 Paul St., Frome, Somerset, BA11 1DX, United Kingdom.

Ghost Research Society

The next bi-monthly meeting dates of the GRS are September 17th and November 19th, 1994 at 1pm. Both will be held in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room located at the very bottom of the steps just inside the east entrance to the library. All are welcome whether you are a member or not. There is always some form of audio/visual presentation.

The GRS is having it's annual Clean 'Em Out Booksale. We are overrun with occult fiction and non-fiction books. Some are paperbacks, softcovers and hardcover editions. Special prices for GRS members. Simply ask for the current list of available books. Some books only have one copy left. Donations from book sales will be used to purchase new electronic equipment for ghost investigations. We will also do a free search for any occult non-fiction book that you might not be able to find locally. When we do locate the book, a postcard will be sent out to you listing the price including shipping and handling. You will then have 7 days to purchase the book before it goes on the open market.

The highlight so far this year was an investigation that I was invited to attend in Elk River, Minnesota for the new series *Encounters* which was televised on Fox 32 July 1st. I was flown out by the series and was invited to work along side psychics Michael and Echo Bodine known locally in Minneapolis. While nothing appeared on any of the infrared or high-speed photographs taken there, the ghost did apparently register on a gauss meter at various locations throughout the house.

I was also invited to travel to Ackinson, Kansas with the returning series *Sightings* which will be debuting in September but I had to turn it down because it was too soon after my recent surgery.

I was a guest on WLUP radio with Garry Meier and had articles appear in both the Southtown Economist and the premier issue of Teen Speaking.

Besides all of this, many GRS members were invited to assist in three haunted house investigations partly due to my recent appearance on WLUP radio. We investigated houses in Elgin, Marseilles and Park Forest and still have a few others to look into yet near Glen Ellyn, and Hickory Hills.

With Halloween just around the corner, *Excursions Into The Unknown*, haunted Chicagoland tours, will again be very active. The tours actually started in May this year and will run until Thanksgiving. Cost for most tours is \$22.00 per person but a 10% discount applies to all current GRS members. Flyers accompany this issue of the newsletter.



Tales of a Haunted Abbey

By

Tom Perrott

The vandalism wreaked upon the noble monastic houses of England by King Henry VIII during his Dissolution of the Monasteries, has left their skeletal remains strewn all over the countryside. Over the years these pathetic ruins of once splendid edifices have been modestly shrouded in carpets of ever-growing creeper, and one only has to stand in the midst of them to let one's imagination run riot and to picture how they must have been in the days when their monkish occupants were ministering to the spiritual and sometimes physical needs of the local country-folk, who were so dependent on them for their health and their livelihoods.

It was to such an Abbey, Beaulieu Abbey, in the County of Hampshire, not far from the famous port of Southampton, that I was recently invited to participate in an all-night vigil with a small party of Members from the famous Ghost Club founded in 1862. As so often happens on these occasions, the apparitions proved to be most disobliging, and did not deign to appear for our benefit at all during the nocturnal hours of our investigation. A session with a ouija board set up by some of our party, proved to be equally unresponsive.

Despite these rather disappointing results, Beaulieu Abbey has a tradition of spectral history second to none, when compared with those of other similar establishments.

Founded in the year 1204, during the reign of King John, of Magna Carta fame, by representatives of an Order of white-habited Cistercian monks, who came over from France for that purpose, it functioned both energetically and efficiently until 1538, when it was dissolved at the instigation of Henry VIII and passed into the hands of the present owner, Lord Montague of Beaulieu, who with his family occupies as his residence, the former Gatehouse, now known as the Palace House.

The phenomena started many years ago when chanting was heard in the Palace House. Monkish forms were seen in the ruins and from time to time whiffs of incense were smelt and footsteps were heard at night on some of the staircases.

In the year 1928 a monk was said to have appeared to a lady visitor and indicated that she must dig at a certain spot in the grounds. She did so and found bones, which were thereupon given Christian burial.

In 1965 another visitor saw the figure of a monk sitting on a seat who appeared to be reading a scroll, and in 1977 two monks were seen walking along a path when they suddenly disappeared.

Many years ago when I was paying another visit to this delectable spot, I was informed by a former Curator of the Motor Museum, a 20th century addition to the estate, that from his cottage overlooking an ancient burial ground, he had heard footsteps, the sound of grave-digging and late night chanting.

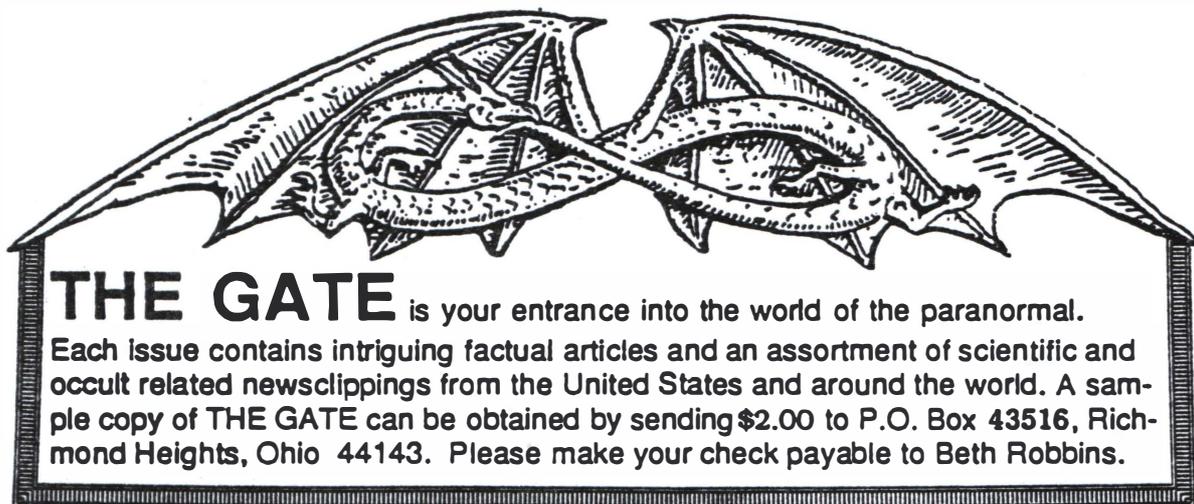
In more recent times certain members of the family and staff claim to have seen what appeared to be the figure of a Grey Lady in the private apartments and also in the grounds. This ghost is believed to have been the apparition of a Lady Isabella Montague who once resided here and who died in 1786.

