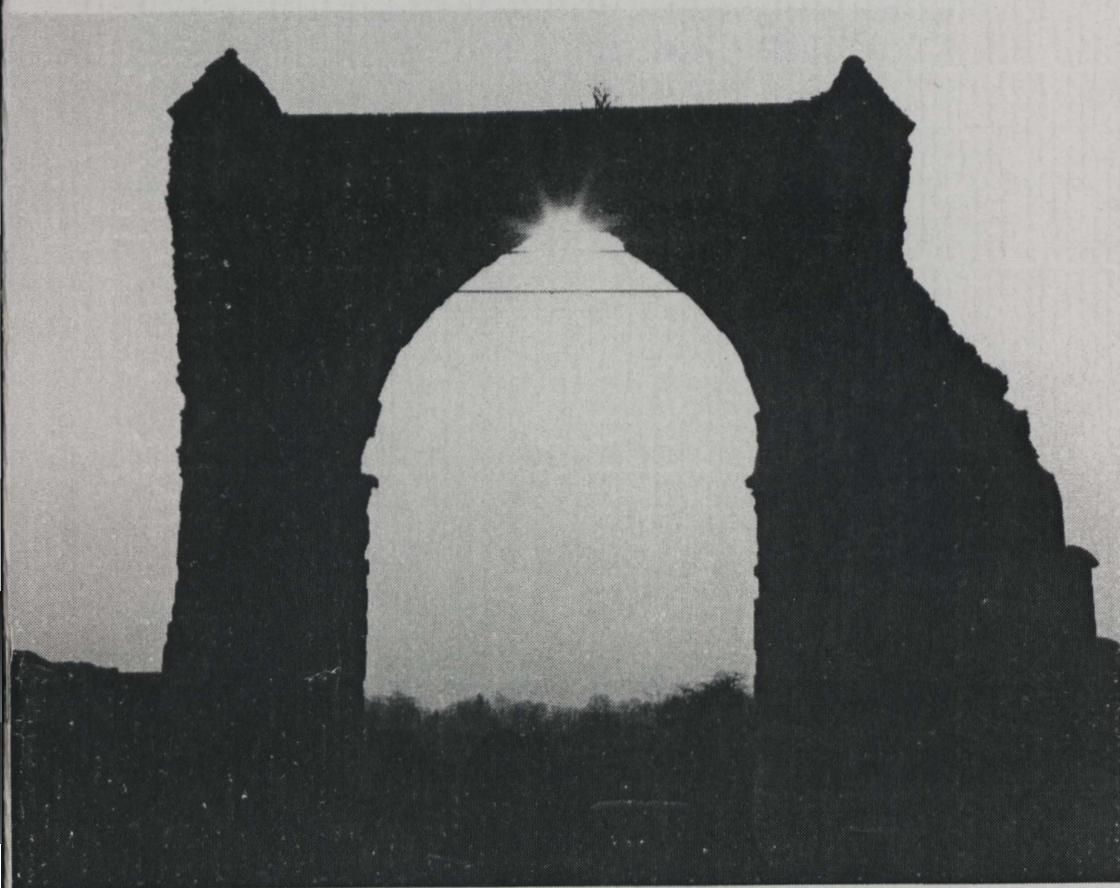


EARTHQUEST NEWS

A Healthy Alternative to Reality

The Goffs Oak Panther * The
Guardian Dog of Leigh * Enter
the Stumps Cross Birdman *
Park Wood Update * Old Maids



The Psychic Side of the Earth Mysteries

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LEAD IN

Hi, we are back again and so soon after the last issue!

Let me start by apologising for the lack of small items in the last issue of Earthquest News. As you can hopefully imagine, I have been a busy boy of late and so I have not had a lot of chance to write out any articles or fillers. Most of my time has been taken up finishing off 'The Knights of Danbury' book, which has been a right pain in the neck. I have done all my own layout and origination, and this has taken three months of solid evening and weekend work. I couldn't start anything else or I would not of got the book finished. Anyway, it is now at the printers and should be out week commencing 18 March.

As I said in the last issue, I will be sending out a copy of the book to all the subscribers, so hang on until then. I really think you should enjoy it. I'm well pleased with it at least. However, once it is out, I will have 2,500 of the buggers to get rid off, so I must orientate my promotions and activities with Danbury in mind. So you will be reading a lot of Danbury in the near future! If anyone wants a free talk on Danbury and its mysteries, just give me a ring.

The only headache concerning the book at the moment is waiting to see whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his wisdom, will introduce VAT on books at the next budget on 19 March (probably the same day my book will come out!). If he does, then aside from turning the whole book publishing and selling industries into a complete pickle, he will immediately ensure that 'Knights' makes virtually no profit at all, if indeed it was intended to make any in the first place. 15% off the marked price of £1.95 will knock quite a hole as you can plainly see. Latest rumours coming out of the Bookseller magazine and the Publisher's Association (yes, I've been frantically onto them a few times) is that the Government do intend dropping the idea for this year at least. However, there is still a national campaign being run by the P.A. and this will continue. Yet, of course, the threat, the sword of Damocles, still looms over all our heads and all I can say is that if it is introduced then it will kill a considerable part of the book publishing market. This means it will be even harder than before for you to get that book contract. Still, you can always publish them yourself, like me!

Okay, on to something else in our fascinating subject. What have we got? I here Paul Devereux and Nigel Pennick's definitive glossy book on the earth mysteries, scheduled for release this summer, has now been shelved until 1986 at the earliest. I bet they are pleased after all the hard work they put into it.

On a more intriguing note, I have heard bits and pieces

concerning some remarkable scientific discoveries over the past few months which, if correct, could have a major impact upon the earth mysteries subject. For instance, did you hear that the astronomers have discovered the first planet outside of our solar system? Or did you hear that a group of scientists (note this word, scientists) believe that the mountain on Mars which has a face carved onto it was done by 'human' hands, and that they have discovered what they consider to be remnants of a lost civilisation there? No, you didn't here this? Well, it is true and the piece appeared in one of the 'better' dailys, I am told. However, I have heard nothing more than this, so where are the facts. Surprised again?

Also, did you hear that a new tomb has been found in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt or that the Chinese have actually caught one of their own illusive Yetis? No, well it is true, supposedly, and there is more... Did you hear that during the droughts in September 1984, archaeologists in Somerset discovered huge landscape effigies and earthworks within the crop marks around Glastonbury? I tried to follow this one up by asking around the earth mysteries community in Glastonbury and no one knew anything about these discoveries at all! As Tony Roberts put it, the Somerset archaeologists would consider telling the Glastonbury earth mysteries contingent the last thing they ever want to do!

If anyone has any details on any of the above amazing facts I would very much like to hear from them.

People have been asking me about the psychic group I intend starting in the near future. Well, all I can say is that it will now be formed in Essex, possibly Chelmsford, so that it will coincide with the promotion of the 'Knights' book. I have to do it this way or else I would not sell any books.

Very shortly I shall be starting a book on psychic quest work. Aside from including some of the most obvious material, such as the sword and stone affair, along with my own work in Somerset, it will also include a brief history of all psychic quests in the past which have involved the locating of physical artefacts by either psychic or magical means. Such names as Wellesley Tudor Pole, Frederick Bligh Bond, Colin Bloy, John Dee, Peter the Hermit and Harry Price come to mind. I will also be looking into the strange case of Margo Williams, the Isle of Wight medium who finds artefacts by psychic means virtually every week. However, if you know of any other cases of artefact retrieval by psychic means, would you please get in contact with the editor.

So, back to Earthquest News. This issue will be packed with lots of good things, of that I'm sure. What though, we will have to wait and see (you see, I'm writing this editorial before I start typing the main body of text!). Some of it will be instantaneous. Some of the material is from pre-typed articles by other people. So let's go. As for next time, I don't know. What I do know is that you may have to wait a little while for the next issue, but it will be done. The next few months will be taken up entirely with promotion of 'Knights'. So stay with me. This world is full of surprises!

Andy Collins, Feb. '85.

Earthquest News is a journal studying and promoting the earth mysteries and its association with psychic phenomena. Among the topics covered by the journal is paranormal phenomena, geomancy, religious history and mysteries, folklore, and prehistoric or mystical sites.

Front Cover Picture:
The Gateway, Bicknacre Priory,
by Bernard Gowing

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THE GOFFS OAK PANTHER

Another fine report from investigator MICHAEL LEWIS on the latest of Hertfordshire's phantom feline sightings

Michael Lewis, a regular contributor to the pages of this journal, has once again been in search of big cats in Hertfordshire. This time it was to the sleepy village of Goffs Oak that Michael, with the help of fellow researcher R. Davey, found evidence of a black panther-like cat roaming the area for over two years.

* * *

THE FIRST SIGHTING

The location of the first reported sighting was Doverfield, a new development of bungalows just off the main road (A121) in the centre of Goffs Oak.

Notice of the event had come via a discarded copy of the 'Enfield Advertiser' dated 13 October 1983. The headline 'Puma alert in sleepy Goffs Oak' caught my eye and it was soon afterwards that investigations were undertaken.

It would seem that just before 9 A.M. on 15 August, 1983, a Mrs. Gore, apparently a perfectly ordinary down-to-earth type in her late fifties, was looking out of her bedroom window. She saw a 'black panther' walking along the rear boundary line of the garden of her bungalow. At that time the garden was unfenced and devoid of any vegetation. The creature was described as the size of a Great Dane dog, with a thin body and curved tail. It was said to be jet black, with the head in line with its body, not prominent as in a dog. At its closest point it was no more than forty feet away as it ambled along the boundary line until it was lost to sight behind the partially completed fence of the next property. In all, the sighting lasted about thirty seconds.

Mrs. Gore also claimed that around the time of her sighting, dogs being exercised in the nearby Jones Road barked unaccountably or displayed signs of strange behaviour.

INVESTIGATIONS

Mrs. Gore was interviewed at her home and a photograph of the scene was gained. A tour of the area was made, in the course of which a cattery was discovered. The owner was interviewed, but was unable to assist as he had only taken over in January 1984 and had no animals on the premises. It was noted during investigation of nearby Theobolds Wood that a new motorway (M10) divides Waltham Cross from Goffs Oak: the creature would have had to cross this road to get to the New River. However, local residents exercising their dogs or out for a stroll were able to cross the motorway without difficulty.

Attempts were made to visit Broxbourne zoo (whose owner had failed to co-operate in the earlier investigation of the Cuffley

lioness, (see Earthquest News No.8) but unfortunately the zoo was closed for the winter. Infact, the zoo appears to be the subject of some controversy locally, but it has not so far been possible to ascertain whether this has any bearing on the big cat sightings in the area. The 'Enfield Advertiser' was contacted but had not received any further big cat sighting reports following their October story.

OTHER SIGHTINGS

Mrs. Gore supplied details of other sightings and related incidents in the area.

Firstly, in October 1983, her husband had seen the same creature from the rear garden of the family's bungalow. On this occasion it had been about two hundred feet away, on the allotments which extend beyond the garden. He called Mrs. Gore, who was just in time to see it making off. The police were called and on arrival at the scene, immediately launched a hunt, armed with tranquillising dart guns. The hunt met with no success and was eventually called off.

Secondly, a number of workmen employed on the Doverfield development have also been witness to the big cat and have related sightings to Mrs. Gore, following the publicity surrounding her own sighting. Here are the cases which have so far come to our notice:-

- a) A plumber saw a large black cat drinking from the New River in the vicinity of Waltham Cross, about two miles from Goffs Oak.
- b) A workman was exercising his dog in Theobolds Wood at 5 A.M. one morning when he heard a growling noise. His dog showed signs of fear and he left the wood immediately.
- c) Mrs. Gore overheard one workman remark to another: 'I've seen that puma again.'

Thirdly, during May 1983, a Mr. Wiseman of Goffs Crescent, Goffs Oak, found giant paw marks and droppings in his garden, which had appeared overnight. The paw marks were much larger than those of a domestic cat or dog and comprised six separately identifiable sections. The excreta was of sufficient quantity as to require a shovel to remove it, much more than would have been left by a domestic cat or dog.

It also came to our attention that about four years ago, during 1981, a Mr. Mallyon, husband of the librarian at Goffs Oak, encountered what he described as 'the strangest creature I have ever seen' in his garden one night. His wife believes it was the same creature that Mrs. Gore witnessed.

Lastly, we discovered that a policeman engaged in the hunt following Mr. Gore's sighting, told Mrs. Gore that he had seen the creature in the headlights of his car one night about two years before, ie. 1981. He also mentioned that the police had had reports of sheep being savaged in the area during October 1983.

ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

In view of the number of sightings and other evidence, and the relatively long span of time, I believe a parapsychological explanation can be ruled out. However, none of the witnesses were questioned as to possible psychic experiences as this approach seemed inappropriate under the circumstances.

This case constitutes impressive evidence for a large black cat roaming the area around Goffs Oak. Local opinion, including the police, supports this view. However, the policeman who discussed the matter with Mrs. Gore after her husband's sighting was of the opinion that the cat was a pet which either escaped from time to time, or was let out at night. Mrs. Gore appeared to think this a likely explanation. There are, of course, a number of objections to this theory: if the cat escapes regularly, how is it recaptured, or does it return of its own accord? It is said that escaped big cats do not like life 'on the run' and prefer regular meals and shelter. Even so, the idea of regular escapes does stretch the imagination. As for the suggestion that 'it is put out at night' like a domestic cat, this presumes a degree of irresponsibility on the part of the owner which must surely be without precedent. It must be extremely doubtful whether a large cat would return to its owner of its own accord in the morning after roaming several miles. I regard this explanation as laughable. In any event, these explanations view the creature in isolation, and take no account of the sandy coloured lioness seen at nearby Cuffley in 1983.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The sightings of different creatures at Cuffley and Goffs Oak (about one mile apart) fit in with the national pattern of sightings. I cannot believe that zoos and circuses are suffering losses on such a scale (and not reporting them), nor that private (and unregistered) owners are so careless with their pets. This leaves the all important question as to the origins of the animals. I believe this cannot begin to be satisfactorily answered until a specimen has been captured and studied by zoologists. This should at least prove or disprove the theory that they are a rare type of big cat indigenous to the British Isles.

In the meantime, we should suspend judgement, remembering that few types of anomalous phenomena fit readily into any single theory, and that the evidence often points to a complex, rather than a simple explanation.

It is to be hoped that ASSAP will assist in current research into mystery animals, by publishing recent sightings and encouraging members to investigate reported sightings of the creatures.

* * *

Editor's Note - Michael's report is excellent. I wish a lot more people would take so much time over cases, instead of just using press cuttings which are often inaccurate and incomplete.

Michael has come to the conclusion that the Goffs Oak animal was not parapsychical in nature, although he also decides that the non-sensical explanations given to him by the police were not

acceptable. So where does the animal come from? There are, as Michael points out, considerable similarities between these cases and many others from elsewhere. For instance, there is the peculiarity of the Goffs Oak black panther-like animal being seen only a mile away from the lioness-like animal at Cuffley. Why is this? Are two separate animals escaping from the same zoo, or private collection, or the same owner? Absurd, or course it is. However, you had the same thing in Essex with the Fobbing puma sightings in 1982 and then the Horndon black panther sightings, just four miles away, in 1983.

Yet the Goffs Oak animal had been around for at least two years when it was seen by Mrs. Gore (a nice synchronous name if ever there was one) in October 1983. So where had it been in those two years? Sleeping or hibernating? Then there is Michael's reference to the new M 10 motorway going through Goffs Oak. On several occasions I have shown the link between major man-made intrusions upon the landscape and the appearance of out-of-place animals. Reservoirs, railway lines, building construction and rubbish tips are just some of the intrusions which seem to be associated with such sightings, surely showing some sort of parapsychical explanation there somewhere.

Anyway, thanks again Michael. Keep up the good work.

THE GUARDIAN DOG OF LEIGH

The gruesome tale of the how the discovery of a preserved dog led to the uncovering of macabre and archaic superstitions surviving in an Essex pub

One day in March last year I walked into the Leigh Times office and found a revolting looking picture on my desk. It showed the carcass of a dog, very possibly a whippet. With this was a picture of the old disused stables behind one of our Leigh public houses, The Carlton, situated in Leigh Broadway, just three hundred yards from our office. Accompanying these was a note from the photographer to affect that this dog had been found below the floorboards of the old tackroom - where the saddlery was kept - whilst workmen were ripping up the floor.

The Carlton is a Victorian building - constructed originally in 1898, as a coaching inn, complete with stables for the horses. It is now just another pub, although at the time they were in the process of changing the stables into a series of small shop units to be called Stable Mews. It was the brainchild of the proprietor Andrew Harding, a young chap, who had bought the stables off the breweries for his own commercial enterprise.

I knew immediately that this carcass might have been put below the stables for superstitious purposes, and I recalled the case from Sudbury in Suffolk where the mummified carcass of a cat had been found bricked up in the chimney of an old mill house in 1975. The place was being reconstructed into a pub and motel and the workers decided to remove the cat and get rid of it. Inexplicable things started to happen after its removal. Fires and disasters attended the travels of the cat and the recently constructed roof of the mill collapsed, causing £60,000 worth of damage.

The owners then came to their senses, re-found the carcass and replaced it in its original position, within the chimney stack, complete with an apology note! A glass case was tacklessly placed around the cat so that visitors can now stare in at the poor creature as they recall its wrath and postulate their belief in things supernatural.

Realising the possible importance of this strange find at The Carlton as a good news story, I contacted the proprietor, Andrew Harding. Hesitantly, I mentioned the possibility of the carcass having been put there as some form of guardian to protect the place, and this he totally accepted, recalling to me the case from Sudbury in Suffolk. Apparently, he used to live in Suffolk and remembered the publicity which surrounded the case at the time. He invited me down to see the dog, which I was able to view later that same day.

VISIT

I knew that the dog would have to be reburied at some point, and that, if possible, it should be carried out using some form of

Puma alert in sleepy Goffs Oak

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POLICE were called to Goff's Oak last week after a resident reported that he'd seen a puma in his back garden. Two police units were brought in and a helicopter joined in the hunt. A representative from Broxbourne Zoo was brought in to help, but he stressed that no animals had

escaped from his zoo.

The resident, Cyril Gore of Doverfield, Goff's Oak, said that the puma had first been spotted by his wife last month, in the field that backs onto his garden. Then they had reported the sighting to the police who said they would look into it.

Last week, it was Mr Gore himself who saw the beast. "I was looking at the fields and allotments when suddenly I saw a large cat in a crouched

position," he said. "It was about the size of a Great Dane, black and with a long curved tail. It was stationary for a while and then moved off in the direction of Temple Bar."

Mr Gore said that he had been terrified, and told how he was convinced it was not a dog. He explained how the plumber in the village had also seen the cat drinking from the New River.

The police called off the search for the animal,

18 Enfield Advertiser

October 13, 1983

The cutting from the 'Enfield Advertiser which sparked off Michael Lewis' investigation of the Goffs Oak black panther.

meditation. However, the important thing at that time was to see the carcass and ascertain whether it was a guardian animal or not. I called sensitive, Carole Young (now Smith), who lives in Leigh and asked her to come along. She said she would and arrived at the office a little later.

Once at The Carlton, Andrew guided us through to the back of the pub where the carcass was being kept among the crate loads of Pils lager and empty brown bottles. It was about two feet in length with a nine inch tail. It was mummified, with its skin pressed up against the bones. All of the organs had gone, as had the eyes, although the carcass was remarkably preserved.