During World War II when certain anti-aircraft troops were stationed on the estate, two officers claim to have seen monkish figures in the area of the former living quarters. Many other sightings have been reported and one wonders what secrets the old Abbey may yet have to reveal.

Despite the fact that nothing paranormal appeared to have happened during the hours of our vigil, none of the monkish former residents having attempted to have made their presence known to us, we could not help but think that enshrined in these ancient ruins were the memories of lives once devoted to God and unsullied by contact with Man.

May these saintly souls continue to slumber undisturbed in their eternal sleep until the Day of Judgement is at hand, the time when they might receive their promotion to Higher Spheres. From there they will be able to view the world below them with all its problems and with wry smiles they will murmur to one another, 'We have seen all this before!'

Submitted by: Tom Perrott, 93 The Avenue, Muswell Hill, London, N10 2QG, United Kingdom.



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Unidentified Ghost Haunts California Family

By

William Hauck

A modern house in a subdivision just southeast of Escondido, California, has been the scene of paranormal activity for the last five years. Built in 1984, the split-level structure is home to a dark-gray presence that materializes near a second floor bedroom.

The only odd thing the original owners reported was that the bedroom in question always seemed unusually cold, but a week after Susan D. and her family moved into the house in 1989, paranormal manifestations began in earnest. Twenty-one-year-old Susan and her husband started hearing footsteps and loud thumps in the upstairs hallway. Their six-year-old son complained that his bedroom was too cold. Sometimes they were enveloped by an extreme cold "like something was swirling around you and then was gone." They heard doors slamming somewhere in the house but could never pinpoint the location. Often, thumping sounds, which sounded like books falling to the floor, echoed through the house. The third floor toilet flushed by itself, and a tub sometimes filled with water for no apparent reason. A plumber, called out twice to investigate, could find no problem with the fixtures or pipes.

Electrical problems were also common. Lights and appliances in the house went on and off by themselves. A vacuum cleaner turned itself on, then shut off. Lights in an oak curio cabinet flickered on and off for no reason. Televisions and radios came on when no one was home. The kitchen light could not be switched off unless it was yelled at. "Come on, this is my house," Susan remembers shouting at the overhead light, which would then silently turn off. An electrician found no problems with the house wiring. Then, eerie flashes of light started to materialize. Susan described the effect: "It was like someone would take a flashlight and push it real fast in front of your face."

The inexplicable activity intensified in 1993. The family dog would stand transfixed at the bottom of the stairway, with the fur on its back standing on end, and stare at the second-floor landing. Knickknacks started disappearing. Pillows stacked themselves up on the sofa. A basement window frame shook violently for no apparent reason, and the double doors to her third-floor bedroom flew open by themselves. One night, Susan felt an invisible presence sit on the edge of her bed and pull the covers to the side. Then, in March, her husband was lying in bed when he observed "the biggest light I ever saw" appear above the headboard. Susan found him on the bed in a comatose state and called paramedics. After running

tests at the hospital, doctors discovered a brain tumor growing around his pituitary gland. The non-malignant growth was taken out, but his entire pituitary also had to be removed. When her husband returned from the hospital, he had changed considerably. In December, at 2:00 a.m. in the morning, he saw the top half of a black figure "with his shoulders down" materialize in the hall outside his bedroom. A few weeks later, he observed the full figure of "a man in gray." Susan's husband was no longer comfortable in the house. He also admitted to his wife that he was gay. He could no longer suppress his homosexual feelings. The two decided to divorce and sell the house.

To help the family sell the house and pack, Susan's twenty-six-year-old nephew came to live with them. Again, the strange activity increased and seemed to center around the nephew. His room was on the second floor, next to the "always cold" bedroom where her son slept. Loud thumping sounds and other weird noises could be heard coming from his empty room. Once, a sound "like fifteen books being dropped on the floor" came from the room. The dog ran up the stairs to investigate, and Susan and her nephew followed him. They saw the dog flung across the hall by some unseen force. Then, the stunned animal was pushed down the stairs by the same invisible presence. Later, Susan watched a cloud of light leave her nephew's room and travel into her son's bedroom. After that, she made her son, now eleven years old, sleep on the floor in her room.

Susan finally saw the ghost herself near the end of February 1994. It started one afternoon with the sounds of slamming doors coming from the second floor. When she went to investigate she saw a dark shape. "I couldn't tell if it was male or female," she reported. "It was a person - but shaped like a block, a deep-gray, shadowy block, rounded at the top. You couldn't tell if there were arms or legs." That same day, at 5:30 p.m., the presence materialized on the stairway in full view of Susan. "It moved down the stairs," she said, "and stopped on the bottom landing, then backed up so I could go around it."

Susan's encounter drove her to try to find out more about her ghost. She went to the San Pasqual Battleground State Park and tried to find out if anyone had been killed on her property during the Spanish-Indian wars. Unfortunately, there were no records of specific incidents available. Then, while researching ghosts in a local occult bookstore, a woman rushed up to Susan and grabbed her arm. "I'm sorry," the unidentified woman said, "but I have a very strong feeling that there are spirits around you that need your help. It's a man, and he is trying to help someone go." Susan pressed the woman for more details, but the embarrassed psychic refused to talk further and ran out of the store. The store owner did not recognize the woman, and to date, she has not come forward, despite Susan's efforts to locate her.

Susan sold the house in March 1994, and the new owners have reported nothing unusual. But she is convinced of the reality of ghosts and is genuinely concerned that the spirit in her old house has not yet found peace. She and her son moved into a new house

only six blocks from their former residence.

Witnesses: Susan D.
Her husband
Her son
Her nephew
Her sister
A woman neighbor

Submitted by: William Hauck, California State Coordinator for the
GRS, PO Box 22201, Sacramento, CA. 95822, (916)424-4355.

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She's Haunted Again

By

Maurice Schwalm

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Apparently, one can get out of practice mentally as easily as physically. The winter of 1978-79 was a period of enforced leisure which was terminated by a period of gradual thaw where matters of spirit photography are concerned. J.B. Rhine's definition of a PSI experimenter includes not only the abilities to rule out sensory clues and administer truly random tests but the ability to liberate the psychic abilities of his subjects. My subjects happen to be ghosts: what laboratory researchers would call theta agents. They speak of theta-ESP and theta-PK. The latter being rarer. Maybe it's harder to influence matter when you don't have any. At any rate, it took several otherwise evidential investigations before photographic results began to reappear and I didn't think it was the spirit world that had to thaw out.

But there were other factors too - such as paranormal occurrences not involving discarnates and a discarnate who did not wish to provide anything so evidential for fear of upsetting survivors who had trouble with the concept of real survival of people about whom one might have real emotions. There was a girl who was a little sensitive because she used to live in a haunted house. When friends began to see her astral double around the bed, it was assumed that she was haunted again. I tried lying on the bed in question. No ghosts. Just a vision of her as a little girl walking through a door only to be confronted with a metal door in a stone wall. She had been a voluntary inmate of a mental institution as a child rather than endure another change of foster homes. She is now going through an intense health crisis. I was only able to photo a lovely painting of her as a young woman. She looked just like the girl walking through the door. I hope she can go through the looking glass.

Then a more evidential case. The original report was of a man living alone in an apartment he had shared with a friend that died a couple of years ago. He feels he has never been really alone. So do I. The house and the apartment has no history of paranormal occurrences. Not until his friend died and started coming through to old friends and former business associates as well as people in the building. The first manifestation was the sound of his friend putting his clothes in the closet at his accustomed hour of the evening. Then he started seeing the closet door close. There had always been a feeling of presence but that is not the same thing. His friends at work certainly didn't think it was the same thing

when his voice was heard saying familiar things such as: "Well, you've screwed it up again, Geraldine." The neighbors were a little surprised when the electric piano began to play when no one was home. I was told that the real surprise was that the piano had been left disconnected because of an electrical storm and was still disconnected when he returned home.

My own notes are of rather concrete matters. I see a figure doing a high-wire act. This was his aspiration. I see him talking cynically about show business. He was born in a show biz family. There is a line of teenagers in front of a theater. Two girls are sharply in view. He regretted never having met his two half sisters. He wears the knee breeches and hose of one of his burlesque routines when he skips through my dimension again. I had questioned an odor in the apartment as being possibly his cologne. I was shown the green container for it and later, the actual bottle was produced for my view from the recesses of the bathroom cabinet. It smelled the same. He said he was getting behind on his alimony payments. It seems he always told people he was divorced and had a little boy. This was just conversation and apparently still is.

Photographs were taken all over the apartment and on the porch where I had felt his presence strongly. The storm door there showed a reflection of a little bridge and bluff that was unrelated to the real city scene across the street. But it seems to be a lot like the amusement park on an island in the middle of a lake to be found in his home town. But, I thought, he has been rather evidential up till now, why doesn't he just show me his face? I seemed to hear him say, "It's not so easy when you have a hair lip."

Submitted by: Maurice Schwalm, PO Box 3522, Kansas City, KS. 66103-0522.

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The Haunted Council House

By

Malcolm Robinson

You know, we at SPI (Strange Phenomena Investigations) always wonder where our next case will come from. Will it be from the press, word of mouth or from some other source? Well reading the Scottish Daily Record of January 15th, the heading; "Ghost Rockers" quickly caught my eye. Having read the article, I decided to drop the tenant of the council house which the story related was haunted, explain about myself and SPI, and that we would be interested in coming along to visit him regarding this story. Well it seems that not only did this story catch my eye, but it also caught the eye of Breakfast TV Station GMTV, whom as you know, SPI worked with again on a case relating to a ghost.

Anyway, shortly after the piece appeared in the press, I received a telephone call from GMTV asking for my help, as they intended doing a story on the case. "Here we go again," I said. SPI hadn't even set foot in the house to ascertain relevant facts, yet GMTV wanted our help. I explained the situation to GMTV, that we had not as yet set foot in the house, and this would require a good few hours with the witnesses to obtain as much information as possible, and also of course, to spend the night in the haunted flat with a psychic medium in an attempt to hopefully obtain further details. A few phone calls later and we had arranged a compromise. SPI would spend the night in the flat and GMTV would arrive early with their outside broadcast unit in the morning for a live link up with interviews with their London studio.