Whether it was us I don't know, but the whole appearance of the animal suggested that it had been deliberately buried and that this had taken place while it was still alive. Andrew Harding felt the same, and Carole picked up that it had been buried alive.

Once we had seen the dog, Andrew took us to the old tackroom. It is a relatively small room, the only one among the stables with a wooden floor, and it was at this point that we confirmed that this animal had been a guardian dog. For the carcass was found by the workmen just in front of the fireplace, the traditional place for such animals. However, nothing else was found with the dog, it was on its own, laying upon the hard clay floor beneath the wooden floorboards.

WHAT IS A GUARDIAN?

I think it is about time to explain just exactly what a guardian is all about, especially in respect to animal burials of this kind. The idea is extremely old and is thought to have originated as far back as Neolithic times when human souls were set up to guard the tombs of their elders and kings. It was considered a great privilege to be a guardian of this kind and it would appear that the chosen person would go willingly to their death for this purpose. The process would take place using magical ceremony to make sure that the soul or ghost would remain at the site involved and did not disappear into the next world. Yet guardians did not have to be human beings. Animals were also used in a similar way, as were supernatural beings and created thought forms, like monsters and demon-like creations, meant to scare people away.

As we became more civilised, if you can put it that way, the idea of site guardians on a conscious level, became more refined, and it was considered that the best thing to guard a building or site was either a Christian saint, or, if you lived a heathen life out in the sticks, an animal of some sort.

The most common use of an animal guardian was to protect the building from outside evil influences. This could be done by hanging lucky charms over doors and windows, although if the threat was more serious, like continued bad luck at the site, or a history of bad emotion, then the only way was to use an animal. As the hearth was the centre of activity in an inhabited building it was believed that the animal would need to guard this spot in particular. Therefore, once the animal had been chosen, it was put to death, usually by poisoning, and left to die at the



A photograph of the mummified dog found beneath the tackroom floor of the stables beneath The Carlton public house, Leigh.

* * *

position it was intended to guard. Some form of ceremony would take place, as in ancient times, to fix the spirit or ghost of the animal to the site. Remember, people used to have this belief that the spirits of the dead haunted the places where they were killed if they had met with an unnatural form of death, hence their belief that this could be put to use and a spirit commanded to stay at a certain spot to guard it. Particular concern was taken to ensure that murder or suicide victims were not buried on consecrated ground, because people believed that their spirit would stick around and annoy not only the living but also those buried in the churchyard. Their bodies were taken to crossroads and buried there, positions in the landscape, where, it was believed, the 'winds' (ie. the natural energies of the earth) would take the spirit into the four directions. This is obviously a reference to the four elements - earth, air, fire and water - and is also linked with the idea of quartering a person when they were put to death.

Thus it was that cats, dogs, sheep, even humans, have been used since time immemorial to guard buildings and sites. They are nearly always found in a position associated with the hearth, fireplace or chimney stack and are nearly always found perfectly preserved.

As late as Victorian times, if the construction of a building was thwarted with troubles and problems, then a local shaman or cunning man (or women) would be called in to deal with the problem. If they diagnosed 'evil spirits' then they would prescribe an animal guardian as the solution.

SO WHAT HAPPENED AT LEIGH IN 1898?

If we accept that the dead dog was a guardian, then how did it come to be buried beneath The Carlton public house? What sort of superstitious belief led the people of Leigh to carry out such an act? More importantly, who gave them the instructions as to what they should do?

As many of you are no doubt aware, South East Essex was supposed to have been, in the minds of many writers of the occult, a 'hot bed' of witchcraft and sorcery. I think this is rather over stating the case, although there certainly were several cases of individuals who, it was claimed, practiced the Old Ways around the area during the last couple of centuries. Among these names was a chap called Cunning Murrell who practised in Hadleigh and nearby Leigh-on-Sea, during the early years of last century.

Murrell was a cunning man in the true sense of the word. Not only did he cure the sick using magic spells and prophesise, he was a total eccentric, using the curiosity and fear of the local people to play upon their gullibility. Many believed him to possess incredible supernatural powers and his den in Church Lane, Hadleigh would have been a credit to Merlin, with skulls, herbs, strange books, chests and cauldrons laying about.

Murrell was well known locally and it is very likely that if the apparently superstitious people of Leigh required some act of magical significance to be carried out, they would have used Murrell. However, he died some time before The Carlton coaching house was built in 1898 so it was not his magical services which resulted in the dog being set up as a guardian.

Yet the memory of Cunning Murrell probably lingered around Leigh and it was this superstitious atmosphere which undoubtedly led someone to use this form of magical practice to contain and negate a negative influence which obviously surrounded the construction of the coaching house, but why?

It could be that the building was thwarted with bad luck and/or the site was connected with something particularly negative. Perhaps a previous building on the site had been plagued with fires or supernatural manifestations, we don't really know. Anyway, it was seemingly decided that a guardian dog should be used to keep at bay any malevolent influence which might try to strike down either the horses which were to be kept in the attached stables or the stable hands living on the premises.

DON'T DISTURB THE GUARDIAN

In mystical lore it is taboo to disturb the body of a guardian animal if uncovered. If it is disturbed or removed then the malevolent influences it has guarded will be let lose to cause acts of extreme bad luck upon the site.

Bearing this in mind, and recalling the events surrounding the disturbance of the cat carcass at Sudbury during 1975, I suggested to Andrew Harding that the dog should be reburied at the earliest convenience. He readily agreed and even suggested to Carole and I that some form of simple ceremony could be carried

out when it was reburied. For the time being though, Andrew said that he would look after the dog and make sure that it was not damaged in any way. He said that the tackroom was having a concrete floor laid and that he would instruct the builders to make a rectangular hole in the exact position where the body was found. In here, he said that he would construct a wooden box which we could seal down before the hole was filled with concrete.

Andrew left the arrangements for the burial with me and mentioned that we could get some of the other local newspapers down to cover the event. I agreed and then left to write my own story on the discovery of the dead dog.

BACK IN THE LEIGH TIMES OFFICE

I wanted to find out a little more about The Carlton pub, especially about the time it was constructed and the land on which it was situated. Was there anything which might indicate just why it should have been associated with malevolence in the first place?

I spoke to local historian, Mrs. Sheila Pitt-Stanley to see what she could offer. Now, Sheila is not just a historian, she has recorded and studied the folklore and legends of Leigh for nearly fifty years and has a manuscript ready for publishing on the subject. There isn't anyone who knows Leigh better than Sheila. If anyone would know about The Carlton then it would be her.

Sheila listened with extreme interest at the story of the dead dog. When I had finished, she paused for a moment then informed me that she had no reason to think that The Carlton should have been associated with malign influences. She said that previous to the coaching house being built, the land belonged to the Church and that, as far as she knew, no previous building had ever existed on the site. However, she did add one interesting fact. The first owner of the pub was a Mr. Nightingale, a very outgoing, sporting man, according to tradition, who was fond of country sports. Course racing with whippets was very popular in Leigh around that time and it is very possible that the dog could have belonged to Mr. Nightingale, Sheila suggested.

So I wrote a piece on the story and this appeared under the headline 'Gruesome find under Broadway pub stables' in our issue of 5th March 1984. All I had to do now was to wait to see when the concrete floor in the tackroom was complete. Only then could we arrange for the reburial of the dog.

COINCIDENTAL MISHAPS

The discovery of the dog and the subsequent publication of the news story caused quite a stir around Leigh. However, it was among the building contractors working on the new shopping arcade that the greatest concern was to be found, as shortly after the dog was removed to the confines of the pub, a series of coincidental mishaps befell them.

One man fell off a ladder, hurting himself quite badly. A cement mixer fell on another, whilst the foreman, Mr. John Morgan, suffered a freak attack of severe chest pains which caused temporary paralysis, when he was leaving the stables in his car one day.

So sorry Andy reburies dog in black magic box

Evil spirits fear over unearthed dog's tomb

BY STEPHANIE HADDEN

BUILDERS made a grisly find when they opened up the floor of the tack-room at Leigh Stables during rebuilding works. They discovered the mummified body of a whippet dog, complete with claws, and uncovered some ancient folklore.

When Carlton manager Andy Harding learned of the find in the stables behind his Broadway, Leigh, pub he was uneasy. Fears of stirring up evil spirits led him to rebury the dog in a wooden box in the new concrete floor and put in a note apologising for disturbing the dog.

There were two mishaps during the months after the dog was discovered. It was evidence enough for Andy to take the folklore tale seriously. "I'd heard of animals being buried near fireplaces when a building was put up to ward off spirits."

"I'd heard of a Suffolk pub where the roof fell in after a mummified cat was removed from the hearth. "After my builder John Morgan discovered the whippet two strange things happened. Superstitions "I kept the dog in the pub for a month before reburial and during that time one of the builders fell off a ladder and a cement mixer toppled over for no reason."

"It was enough for me and I decided to have the dog reburied in a box with thyme sprigs and yew tree to ward off spirits. I added a note saying I was sorry to have disturbed it." "I'm not saying I believe in the old superstitions, but why tempt fate?" Andy called in folklore expert Andy Collins, of Oxford. He is chairman of Eartheart, which studies folklore. He said: "There is no doubt the dog was a guardian to ensure the building did not fall on the stables."

"I believe the dog was buried under the floorboards in 1896 when the stables were built. It was clearly a whippet and we decided it was best to rebury the dog to be on the safe side."

Mr Harding is carrying out a £100,000 project on his stables to build 12 small shops to be called Stable Mews. The idea is to create a small scale Covent Garden with bookers and street musicians. The small shops will include antique, linen, lace, and antique toys and dolls and will open on May 10.