The Investigation begins.

Before I begin to discuss the events of this case, I should inform the reader on the locality of the area in question. The council flat is in the town of Kirkcaldy in Fife which is in East Central Scotland. Basically the tenant of the flat, Mark Anderson, 20, and his girlfriend Leah Livingston, 17, had, for at least five months, been subject to strange events within the flat, which took the form of a ghostly visitor at the foot of their bed, the sound of dragging footsteps along the hall corridor, bells ringing and a ghetto blaster playing in the middle of the night which was switched "OFF" at the mains. Events got so disturbing, that Mark and Leah (who stayed occasionally), quit the flat refusing to enter it again, apart from when he had to go back to feed his fish.

A previous occupant of the flat, one David Corson, 31, was quoted as saying, "I have had eerie moments too, but I never talked about them. People would have thought I was a nutter." So it seemed as if SPI had yet another interesting case to be going on

with. Accompanying me on the trip over to Kirkcaldy, was SPI's psychic consultant medium, Helen Walters, who has been of great assist to SPI over the years. We arrived somewhat later than planned in Kirkcaldy, (car problems) and met up with Mark Anderson. We then made our way to his flat. Mark was at this point staying with his girlfriends parents. Upon arriving at Mark's flat I at once began to interview Mark on audio tape about his experiences. I was shocked when my audio recorder failed to work, especially when I had replaced the old batteries with new ones! Thankfully Helen Walters audio tape was in working order.

Mark informed me that he had moved into the flat in September 1993, and it was about a fortnight later when strange things started to happen, i.e., money went missing which never turned up, (no one else was in the house when this happened). Other things disappeared, noises could be heard, the most unnerving of which, was the sound of a bell which sounded off in the early hours of one morning whilst both Mark and Leah were in bed. The noise of this bell was distinctly heard ringing *behind* his bed. No satisfactory explanation has surfaced to account for this noise. On another occasion, both Mark and a close friend, heard the strange sound of something *shuffling* along the carpeted corridor within the home. Nothing was seen, no-one was found.

Probably the most unnerving thing for the young couple was when at around 4:20 a.m. whilst they were both in bed, Mark's ghetto blaster, which he claims was switched off at the mains, suddenly "burst into life", and played music (radio) for around 20 seconds. Mark reached for the switch to turn it off, but found that he only kept it "on", as it was already off.

If this wasn't alarming enough, suddenly a white misty shape materialized at the foot of the bed, which Mark claims was distinctly "human-shaped". Leah was by this time quite frightened. Mark then noticed that the shape appeared to turn, and then it just simply disappeared. That was the last straw, they realized that they just had to get out of the flat. Too many strange things had been happening. Another of which had been when Mark had a friend visiting. On this occasion, they both clearly heard someone running (or walking very fast) above them on the flat floor of the council flat. Mark stays in the top flat in a block. The door to the roof is always locked. Only the caretaker of the flats has the roof key, and upon checking, the door was locked! Mark, as I've mentioned soon moved out of the flat to stay at his girlfriends parents.

I asked Mark how the story actually reached the press. Was this just a publicity stunt or was it a desire to obtain better housing accommodations? Mark quickly responded by saying that he had spent in the region of 1300 pounds on redecorating the flat and had no intention of spending that amount of money just to vacate the premises! "This was no stunt," he went on, "these things really did happen." The reason the press got to hear about it, was because someone from the local press was in the shop where he works (pet shop), and overheard him discussing the events with a friend. The newspaper man intervened, and the rest, as they say, is

history.

I completed my interview with Mark, and after some informal discussion, Mark left the flat to leave both Helen and I alone to spend the night in an attempt to make contact with whatever had been causing these disturbing experiences. It was now 3:30 a.m., and Helen and I decided to split up. Helen entered Mark's bedroom, the scene of where the misty figure appeared, whilst I remained in the living room. My first task was to switch off all of the house lights. That done, I settled down on the couch and sat passively, awaiting 'anything'! The darkness in the room was broken by a thin stream of light which came from outside street lights, which filtered through a gap in the curtains. The faint tick-tock of a clock on the wall, was the only sound that could be heard. Suddenly, I thought I heard two faint raps behind my head which made me wish that I had put bicycle clips on!! What was it? I got up, paced the floor, then sat back down again. Then I heard talking from Mark's bedroom, then a loud 'crack'. I rushed through, and found Helen complaining of the cold, (we had put a wall heater on in the room to take the chill out of the air. It did the trick for a short while, but now the room was cold again). "What was that noise?" I asked her. "I don't know," she replied! Helen then startled me by saying, "Malcolm, oh Malcolm, there are quite a few small bright blue balls of light all dancing around your head." Not being a psychic, I couldn't see them.

Psychic Information Obtained.

Helen went on to say, that she had picked up psychically three people (spirits) within the home, two male characters and one female. She then informed me that she was going to try some 'mirror gazing'. There was a tall oblong mirror within the room which she then placed against the wall. She then sat down on the edge of the bed and began to stare intensely into the mirror. "By doing this," she informed me, "I may be able to pick up spirit faces through the mirror." I sat down on a chair with pen and paper in hand. The following are notes taken from this episode.

The year 1901 was given out to Helen from spirit, and she felt a heavy presence within the room but a positive feeling was in the air rather than a dark feeling. Helen then saw a mouth forming in the mirror close to the reflection of her head. The lips moved to formulate the word "hello". "I get two men and one woman," Helen explained. "Someone's breathing now very labored. There's a white silhouette behind me, something touching my face. I'm seeing the whites of their eyes as though they are dead. I get the name Samuel. This is the third time that I have been given this name tonight. I'm not getting blind eyes, I've still got this white figure behind me, (I couldn't see anything), it's a few inches over me. It's got a hooded head!"

Helen then asked the question, "why are you here?" Suddenly a face appeared on the mirror, (again I couldn't see anything). "It is a man," Helen said, "his lips are moving and formed the words, 'Fuck you'!" Well this was certainly different I thought to myself. Helen went on, "The man is showing me his false teeth, his

teeth are falling down." Helen asked, "Why are you here?" Suddenly she felt as if her head was about to break apart. A few minutes later, Helen saw another male, a young man, with long blond hair and a long thin nose. He looked extremely depressed as he stroked his long blond hair.

The scene then shifted in which another face, another man, was seen. Helen said, "I see this man. He has blood trickling out of the side of his mouth. Perhaps he has had a stroke?" "This other man," she went on, has a small beard and is rocking back and forth like he is in pain.

"Malcolm," Helen shouted out, "there's a passage, or someone moving at the side of me. Can you see anything?" "No," I replied. "It's still there. It keeps touching my face." Seconds later, I heard a *popping sound* come from the ceiling but that could have been anything, i.e. temperature changes within the room affecting the wallpaper bubbles on the ceiling!

"Malcolm, I now see *flitting faces*. Some are saying 'go away', and others are saying 'hello'". These then, were the main aspects of what our medium Helen Walters picked up in Mark's house on this visit. Helen had also picked up psychically, a Gaelic Cross, which she informed me is a good sign. Helen does not think that those spirit people that made their presences known to her, were in any way related or connected. They were separated people she said. One man was in his 40's and another man, who had a very tiny knot in his tie, was around 55 to 62 years of age. At this point we decided to take a break and discuss the events of which had just unfolded, and although the wall heater was still on, the room was still somewhat chilly. We retired to the living room in which a welcomed cup of tea was consumed.

The Arrival of GMTV

Shortly after, around 5:45 a.m., GMTV arrived and we ushered them into the house where they asked us 'How we got on and did we get anything?' We explained all of what had happened and they listened intently. Not long after GMTV personnel arrived, Mark Anderson, followed by his girlfriend Leah entered the flat. In turn they were followed by ex-Scottish Television presenter, Steven Jardine, who now works for GMTV in Scotland. Again we went through with Steven, Mark and Leah, what had transpired during our brief stay in the house. Discussions were then held as to who would be interviewed and what questions would be asked. On this occasion I wasn't required, as the main focus of the television interview would be concerned around SPI's medium Helen Walters and house tenant Mark Anderson.

As the live transmission was due to be broadcast, I, along with Mark's girlfriend, Leah, trooped off to GMTV's outside broadcast unit, a large white transit van, complete with large satellite dish affixed on its roof. Anyway, SPI's Helen Walters spoke live at around ten past seven in the morning, and again at twenty past eight. The estimated viewing figures we were told, were around 4 million for the ten past seven broadcast and 8 million for the twenty past eight one.

Soon after the live broadcast, we bade farewell to GMTV, Mark and Leah and headed back to Helen's car which we hoped would start! It did. This again was a most interesting case for SPI. When I stepped into the house for the first time, it really felt weird. The clammy atmosphere was all around. Of course this could have been all in my mind, especially as I knew that the flat was supposed to be haunted. I was perhaps letting my imagination run away with me. But nevertheless, and honestly, the atmosphere in the house on entering was weird. It felt better upon leaving, but then it would, wouldn't it! Helen also explained to me, that she felt that the heaviness had lifted from the flat upon leaving.

Footnotes on this case.

A few days after leaving the flat, Mark telephoned me and explained that a neighbor had seen the living room light on, also the bathroom light as well. Now they shouldn't have been on, as Mark no longer lives there. Mark was informed that the lights seemed to have a 'pinkish-red glow' about them. He was also informed by his neighbor that he had heard the sound of Mark's television 'blaring away', again when no one was in the house. Mark went on to inform me that the Kirkcaldy District Council Housing Department, informed him that he would not be given any preferential treatment for a new house. He would be put through the procedure like anyone else.

At the time of writing this article, early February, SPI has learned that the Kirkcaldy District Council Housing Department, is prepared to pay SPI to get rid of the ghosts within their flat, 'quite incredible'. We at SPI never ever charge for our services, they remain, and always will, free of charge. But, in this instance, if Kirkcaldy District Council are prepared to pay SPI, then so be it. I'm quite sure that with all the mass publicity that this case has generated through the National Newspapers, and also Mark's local newspaper, the Council will know that it will be very hard indeed to find a new tenant who will occupy the flat. So I believe that by paying SPI to come back and get rid of the ghosts, the Council will, through the local press, explain that their flat is now free of ghostly manifestations and can be entered at ease. This is the state of play at the time of writing and we at SPI will inform you of further developments. Stay tuned.

Submitted and reprinted with permission by: Malcolm Robinson, SPI and Enigmas, 41 The Braes, Tullibody, Clackmannanshire, Scotland FK10 2TT.