Carlton "Guardian" is reburied

THE MUMMIFIED dog found beneath the stables of The Carlton pub was reburied this week amid ancient custom and stories of strange mishaps. In the March issue of the LEIGH TIMES we reported the discovery of the dog below the floorboards of the old tackroom of the Victorian stables, which are at present being converted into a series of small shops. Folklore experts tell the dog had been incarcerated, possibly whilst still alive, as part of some ancient, unexplained superstition to protect a building from unwanted malevolent influences. An animal, usually a cat or a dog, was killed and buried in the hope that its ghost would act as a guardian spirit to the building. The tradition is supported by the fact that the dog at the Carlton was found by the old hearth, the traditional focal point of the home, which it not protected might allow malevolent influences to enter into the building. Folklore surrounded the disturbing of these animal guardians and

And the redevelopment going on behind the Carlton has not gone without incident. Shortly after the dog was discovered a series of coincidental mishaps befell the building contractors working on the new shopping complex. One man fell off a ladder burying himself quite badly. A second man fell on another whilst the foreman Mr John Morgan suffered a freak attack of severe chest pains which caused temporary paralysis, when he was leaving the stables in his car one day.

All these incidents happened around the same time and leading some of the builders to believe that they had been caused by the removal of the dog. One said he would be "glad when it was reburied". After much discussion with local folklore experts the mummified dog was reburied.

LEIGH TIMES 2/4/84 by A.C.

Gruesome find under Broadway pub stables

LEIGH TIMES 5/3/84 by A.C.

A GRIEUSOME discovery under the floorboards has led to evidence of a macabre superstition at The Carlton public house in Leigh Broadway.

During recent construction work in the old stables behind the pub, the perfectly preserved carcass of a dog, thought to be a whippet, was found under the wooden floorboards of the tackroom, where the harness and saddlery once were kept. It lay just in front of the old fireplace and appears to have been put there when the stables and pub were built in 1896.

I was told that it might have been put there to guard the building. I think there could be some truth in this as I have come across this sort of thing at other pubs. "What amazes me is its remarkable state of preservation. It still has its skin, teeth and claws. It looks like it was buried alive," said Mr Harding.



Superstitious custom appears to be the reason this perfectly preserved dog carcass was found under The Carlton public house stables.

the body when the new foundations were laid and this I intend doing. If it was meant to be there, then I suppose I should let sleeping dogs lie. We will then erect a plaque to commemorate the find and indicating where it is buried," said Mr Harding.

The stables behind The Carlton are at present being converted into a series of small shop units to be opened in May, as reported in a recent issue of the LEIGH TIMES. Mr Harding is taking no chances though. When the construction work is underway, the carcass will be replaced. "I have been told we should replace

Confirmed Miss Carole Young, a Leigh expert on folklore and custom, was asked by the LEIGH TIMES to look at the carcass and give her opinion. She confirmed what Mr Harding had been told. "I definitely feel the dog was buried alive as part of some superstitious custom. In the past many people believed that harness were vulnerable to the witch's 'evil eye'. Therefore, an animal guardian was created to make sure that 'bad luck' did not befall the stables," Carole informed the LEIGH TIMES.

The Carlton was originally a coaching house and the stables were used to house the horses belonging to the Leigh fire brigade. The first landlord was a Mr Nightingale who may give us

The discovery of the carcass was reported to Andrew Harding, manager of The Carlton, who told the LEIGH TIMES: "When I was shown the body

All these incidents happened around the same time, leading some of the builders to believe that they had been caused by the removal of the dog. One said he would be 'glad when it was reburied.'

THE REBURIAL CEREMONY.

Andrew Harding contacted me and said that the concrete floor in the tackroom had now been laid and that a date for the reburial could be arranged. I decided on Tuesday, 27th March at 10.30. He said he would contact our other local newspapers, the 'Evening Echo' and the 'Yellow Advertiser', to see if they wanted to send along a reporter and photographer.

I contacted Carole Young and asked her to be there, as well as Jeff and Debbie Seward, earth mysteries researchers with the Caerdroia Project, who lived at nearby Thundersley.

The question was, what should we do? A full scale meditation was just not on. With photographers and reporters around, they would just make a mockery of it. No, it had to be a little more subtle. So, recalling the apology note which had been left with the cat at Sudbury when that was reburied, I would compile a letter to the dog, addressed from Andrew Harding and The Carlton pub, outlining the circumstances of the dog's burial, how and when it was found, and apologising for disturbing it. This I would read out aloud as the dog lay in its new grave and in the presence of all those there for the reburial. With it I would put a specially sealed and framed copy of the Leigh Times news story, along with a sprig of yew and the herb thyme, two plants associated with mortality and protection.

Everybody agreed to this and on the day the yard behind the pub was buzzing with life. There were reporters and photographers from three newspapers, Andrew Harding and his wife, various of the workmen, Jeff and Debbie Seward, Carole Young and myself. After various pictures, Andrew carried the carcass into the old tackroom and laid it down upon a piece of velvet material. I sprinkled the thyme around the inside of the box and Carole laid the sprig of yew next to the dog.

Next I read out the letter, very ceremoniously, before laying the rest of the bits and pieces in the box. Once this had been completed, the lid of the box was screwed down and sealed with red sealing wax. The event ended and, after a short natter, everyone left to continue the day in their own way.

Somehow the atmosphere seemed lighter afterwards. Earlier, Carole, Debbie and one or two others, said they had been feeling a little ill, something which they had associated with the circumstances of the day. However, after the ceremony the feelings disappeared.

AFTERWARDS

More newspaper pieces followed the reburial. The conversion of the old stables into a new shopping arcade was completed and the shopkeepers moved in. Personally, I had my doubts about the possible commercial success of Stable Mews long before it opened.

A selection of the press cuttings collected on the unearthing of the guardian dog beneath The Carlton public house last February.

The letter read out aloud during the reburial of the dog on Tuesday, 27th March last year, a copy of which has been left in the box for anyone who may come across the guardian in the future!

The Carlton
The Broadway
Leigh-on-Sea
Essex

Tuesday, 27th March 1984

Dear Guardian Dog,

For eighty-five years you lay at the foot of the hearth, the gateway to the otherworld, guarding unwanted malevolent influences.

This position you have kept despite the various changes which the inn and stables have undergone over the years.

Then on Thursday, 23rd February 1984, whilst major alterations were taking place to convert the stables into a series of small shop units your mummified carcass was uncovered beneath the wooden floorboards of the old tackroom. It was carefully removed and kept within the inn whilst a new concrete floor was laid, to be returned at the earliest convenience.

So on this day we are returning your mummified carcass to the position it was found, which will now be beneath the new concrete floor. A specially prepared box has been made to preserve and protect you.

Whilst your carcass was exposed an article on the discovery appeared in our local newspaper, the Leigh Times, on 5th March 1983. A copy of this article is enclosed in the box along with this letter.

We apologise for disturbing you and hope that you will continue to act as guardian to the Carlton and the shops when they are opened in May this year under the name of Stable Mews. A sprig of yew and the herb thyme, two plants associated with mortality and protection have been put with your carcass to help you in the role.

Andrew Harding
For the Carlton

Its situation, behind a pub, and without a throughfare, meant that the shops would have little passing trade. Not only this, but Leigh is fast loosing its popularity as a shopping area because of the growth and expansion in recent years of Southend High Street.

Suffice it say that had the guardian dog not been reburied an awful lot of people would have suddenly started believing in jinxes, guardians and malevolent influences, as Stable Mews is not doing very well. All I can say is that it would have been a lot worse if the dog had not been put back.

DO I BELIEVE?

Many people have asked me whether I actually believed that the spirit of some dog was guarding over The Carlton and that the bad luck which followed its exhumation was a direct result of its disurbance.

Well, the answer is yes, I do. I'm not sure about the builder's bad luck. That could have been as a result of their own belief in the superstition. However, the reasons for this belief are very complex and lie in the realms of place memories and storing thought forms and information.

If the site involved had in the past been subject to particularly negative impressions, like a murder, a slaughterhouse, a suicide or a lunatic asylum, for instance, then this would be imprinted upon the fabric of the place. Such feelings are extremely imbalanced and oppressive, and cause a similar state of imbalance in the minds of any person or animal which visits or lives at the spot at a later date. This affect will result in imbalanced karmic activity, or negative forms of unconscious psycho-kinesis, ie. paranormal or bizarre events. This can be associated individually, with one person, or collectively with a group of people. Strange fires, poltergeist activity, manifestations, coincidental bad luck, heavy oppression, extraordinary synchronicities and physical illness, can all result from a negative influence caused by imbalanced place memories.

The belief that this imbalance, or 'bad luck' can be negated by using a guardian works like this: the belief that the spirit of the animal will keep at bay or stop the negativity, coupled with the carrying out of a symbolic ceremony to this affect, and the release of the powerful life energies given off by the animal when it is put to death, will fuse together to actually create a place memory, or more correctly, a thought formed guardian which will have the desired affect. The nature of the imbalanced place memories will be altered or updated, and the 'guardian' thought form will stop any outside imbalanced energy from entering into the site it is guarding. This will include any human agency with the attention of, say, causing harm to the horses in the stables.

However, all of this is technical terms which won't make a lot of sense to most people. It is easier and correct to simply believe that guardians can be created and that they are very real entities which should be left alone and not disturbed. If they are, then quickly put them back with an apology note! If you don't... then be it upon your head. You have been forewarned!

Superstition or old tradition?

THE mummified body of a whippet dog — complete with claws and teeth — stirred up more than curiosity when it was discovered under floorboards of old stables in Leigh.

For the whippet had been put there about 85 years ago for a specific purpose — to ward off evil spirits.

Andy, that was why Andy Harding, manager of the Carlton pub, decided to take his chances. The dog, found beneath the stable block behind his Leigh

Why a long-dead dog was given a very decent funeral

Broadway pub, would have to be reburied — with a note apologising for disturbing it.