Mormon Ghosts: The Legendary Three Nephites

By

Richard Senate

He was driving along a lonely stretch of highway in southern Utah, just beyond the picturesque town of St. George, when he saw them hitchhiking along the side of the road. In the desolate country, in the middle of the night, it might seem foolhardy to pick up two strangers, but he found himself pulling over to the shoulder of the road. The two young men ran up to the car and got into the back seat. Both were clean cut, with white shirts and backpacks. The strangers thanked the man as he pulled out onto the highway continuing south towards Las Vegas.

The two young men began talking about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The driver, being a Mormon, believed that he had picked up two young missionaries and joined in the discussion of the Book of Mormon. He soon discovered that they were extremely knowledgeable on the subject, knowing intimate details of the book and the Mormon Church. They began to ask questions about his own faith and personal testimony. He described it as almost an oral examination. The two strangers then gave him a blessing and became quiet.

Several miles passed as the driver thought the travelers had grown tired. At last he asked them where they were going. When they did not answer he turned and discovered the back seat empty! At no time had he stopped nor had he heard the door open.

He believes that the two men were the legendary "Three Nephites" mentioned in the Book of Mormon.

In the third Book of Nephi of the Book of Mormon, there is an account of three of The New World disciples of Christ who asked to remain on the earth to continue their ministry. They were granted their request and, according to Mormon lore, continue even today. The account of the Three Nephites can be traced back to the early years of the Mormon migration west.

The first encounters with the Nephites were represented by a single elderly man. In April of 1852 such an individual came to the door of a family near Salt Lake City. He asked if they could spare a bite to eat. Food was scarce, but the wife gave him what she had; bread, water and a few onions, which the old man quickly consumed. He offered to pay for his meal, but the wife refused his money. He then stood up, and said, "Well, if you charge me nothing for my dinner, may God bless you and peace be with you." With that, the strange old man left the house and vanished into thin air! When the woman looked at the table, the food was still there;

as if it had never been touched. The family's fortunes improved in the weeks following, and from then on they always had food to spare.

The legend of the three Nephites clearly indicates the number of these supernatural ministers yet the encounters are always with only one or two individuals. One theory holds that the Nephites operate on a round robin basis, with one always resting up while the two wander the earth looking over their Mormon flock.

Recent accounts describe the visitors as young, clean-cut men, who seem helpful and filled with faith. Accounts from the last century tell of only one individual with a long white beard who displays psychic gifts of faith healing and clairvoyance. Both types gave blessing to those who helped them and marked their supernatural character by suddenly vanishing.

The Three Nephites are believed by some to make the Mormon Temple at Manti, Utah, their earthly headquarters.

One account, told in hushed tones by a Mormon elder, tells of an aged janitor of the Manti Temple who was told not to clean one room in the building because it was used from time to time by the Three Nephites. When he was going home one night he saw a bright light in one of the upstairs rooms. (The upper rooms are the most sacred in a Mormon Temple.) Believing he had simply forgotten to turn off a light, he turned around and reentered the huge building. He soon discovered the light was on in the forbidden room. When he got to the door, light was streaming out of every crack, brighter than a searchlight. He decided not to open the door and left for the night. Before he got home he looked back at the temple, and all was dark.

To those who scoff at the tales of the Three Nephites, Mormon historians point out several examples where they have been seen by non-Mormons. They also are quick to cite an early account found in the records of Columbus in the New World. When the explorer landed on the island of Cuba, in 1494, one of his crewmen told of encountering a group of thirty armed Indians with three white men dressed in tunics. History records no light-skinned natives on the island at that time and none of the tribes wore any type of tunics. Could they have been the Three Nephites on hand to witness the European discovery of the Americas?

"Whether they be upon the face of the land no man knoweth". (Mormon 8:11)

Submitted by: Richard Senate, 3127 Trinity Dr., Ventura, CA. 93003.

Ghosts Who Went To Court

By

Rosemary Ellen Guiley

For anyone planning on being in court around Halloween, there's more to worry about than legal fees and bad-tempered judges...how about a hostile witness that returns from the grave? Strange as it may seem, ghosts have not only been a part of American legal proceedings, they have affected the outcome of certain trials. So before the gavel falls, there are some things about this particular branch of legal inquiry that Rosemary Ellen Guiley, author of Facts On File's Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits, would like people to know.

"There are some astonishing cases on record where ghosts have virtually turned trials upside down," said Guiley, who has written numerous books on the paranormal. "A ghost changed a case concerning a man's last will and testament. A ghost solved a murder case. And ghosts were involved in a real estate deal that went sour."

While those examples sound outrageous today, in earlier times it was not at all unusual to get advice -- social or legal -- from ghosts, according to Guiley. Beliefs about ghosts have changed over the course of time. In seventeenth-century Europe for example, many people believed that the dead returned to family, friends and others to wrap up unfinished business, advise spouses and children, and right wrongs. Typically, such helpful ghosts appeared in dreams and gave the living instructions and information.

The Age of Science and Reason dampened beliefs in ghosts, although helpful ghosts continue to put in appearances. Interestingly, the cases Guiley sights in Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits are fairly modern, dating from the late nineteenth century.

The "Chaffin Will case" concerns the ghost of a dead man who overturned his own will. James L. Chaffin was a farmer in North Carolina who had four sons. In November 1905, he made out a will leaving his farm and all assets to his third son, Marshall. He made no provision for his wife and three other sons, John, James P. and Abner.

Apparently Chaffin later had a change of heart, perhaps after reading the Bible. Genesis 27 tells how Jacob deceived his father, Isaac, into giving him the birthright intended for his older brother, Esau. On January 16, 1919, Chaffin executed a second will, written in his own hand, directing his estate to be divided equally among his four sons and instructing them to care for his wife. Though not witnessed, the will was valid under North

Carolina law.