The dog was discovered under wooden floorboards in the tackroom by builders. The latter are transforming the former stables into a small shopping arcade, to be called Stable Mews.

In keeping with a folklore tradition,

cats and dogs were buried in buildings up to 100 years ago to act as guardians and to keep evil spirits at bay.

Andy realised the builders had uncovered a "guardian dog" because of a similar case some years ago in Suffolk, where a mill house was being restored.

"I remember reading that the owners offered a mummified cat to a local museum," said Andy. "Two days later the roof fell in where the animal had been buried, causing £60,000 worth of damage.

"We decided not to tempt providence. Best to be on the safe side."

Andy called in Wickford folklore expert Andy Collins, who advised reburying the animal. But even while the builders were finishing off cementing the floor where the dog had been a few strange occurrences happened.

Andy, founder of group called Earthquest which studies folklore, said: "After the discovery there was a series of minor mishaps. One of the builders fell off a ladder, and a cement mixer toppled over for no reason. After that it was considered best to put the dog back where it was found.

According to Andy, guardian cats and dogs were often buried alive. It was believed that the animal's ghost would fend off evil spirits. But if disturbed, it was thought that extreme misfortune would befall the household.

Although the most common place of burial was by the hearth — it was thought of as the focal point of the house — mummified animals have been found in many other places, including lofts.

Andy said: "In those days it was thought that a house could be influenced by evil spirits. The idea was to set up the ghost of an animal to guard over the hearth — and by virtue of that the house itself."

So last week pub manager Andy held a burial service. And to strengthen the "spell," a sprig of yew and the herb thyme — two plants associated in folklore with mortality and protection — were put in with the dog. Also enclosed was a letter explaining how the dog had been uncovered during alterations to convert the stables.

"At least it will explain the significance of the animal if in 100 years time the area is again redeveloped," he commented.

Pub boss Andy Harding, together with his wife Emid and Andy Collins, re-bury the mummified dog.



Another one of the accounts of the reburial of the dog which appeared in a local newspaper. This one comes from the Yellow Advertiser of 6th April, 1984.

THE BATTLE FOR PARK WOOD - AN UPDATE

The latest developments in the sad saga to sell off Park Wood, the Glastonbury zodiac's sacred centre

Last issue Tony Roberts reported on the sad news that Park Wood, the centre of the Somerset terrestrial zodiac, has been put up for sale following the liquidation of its present owner, Snows, the timber merchants. He reported how after finding that the wood had sacred connotations the value of the land was increased and how bids had been received from four separate sources, all with different ideas of what they wanted to do to the poor wood.

Since then I have been constantly in touch with Tony and can now give you the up-to-date situation in the 'battle for Park Wood'.

Tony has been visiting Park Wood regularly over the past few weeks and has been finding more and more evidence of people trekking out there and littering it with the remnants of their rituals, both physically and psychically. Pentagrams, ritual objects and incense have been found scattered among the trees. It is a sorry state, although it has long been known that Park Wood is used for ritual of varying kinds. It would seem that the materialistic imbalance of the site is being matched by the psychic uneasiness present there at the moment.

Despite this uneasiness, during a recent visit to the wood Tony was rewarded with a sighting of a peculiar looking snake near the western perimeter of the wood. He said it was not a slow-worm, a grass snake or an adder, since he knows these creatures very well. No, it was three to four feet long, quite thick and marked with curious white circles and greenish brown, almost swastika-like patterns. Tony says it looked at him for what appeared to be a full minute, before slowly gliding down into the water of the deep perimeter ditch! He read this as the Guardian making manifest to him his 'awareness of the situation'. A large serpent gliding around the perimeter of the zodiac's own serpent is a rather special synchronicity, it must be said.

On a more materialistic level though, the problems surrounding the sale are growing. The Temple Trust is currently involved in a civil war, with two of its number battling for power before a coherent program is even drafted. The number of bidders is also growing. Two more have been received - one, it would seem, from Holland and the other from France. The Dutch bid Tony feels could be the Dutch Israelites who are already connected with Glastonbury and the French one, well, we leave that one up your own imaginations!

Tony has though, received acknowledgement of his letter from the M.P.'s office and they intimate that Mr. Heathcoat Amery will meet with him when he returns from a visit to Japan next week (w/c 4 March). The actual auction date is still obscured from us, deliberately one suspects. Tony is in constant contact with Miss. Elizabeth Leader of RILKO, who has promised full back-up

facilities for any action necessary. Contact has also been made in the national news media for possible future coverage.

Not much more is known than this. However, it is important to remember that the wood is the centre spot of the terrestrial zodiac, the Crown of the land, both topographically and psychically. Whatever happens here will have a reverberation effect throughout the whole of the zodiac. The best way to explain this is to use an analogy of a gyroscope, you know, one of those devices you put on the top of a miniature Eiffel Tower that spins round really fast. Well, when that is spinning around, the gyroscope is perfectly balanced, like the energies of the zodiac. However, if the pivot point is touched slightly, the gyroscope becomes imbalanced, spirilling wildly. This is what happens in the zodiac if the centre point is tampered with too much.

This imbalance would cause a lot of negativity not only within the zodiac, but also within the Circle of Perpetual Choirs, the larger, national version of the zodiac which harmonises the energies of the whole of Britain.

The ownership of Park Wood will be crucial to the harmonising of the Somerset terrestrial zodiac's power, whether it is left as it is or redeveloped. Administrative decisions in the real world can seriously affect the balance of something on a psychic level.

So let's hope that all the relevant information needed to sort out Park Wood's little problem is made available soon.

DEVIL TALK

OMEN AND DREAM LEAD ITALIAN TO GOLD COINS: Just look at this story as an example of the relationship between omens, dreams and artefact retrieval.

Mario Angelucci from Bachero di Cingoli, near Florence, became convinced that good luck would soon come his way when he found a lizard with two tails near his home. Apparently, there is a local belief that if one finds a two-tailed lizard good fortune will shortly follow.

He refused to hand it over to biologists from a local university and would not even let them go near his house. Instead, he kept the lizard as a pet and waited for something to happen. Soon afterwards (it doesn't specify how long) he had a peculiar, yet vivid dream of Roman soldiers marching past his house as they had done 2,000 years before. One of them stopped and said to Mario: 'Go 15 metres into the field behind your house and dig down 60 centimetres.'

When Mario got up the next morning he followed the instructions and discovered a hoard of Roman coins worth £30,000. 'I knew that lizard was a good luck sign,' said 67-year old Mario. 'I might never have believed the dream if I hadn't believed in the powers of the lizard with two tails!'

ENTER THE STUMPS CROSS BIRDMAN

ALAN CLEAVER and the editor introduce a bizarre alien animal sighting with deep rooted symbolic overtones

Alan Cleaver and your editor would like to introduce you to a bizarre alien animal sighting with a difference. Firstly, the phenomenon witnessed is relatively unique, and secondly, it was seen by Leicester medium, Rita Goold, and her husband Steve. What the couple saw on a twilight evening last May, stretches our barriers of reality to new heights, and it is for these reasons that we feel it should be set down in writing.

The incident was first revealed to us on visiting Rita and Steve at their Leicester home on Saturday, 2 June last year. Present was Alan, your editor, and various individuals from the ASSAP camp. It is from this interview that the below account was taken.

* * *

1984 Rita and Steve were returning to Leicester after a long trip which had led them to Epping Forest, in West Essex. The date was Saturday, 17 May. It was a psychic quest in which they had been led, by Rita's spirit communications, to the home of a particular person, the identity of whom, Rita would like withheld. However, on finding the home, which proved to be the place they were looking for, Rita and Steve managed to get lost in the forest, a point we shall return to later.

Rita had felt a very oppressive atmosphere in the forest that day and they later learned why this was. For it was on this day that the police were recovering the body of little Marie Payne, the girl abducted from Goresbrook Road in Dagenham, killed and buried in a shallow grave within the forest.

The two left the area and began to make their way home along the M11 motorway towards Huntingdon. By 9.30 that evening, the sun had set and the sky was darkening. They reached the end of the motorway, near the village of Stumps Cross, where the road changes to the A604. Here they decided they needed some petrol and so pulled into a service station on the side of the dual carriageway. Once the car had been filled, and the bill paid, Steve drove along the slip road which would take them back onto the A604.

It was then that Rita's eyes were drawn to a strange form in the sky, some thirty feet above the fields to the right of the dual-carriageway. It appeared to be moving in a westerly direction, at right angles to the main road. It was big and black, and at first she thought it was a kite, but then she realised that it was an odd time to fly kites, so immediately recognised its bizarre nature. There was also something small, not like a bird, flying around the aerial form very fast, confusing the imagery even more.

Rita drew Steve's attention to what she could see and he

immediately stopped the car and stared at the extraordinary sight with his wife.

It dawned upon them that they were witnessing some form of grotesque birdman. As it gradually got closer, more and more details could be made out. It had a domed head, a neck, quite a thin body and legs which seemed to hang downwards and end in feet, not claws. The wings had a wingspan of about 12 feet. They were slowly flapping and did not appear to be the force behind the upright movement of the body. It appeared black in colour and may well have had some form of feathery texture to the body. It looked like the sort of movement one might expect to see of a man with a James Bond-like back pack, and in Rita's mind it also looked like something out of Jason and the Argonauts, a 'crude working model.'

The small object flying around the larger one seemed to be completely separate, although the two were integrally linked. It span around as if it was going mad. Neither Rita or Steve could even start to consider just exactly this was.

Rita said: 'It was as if they were making a film there, but in the actual area there was nothing. No way was it an eagle,' she emphasized. 'It gave off evil.' Steve said 'It was Satanic.'

Steve said it came from the north-east and passed in front of them at a distance of between 140 to 160 yards away. Its height was 'as high as a house.' Both saw it go off in a south-westerly direction.