Chaffin then hid the will in his father's old Bible, telling no one in his family about it. He wrote a note, "Read the 27th Chapter of Genesis in my daddie's old Bible," which he rolled up, tied with a string and placed in the inside pocket of his black overcoat. He stitched the pocket shut.

On September 7, 1921, Chaffin died of injuries sustained in a fall. His 1905 will was probated, and the estate went to Marshall Chaffin. No one contested.

Four years later, in 1925, son James P. Chaffin -- one of the disenfranchised sons -- began having vivid dreams in which his father appeared by his bedside once again, dressed in his black overcoat. He took hold of his coat, pulled it back and said, "You will find my will in my overcoat pocket." He vanished.

Following the ghost's lead, James found his father's second will. It was filed in court and offered for probate. Marshall had died, but his widow and son contested the new will. The case came for trial in December 1925. About a week before the trial, the deceased Chaffin appeared to James in an agitated state, saying, "Where is my old will." James took this to be a sign that he would win the lawsuit.

Ten witnesses were prepared to testify at the trial that the handwriting was that of the deceased Chaffin. When shown the will, Marshall's widow and son acknowledged that the handwriting was Chaffin's, and they withdrew their opposition. The old will was annulled and the new will was probated.

"Various explanations to this unusual case were put forward, but none stood up to the test," said Guiley. "There is no evidence of fraud, and Chaffin's survivors did not know about the second will and 'forget'."

Another ghost-in-court case is the Greenbrier Ghost, wherein the ghost of a murdered woman solves her own death and gets a conviction. Zona Shue, who lived near Greenbrier, West Virginia with her husband Trout Shue, was found dead in her home on January 23, 1897. Her husband -- a "ne'er-do-well" type with a nasty temper who was disliked by the townsfolk -- insisted the death was accidental while he'd been away. A doctor gave the body a cursory look and found nothing suspicious. Zona was buried and Trout remained free. However, Zona's mother, Heaster, suspected him of killing her daughter. She prayed for Zona to return and reveal the truth.

Within two weeks, Zona's ghost appeared to Heaster in a dream, and told how Trout had attacked her viciously because she had no meat to cook for dinner. Trout had broken her neck "at the first vertebrae." The ghost's head turned completely around on the neck to illustrate.

Heaster succeeded in having Zona's body exhumed. The autopsy revealed a broken neck -- at the first vertebrae, just as the ghost had said -- and a crushed windpipe. Trout was charged with murder and put on trial.

Technically, the ghost's testimony was inadmissible because it was hearsay but the defense attorney attempted to show that Heaster

was crazy. In defense, she related her dream to the jury, who were impressed by it. Others testified against Trout, and his unsavory background of previous crime was raised. The jury convicted him and sentenced him to life in prison. Trout was not given a death sentence because of the circumstantial nature of the evidence against him (indeed, the case would never have come to trial by today's standards). Trout died in jail in 1900.

"It is possible the Heaster, out of her own zeal, conjured up a dream of her daughter revealing the murder," Guiley said. "But how does that explain that Heaster knew the neck was broken at the first vertebrae? Trout allowed no one, not even the doctor, to examine Zona's neck prior to the burial.

And lastly, Revolutionary ghosts quashed a real estate deal in Nyack, New York a few years ago. Jeffrey Stambovsky signed a contract to buy a \$650,000 Victorian mansion, and handed over \$32,000 as a down payment. When he found out afterwards that three Revolutionary War-era ghosts haunted the place, he demanded his money back and wanted to cancel the deal. The owner, Helen Ackley, refused.

The case was thrown into court. Stambovsky's grounds were that the contract called for delivering the house vacant. Ghosts, apparently, were considered occupants. Ackley said she'd be happy to take them with her to Florida, if they'd agree to go. But the old man, the woman in the red cloak, and the sailor in a powdered wig seemed to like their original digs.

A Manhattan Supreme Court justice ruled that the alleged presence of ghosts did not constitute grounds for breaking the contract. Stambovsky got out of the deal, but he had to forfeit his downpayment.

"It's interesting that here in America, many people would consider a haunted house a liability," Guiley observed. "In England, where hauntings are much more common and accepted, a haunted house might even have cachet."

"Perhaps one reason for these differences in attitudes is the influence of Hollywood," said Guiley. "Movies often portray all hauntings as terrifying and demonic. Most real hauntings are fairly mild."

Guiley said she does believe in ghosts. "I believe in ghosts because I believe in survival after death, and it seems plausible that whatever survived might be able to return to the world of the living," she said. "I also believe that the thoughts and desires of the living -- such as Heaster, who desperately wanted to avenge her daughter's death -- influence whether or not ghosts manifest. To some extent, ghosts may be projections of our own unconscious."

In the Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits, Guiley explores the phenomena and hypotheses about ghosts, the physical research that has been done on the subject for more than a century, and numerous case studies of hauntings. This book and her other book, The Encyclopedia of Witches and Witchcraft, are published by Facts On File, New York, New York.