On the little object flapping around, Rita was sure it was a bird. 'It was not connected to the birdman in any way,' she said, 'as at one point it dropped down and then the thing flew back. I thought it was pecking at it at first.'

Steve added that '... it was so quiet and it seemed to be hovering (ie. it was not supported by the movement of the wings). I definitely felt it was a man. There were no lights on it.'

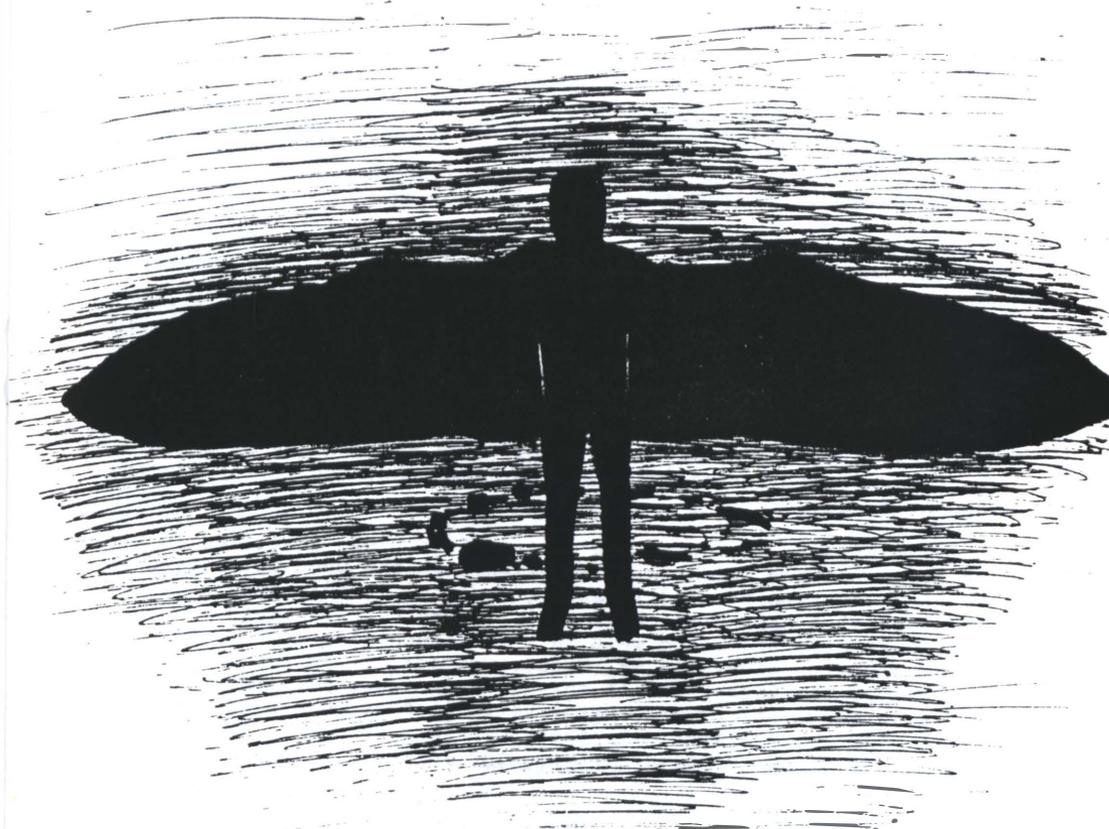
Once out of sight, Rita and Steve drove onto the ~~A604~~ and continued their journey. Bizarrely, they did not turn back and see if anyone had also witnessed the phenomenon in the service station. Rita also later remembered that she had a loaded camera in her bag which she had not even thought of at the time.

Both Rita and Steve felt that the evil presence given off by the birdman was so strong that all they wanted to do was get out of the area as quickly as they could.

* * *

So that's it, Rita and Steve's account of their birdman sighting. An artist's impression of what they saw appears on the opposite page and gruesome it looks. Make of it what you want. However, I want now to pass you over to Alan who has his own idea of what was happening on that fateful day last may.

Rita and Steve's birdman experience is an extremely unusual event; a high strangeness case. There have, however, been other



An artist's impression of the Stumps Cross birdman, as seen by Rita and Steve Goold on the All last May. 'It was Satanic,' Steve said of this macabre monster.

birdman experiences in England and other parts of the world. The only essential difference in description is the smaller object whirling around the birdman. It is also unusual for a neck to be observed.

Jacques Vallee has shown how folklore can throw some light on strange experiences, particularly UFO encounters. The same techniques can be applied to the birdman experience. My reason for suggesting this is the events leading up to the Goold's experience followed a pattern almost identical with many folklore tales: They were led on a journey by messages from the spirit world (the spirit of Raymond Lodge). She was taken into a forest by a feeling of extreme fear, so much so she was almost unable to breathe. This may have been because she was psychically picking up on the discovery that day of Marie Payne's body. They finally depart from the forest and head home, but as the night starts to fall they encounter the denizen birdman.

The dark forest is principally a tool for describing initiation;

as is Jonah entering the whale's belly, the wolf eating the child, the witch eating children and so on. This was usually initiation into a new religious or social status or the child into maturity. That symbolism does not seem to apply to the Rita experience, however, unless future events suggest that this event was a turning point in her life. In the meantime, it is possible to see some of the accompanying symbolism.

First, according to the rules of folklore, it is essential that the participant becomes lost in the forest which is exactly what happened to Rita. Once cut off from the known world, the participant is surrounded by the unknown: fear is the main force to be overcome. In Rita's case this fear seems linked to the Marie Payne incident, but as J.C. Cooper in 'Fairy Tales - Allegories of the Inner Life' points out, 'In many cults and initiatic rites the Dark Forest is equated with the realm of the dead, so that the initiatory death takes place in the abode of death.' Hence the Marie Payne discovery may have simply been a technique by which the supernatural forces at work underlined that the forest was the land of death.

The birdman may have been a part of the fear instilled in Rita, the climax of her frightening experience in the wood epitomised as a dark creature projected into this reality. In this case it took the shape of a half bird, half man creature. It was typically seen while Rita and Steve were in a car (according to a theory by researcher John Keel). Mr. Cooper writes: 'It is not only the darkness of the forest itself that is dangerous, but the monsters, beasts, witches and powers that live in it that pose a constant threat. The hero's fight with these monsters or power is reminiscent of the conflict between the forces of light and darkness.'

However, there was no suggestion of a fight with the birdman even though Rita picked up the evil sensation from the creature. So I would rather suggest that the birdman was just part of the darkness and fear experienced earlier that day in the forest or as a mocking P.S. to the day's events; in much the same way as the final mothman sighting in John Keel's 'Mothman Prophecies' book is seen to fly over the collapsed bridge.

DEVIL TALK

EARTH MYSTERIES WEEK IN S.W. SCOTLAND: An interesting week-long earth mysteries event is planned for May this year.

The event - an informal series of workshops and outdoor activities - will take place at Laurieston Hall People Centre, Castle Douglas, Kirkcud, Brightshire between 31 May and 7 June. The cost is £58.50 inclusive.

The venue, Laurieston Hall, is a country mansion set in its own grounds and woodlands and is run as a centre for events and group holidays. It is also surrounded a great concentration of

ancient sites and seems an ideal site for such an earth mysteries function. Among the topics covered during the week is dowsing, leys, standing stones and eathworks, labyrinths, energies, understanding the importance of the celestial bodies and ritual healing.

For further information and details of the venue, contact 'Pete' at Laurieston Hall, Castle Douglas, Kirkcud, Brightshire, mentioning Earthquest News.

SILVER STAR SOCIETY FINED OVER MIDNIGHT RITES: A group of occultists caught in the middle of magical ceremony in woodland near Tamworth, in Staffordshire, were fined a total of £2,000 last September.

The group, who claimed to belong to the 'Silver Star Society', a name adopted from Aleister Crowley's group of the same name, were arrested by police on cannabis charges after a local farmer had reported 'strange goings on.'

Before the swoop, the group - who numbered sixteen - were apparently dancing naked around a camp fire around midnight. It was also a full moon at the time.

When police interrupted the proceedings, the group was found to possess quantities of the drug cannabis and so that was the end of their ritual.

'The ten men and six women were dancing naked, chanting and engaged in some sort of cult ritual,' said Mr. Derek Wassle, prosecuting at Tamworth. He added that '...their society was believed to be involved in the study of astrology linked with ancient magical rites.'



"No, no, Mr. Smith - It's Freemasons on a TUESDAY night"

After the hearing, many of the sixteen thanked the police for their courteous treatment and said one afterwards: 'We're just a harmless bunch of eccentrics who are a bit inclined to do this when the moon comes out.' So that's there excuse!

Well, details of the sixteen were published in many of the national newspapers, pleasing them no end, I would suspect. Anyway, I thought I would continue the tradition, so to speak, and do the same.

Once again I will question the necessity of carrying out any form of observance without your clothes on. They say it allows the flow of the body's natural energies and thus enhancing the outcome of the ritual. This may be so, but surely this is constricted by the sexual egotism of the situation and the negating affect the cold air would have upon the body. Of all the psychics I have worked with, not one has ever picked up a ceremony or ritual from the past where the people have been naked.

There is though, one other point which comes out of this trial. What is the law regarding the practising of unorthodox ritual or meditations out in the open? I think the answer lies in what exactly you are doing. For instance, being naked could mean that you would be arrested for indecent exposure. Fires would mean you could be arrested for damage to property, and if you were on private land, you could be thrown off, not arrested, for trespassing. Disturbing the piece is probably the one which would be used for those not doing any of the above, since it would have been a call from the disturbed public that would have alerted the police in the first place.

FENG SHUI PERPLEXES AMERICAN BANKING GIANT: The vice-president of America's Citibank Corporation was just about to open up a new branch in Hong Kong when Chinese employees insisted that a geomancer, a feng shui expert, be called in to check for bad ch'i ... evil spirits.