Submitted by: Facts On File for Rosemary Ellen Guiley, PO Box 4766, Luthersville, MD. 21094

My Supernatural Experience

By

Diane Laurent

My supernatural experience was not with a ghost, but with an angel. In fact it was an angel that saved my life. About two years ago, just before Christmas, I was driving home at night. It had snowed the previous day and much of the snow had melted, so I was driving faster than I normally do in the snow. I hit an ice patch and just froze with my hands locked on the steering wheel. As my car was heading into oncoming traffic, the steering wheel suddenly began to turn on its own. My arms moved with the wheel, but I knew I wasn't turning it. The car was back in the correct lane and heading for some parked cars by the curb. The road was still icy and I thought for sure my car would hit the parked cars. All of a sudden the wheel turned again and my car stopped in between two cars. How do I know it was my angel? Every account I've ever read about angel encounters describes the feeling of peace and that's how I felt. I knew I was not driving the car. Even though it was probably just a few seconds, it felt like everything was moving in slow motion and I was watching, but not actively doing anything. The moment the steering wheel began to turn, all fear left me; I knew everything would be all right. But most of all, I just knew with every fiber of my being that my Guardian Angel was with me then. I have always loved and believed in angels, but at that moment I knew that I had a special friend who is always watching over me.

Submitted by: Diane Laurent, 133 S. Eagle Rd., Havertown, PA. 19083-3315. Field Investigator for Pennsylvania.

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Nancy Roberts of Charlotte, North Carolina writes, "I don't know of anything else like it. It has it's own niche and I hope will continue to fill it."

Mary Richardson of Oak Ridge, New Jersey comments, "There aren't enough magazines or newsletters out there right now and this one is very interesting and informative."

Bette Sedbrook of Juda, Wisconsin says, "It is very interesting and I haven't seen any other newsletter that have this type of information. It might be interesting to have a page or two on possible ghost experiences that readers have had in their homes." (Editors note: I encourage readers to submit their personal experiences for publication and will continue to print those I receive. It's all up to you out there in readership-land to make this part of the newsletter a success. Come on...send in those stories!)

Michael Anderson of Chicago, Illinois writes, "Your publication is the only one really trying to find out what's going on regarding ghosts. It's fascinating reading."

Phil Reynolds of Woodbridge, Virginia comments....of what he'd like to see featured in each issue..."Your impression of the relative level of paranormal manifest over time, i.e. 'flaps'."

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Book and Product Reviews

The National Directory of Haunted Places by Dennis William Hauck (Atanor Press, 5550 Franklin Blvd., 101, Sacramento, CA. 95820-4742, 916-424-4355, 402 pages, softbound, 1994, \$24.95 plus \$4.00 shipping, (10% off for GRS members only), ISBN: 0-9637914-1-9)

This directory is the definitive guidebook to supernatural phenomena in the United States. Put together by Mr. Hauck, the California State Coordinator for the GRS, he has compiled all the famous and not-so-famous haunts throughout the country and used pictures to illustrate the areas as well.

The GRS is prominently mentioned in several portions of the book including several haunted locations in Illinois and the Joplin ghostlight report. Mr. Hauck has spared no expense in researching this book and it's a welcome addition to my research books as all the haunted locations you've ever heard of are right at your fingertips now instead of pouring over several other books. They can all be found here!

Besides haunted locations and ghostly abodes, Mr. Hauck has included sacred sites, famous UFO landings and other supernatural locations to make this a book to appeal to a large diverse audience. I highly recommend it and be sure to take advantage of the special 10% discount Mr. Hauck has arranged for all GRS members in good standing. Hurry and order it today! Rated a 10 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

Parapsychology New Age and the Occult: A Source Encyclopedia by Cheryl Klein Lacroff (Reference Press International, PO Box 4126, Greenwich, CT. 06830, 800-786-6777, 1993, 526 pages, softbound, \$24.95, ISBN: 1-879583-00-3)

A great sourcebook for those trying to locate anything pertaining to parapsychology or new age including: associations, centers, spas, retreats, schools, museums, events, biographies, bookstores, distributors/wholesalers, products & services, radio/television, audio & video producers, music, periodicals and newsletters. Everything from Acupuncture to Yoga is included in this large referenced encyclopedia.

The areas I found most useful for my research included: ESP, Ghosts, Metaphysics, Occult, Paranormal Phenomena, Parapsychology, PSI, Psychic, Psychic Phenomena and the index of occult bookstores. Each listing, when available, has information on who to contact, topics of interest, when founded, any conventions, a brief description of organization, publications published, editor's name, type of publication, frequency, circulation, price and other relevant information. I found it an unsurpassed source of valuable information and future contacts!

If you've been looking for a 'psychic telephone book' then

you've found it here. Everything you need is right here. Rated a 8 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

Myth or Real Collector Cards (American Realist Company, PO Box 95945, Hoffman Estates, IL. 60195-0945, two sets of 40, \$10.95 each set)

A real nifty idea! American Realist Company decided to put strange and unusual topics on collector cards (3.5"x2.5") with a picture of the event or topic and a concise and thorough description on the back of the card.

The cards display such topics as the Dover Demon, Bigfoot, Mad Gasser of Mattoon, Werewolf, Cattle Mutilations, Iceman, Yeti, Poltergeist, Springheel Jack, Loch Ness Monster, Mothman, Bell Witch Cave, Champ as well as famous 'Fortean' researchers.

Some of the pictures are illustrations and drawings while others are real photographs of strange phenomena or people. A great way to collect paranormal phenomena if your space is limited. The entire set of 80 cards is slightly larger than a pack of cigarettes but don't let that size fool you. It's chocked full of useful and interesting information concerning some of the world's most bizarre and little known phenomena, unless of course you're a Fortean researcher, then this is probably already known to you. Either way this is a truly unique way of collecting some of the most unusual topics ever read about.

These cards come in a glossary, spill-proof and damage-proof resistant material which will make them last for years to come. The set comes with an index card and all cards are numbered for ease of finding what you are looking for. Rated a 7 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

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