Despite protests, Mr. Russell eventually consented to the demands and allowed the whole building, including his own office, to be surveyed using a compass like object etched with Chinese symbols associated with feng shui.

Mr. Russell was informed that a special mirror should be hung on the outside wall to deflect evil spirits and that they had to install an aquarium, with six black fishes to absorb any malevolent spirits that had managed to stray past the mirror.

Magic people in the dock

THE FINED cult members were:

From Tamworth: beekeeper James Lees, 45; unemployed guitarist John Harris, 40, builder Stefan Dainowicz, 32; unemployed Richard Deacon, 37; unemployed graphic designer Carol Smith, 32; unemployed Catherine Thompson, 22, and Kathleen Brighton, 36.

From Frome, Somerset: wood turner Ralph Wheatley, 35; artist's model Peter Stainton, 32; unemployed carpenter David MacGregor, 24; John Stratton-Kent, 28; mother-of-one Theresa Chisholm, 25; and unemployed Penelope Greening, 35.

From Leicester: dental technician Barry Down, 33; and unemployed hairdresser James Welsh, 26.

The 16th member was divorcee Mary Guyver, 27, from Ilfracombe, Devon.

He was also told to move his desk close to the door ... an inconvenient spot, but one out the direct line of the spirits.

However, Mr. Russell decided to ignore all these suggestions even though he had been warned that this could result in him having a serious personal accident and be crippled. A few days later Mr. Russell slipped on some steps and seriously damaged his spine.

His Chinese staff said that they were not going to take any more chances and so got in the aquarium with it six black fishes, the mirror to ward off spirits and moved Mr. Russell's desk out of the direct line of the spirits.

Several months have passed since then and there have been no more accidents. However, it has been a costly experiment as for the services of the geomancer and the various other items, the cost came to £20,000. 'But,' as Mr. Russell so nicely put it, 'there have been no more accidents. Credit 'Sunday Express' 1/4/84.

JESUS EGG THAT WEPT: For those of you who missed this story on the front page of 'The Sun' newspaper of 14 April last year or in a recent edition of 'Fortean Times' then he it is again. It is so good that I have to record it in this journal.

It happened last Easter when a child from Mexborough, Yorks brought to school a decorated egg, complete with the face of Christ and a crown made of barbed wire upon its top.

To the amazement of little Naomi Drury's teachers, the hard boiled egg began to weep water from the right eye. Each time the water was wiped away, another would take its place. Hundreds of people witnessed the phenomenon at Doncaster Junior School, yet not one could give an explanation of just exactly what was taking place.

Now eleven year old Naomi's egg is being hailed as a miracle by the Church.

Apparently, staff examined the egg with a magnifying glass but could not fathom out what was happening inside the egg. If a little water had somehow got into the shell when it was boiled then how was it getting out and why so much water?

The bizarre coincidence of the water coming from just a position where the right tear duct would be is difficult to equate with. If it was not a coincidence then the answer, as far as us Fortean or E.M. people are concerned, could come from the person who actually decorated the egg, 26 year old Salvation Army girl Anne Schutterlin. Anne said 'I prayed someone would see Jesus through the egg because I had drawn it with a message of Easter in mind. What happened is divine intervention. I'm sure there was no water or moisture of any kind in the egg. I boiled it for 10 to 11 minutes - it was rock hard.'

Faith is probably one of the strongest emotions possessed by man and it is certainly one of the strongest involved with paranormal activity. Could Ann have projected a thought form into the egg which breathed life into a type of Christ-like mentality. Perhaps this set up some form of chain reaction where this primitive intelligence carried out a simple form of telekinetic display associated with the

feelings installed by Anne. Could she have looked at the egg and thought: 'Doesn't he look sad.'

Either that or it was a bloody remarkable coincidence. Credit 'The Sun' 14 April 1984.



The face of Jesus on Naomi's egg . . . it shed tears from the right eye

CHURCH CONDEMNS DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS BOARD GAME: A Baptist church pastor from High Wycombe has publicly denounced the roll-playing fantasy game 'Dungeons and Dragons' as inciting children to embrace Satan and evil spirits.

The silly old fool, the Pastor John Hollidge claimed that the game - which is becoming increasingly popular in this country - encourages players to summon supernatural forces, cast spells, dabble with evil spirits and respect magicians.

Picture from the front page of 'The Sun'. Was this a miracle or a bizarre coincidence? I think you only have to consider cases of statues of Jesus Christ which bleed to decide upon the answer.

However, Mr. Rowland Brown, headmaster of a High Wycombe school said on the matter: 'We have no knowledge of anybody at this school who, through any obsession with Dungeons and Dragons, has got involved in the sorts of dangers Mr. Hollidge suggests.'

'The game helps them think creatively and until there is any indication to the contrary, I remain in favour.'

Pastor Hollidge of Gold Hill Baptist Church, Chalfont St. Peter, claims the game uses Christian terms blasphemously and out of context with their original meaning. He urges anyone who possesses a copy to immediately burn it.

Mr. Don Turnbull, managing director of TSR, the game's manufacturer, said: 'The whole concept of the game is good against evil.'

'Players assume the role of magicians, fighters or other adventurers in a world created by their imagination.'

He said that the players do not take on the role of evil characters or summon up evil spirits.

I include this piece because it does highlight a situation which, as a Christian, Pastor Hollidge was right to point out. The many role playing games available at present, along with the role playing books such as 'Citadels of Chaos', all use magical concepts and lore. They do allow the participant to take on the role in their mind of an archetypal character in much the same way that meditational 'path working' is used.

Path working is used to explore the inner regions of the human mind using archetypal imagery and information which through past experience, occultists know will, opens up certain areas of the brain usually kept locked. Because the imagery in role playing games is very similar, then surely this will do likewise, albeit unco-ordinated.

Alan Cleaver, who drew my attention to this news piece in the first place, has also pointed out the great similarity between Dungeons and Dragons and the contents of present day mystical quests, such as those carried out by Graham Phillips and myself. Both involve fighting demons, dragons and black knights, both have clues, tests, tasks and traps to overcome; both necessitate the location of mythical talismans and tools; and both weave a path through the landscape, going from one important site to another. Infact, psychic quests are like real life versions of Dungeons and Dragons; and I know which one I'd rather play! Credit: South Bucks Star, 6 April 1984.

STING IN SEARCH OF YETI: Top pop star Sting is to go in search of the Abominable Snowman with Scottish eccentric, Bill Grant, it was claimed in certain newspapers last year.

Together, they will search the Himalayas hoping to find conclusive evidence of the Yeti, which has eluded man for hundreds of years.

TUESDAY tv**BBC 1**

Artemis '81
What is in a pagan relic so compelling that Drachenfels (Dan O'Herlihy) is drawn to steal it? Gwen (Dinah Stabb) loves Gideon (Hywel Bennett) but he is withdrawn within, beyond her reach - a condition the Greeks called being 'in the thrall of Artemis'. Asrael (Roland Curram) and Helith (Sting) fight for control of man's destiny. 9.0 pm

7.5 pm The Day of the Dolphin

The feature film starring George C. Scott, Trish Van Devere. At his secret marine laboratory Dr Jake Terrell has finally succeeded in teaching Alpha, a dolphin, to speak a few words of English. His relationship with Alpha is based on mutual affection and trust - which makes the dolphin tragically vulnerable to exploitation by outsiders.

Dr Jake Terrell.....GEORGE C. SCOTT
Maggie Terrell.....TRISH VAN DEVERE
Mahoney.....PAUL SORVINO
Harold DeMito.....FRITZ WEAVER
David.....JON KORKES
Mike.....EDWARD HERRMANN
Maryanne.....LESLIE CHARLSON

Screenplay by BUCK HENRY
Based on the novel
Un animal doué de raison
by ROBERT MERLE
Produced by JOSEPH E. LEVINE
Directed by MIKE NICHOLS
Films: page 105

8.50 Main News

Richard Whitmore; Weatherman

9.0 Artemis 81

A film by DAVID RUDKIN
with Hywel Bennett
Dinah Stabb, Dan O'Herlihy
featuring Sting and
Anthony Steel, Margaret Whiting
Roland Curram, Ingrid Pitt

A Danish museum case shattered, the pieces of a pagan statue hidden in cars on a North Sea ferry, the subsequent deaths of ferry passengers, an old musician terrified that a curse upon him will cause the devastation of the Earth. Gideon Harlax, a successful young novelist of 'the paranormal and unexplained', thinks he has found the material for a new book. But as Gideon coldly exploits human tragedies, angry powers from Man's ancient past are gathering.

Gideon Harlax.....HYWEL BENNETT
Gwen Meredith.....DINAH STABB
Von Drachenfels.....DAN O'HERLIHY
Jed Thaxter.....IAN REDFORD
Laura Guise.....MARGARET WHITING
Alien Planet
Magog.....SEVILLA DELOFSKI
Asrael.....ROLAND CURRAM
Helith.....STING
Danish Jerry
Tristram Guise.....ANTHONY STEEL
Sonia.....MARY ELLEN RAY
Pastor.....CORNELIUS GARRETT
Pastor's wife.....SIV BORG
Oxford library
Gorgon scholar.....SYLVIA COLERIDGE
Exhibitioner.....DANIEL DAY LEWIS
Hitchecock blonde.....INGRID PITT

Original music by DAVE GREENBLADE
Pasacaglia by GORDON CHASE
Film cameraman DAVID JACKSON
Film editor MIKE RALL
Designer GAVIN BAYES
Script editor RICHIE GREGORY
Producer DAVID ROSE
Director ALASTAIR REID

12.5-12.10 am Weatherman

Sting first met Grant in Glasgow during 1983 when his rock band The Police toured Scotland. He said then that he had always had an interest in the Yeti. The two now plan to travel to the Himalayas as soon as possible.

In case you saw Sting in his role as the villain in the block-busting film Dune, may I remind you of his first acting role as the sun god Helith in the mammoth three hour television film ARTEMIS '81 which was screened on BBC 1 during the last few days of 1980.

Artemis '81 was probably the closest anyone has ever come to portraying the reality and situations involved in psychic quest work. It also showed a knowledge of geomancy and national landscape geometry that could only have been written by 'one of us.'

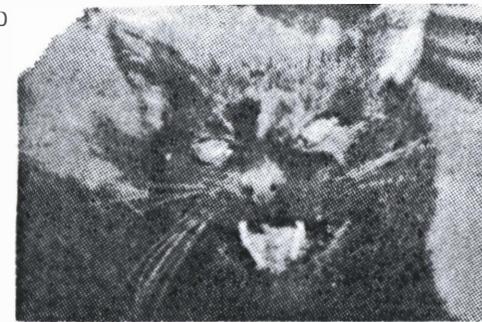
Apparently, the author, David Rudkin, is known of in the earth mysteries subject. If anybody knows any more about the man, I would be grateful to hear from you. I would also like to know if anyone actually possesses a video of Artemis '81 as I have been trying to get a copy for some years now.

This film deserves another airing on television. Anyway, the cutting on the left shows how the 'TV Times' billed the film at the time.

The Sting Yeti story is credit: 'The Sun' 24 May 1984.

IS THIS THE FACE OF AN OUT-OF-PLACE FELINE?: The picture on the right could be that of an out-of-place feline or so the experts now believe.

The cat was killed in a fox's snare on the Strathspey estate, near Grantown-on-Spey, Morayshire, following sightings of a similar animal in other parts of Scotland in recent years.



Author of the book 'Cat Country' and co-ordinator of 'The Big Cat Link,' Di Francis, said from her home in Torbay, Devon, last September: 'It is about the size of a collie dog, black, and has long protruding fangs.'

'I am convinced that there is an unknown species of big cat in Britain, looking like a cross between a puma and a panther.'

However, a spokesperson for the Nature Conservancy Council for Edinburgh said: 'I believe it is nothing extra special - possibly the offspring of a feral domestic cat and a wild cat.'

One thing is for sure though, it has certainly proved that not all alien animals are parapsychical in nature. Yet there are still a great number of sightings to be explained.

All I hope is that the carcass of this cat does not disappear in the presence of the experts, or there will be some explaining to do afterwards! Credit: 'Daily Mail' 27 September 1984.

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THE OLD MAIDS' TALE AND OTHERS

The discovery of a picture post-card takes your editor on a quest to find the named trees of Essex, featuring the Old Maids, the White Elm and the Adam's Elm

Recently, I chanced upon a curious post-card of Edwardian origin which instantly took my attention. It showed three rather ancient elms in full bloom standing on the verge of a junction between two gravel surfaced roads, beyond which was a field of hay ready for harvest. What intrigued me most though, was that the hand written caption named the trees and gave their location: 'The Old Maids, Paglesham'. This was the first time I had come across named trees in Essex and these certainly suggested some form of folklore origin.

The very fact that the name 'old maids' had been given to a group of three ancient trees, reminded me of the three aspects of the Celtic and Saxon triple-aspects goddesses, or indeed, the three facets of Wyrð, the Saxon Fates. Did this then imply that the site had some past geomantic or magical significance to Paglesham, a small sea faring village on the South-East Essex coast and next to the notorious Canewdon?

The picture post-card appeared to date to around 1910, showing that the trees were obviously still present at that time. So, sufficiently intrigued, I purchased the card and decided to see if I could find out anything further about the Old Maids and indeed, whether they still existed.

A VISIT TO PAGLESHAM

On Sunday, 19 February last year, I visited Paglesham and soon discovered that the trees, three pollard elms, had existed up until about 1970 when, like so many elms of this country, they contracted the killer Dutch Elm disease. This rotted them until they became unsafe. One was then accidentally knocked down by a passing bus, while the other two had to be cut down.

The trees had stood on a sharp bend at East End, Paglesham, by a village fish pond known as Pound Pond, and very close to the manors of East Hall and Paglesham House. They had indeed been positioned on a verge, between a junction of two roads as the card had indicated. Today, no trace of these ancient elms can be seen save for a few rotting, sawn-off branches still visible among the bullrushes within the pond.

SMUGGLERS' ELMS

What did become apparent was that the three elms were more familiar in local memory as being called the Smugglers' Elms. This was due, I was told, to their apparent association with smuggling activities during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The story is that illegal contraband had been secreted inside the trees' hollow cavities. As much as £200's worth of silk is known to have been stored in them on occasions.



The old Edwardian post-card showing the Old Maids of Paglesham.

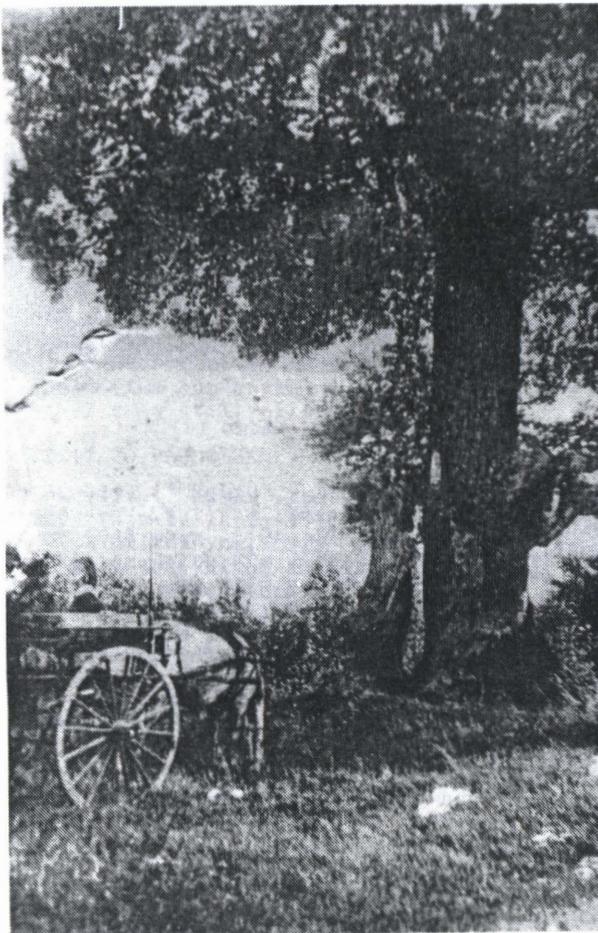
Paglesham's connection with smuggling is well known locally and the story associated with the three elms is typical of many others to be found in the village. The Essex historian, Philip Benton, wrote of Paglesham's smuggling traditions in 1873 saying that it '...was carried out in this parish to a great extent towards the close of the last and the commencement of the present century and the whole population seems to have been implicated, more or less.' Clearly then, smuggling played a major part in the lives of those who lived in this village.

No one I spoke to initially, could recall the elms ever having been called the Old Maids, despite me showing them the picture post-card. It appeared very much that the popularity of the smuggling traditions had completely whitewashed any folklore which may have been associated with the elms, including their original names, which is obviously why they became known as the Smugglers' Elms. Smuggling, it would seem, in a coastal village, is far more romantic than any folklorish name like the Old Maids.

It was my belief that the Old Maids name, which had undoubtedly been in use up until 1910 at least, preceded the smuggling associations which had only gained momentum and popularity over the past sixty years.

LOCAL HISTORIAN

My suspicions were more or less confirmed when I spoke to Paglesham historian Rosemary Roberts, who has written a book on the village called, simply, 'Paglesham'. She recalled the three old elms very well, although could add little more than I had already. She did, however, say they were at least 200-300 years old when they were cut down. She was aware of both the names given to the trees and said that most people only knew them as the Smugglers' Elms. Yet when I specifically pinned her down about the Old Maids name, she said that only a few old residents of the village ever knew them by this name. This then, strongly indicates that the Old Maids was their original title.



Old Victorian post-card showing the last remains of the White Elm, within the rotting trunk of which a new tree has grown. (Picture Credit: M.J. Turner)

In conclusion I am still firmly of the opinion that the naming of these trees as the Old Maids, hints at some now lost magical significance once associated with the site. Their great age, their proximity to the road junction and village pond, and their number all point towards this lost geomantic importance.

I can find no obvious hint of this theory from Paglesham's recorded history, and I can find no folklore, in the form of local customs and traditions, associated with the village. However, I will continue to look.

MORE NAMED TREES IN ESSEX

Since finding the Old Maids of Paglesham two other named trees in Essex have come to my attention. The first is the White Elm which used to stand on the corner of White Elm Green in the village of Bicknacre, near Woodham Ferrers, and next to the position of the old gateway into the grounds of Bicknacre Priory.

I first came across the White Elm when working on psychic material at Danbury church, only a couple of miles away. I picked up the image of an old tree, very possibly an elm, on the edge of a village green. I felt it had a legend attached to it and that it was the point of meeting for local lords. I also saw a religious house close by.

On consulting the map I noticed that the only place in the rough area in which I was looking to possess a place-name associated with a tree was White Elm Green. Its proximity to the wonderful remains of Bicknacre Priory and the fact that it was on a green, led me to feel I had discovered the right place.

White Elm Green, I found, is now just a name. The triangular shaped green, as indicated on a late eighteenth century map, has gone and the last remains of the tree disappeared around the turn of the century. No one knows exactly how old it was, only that it was supposed to have been several hundred years old. All that one can see today is a ploughed field, a farmhouse called White Elm House and cottage bearing a similar name.

Hoping to find out something about the old tree, Bernard Gowing and I searched the locality for an elderly person, someone who might just recall some snippet of information about the long lost tree. We were directed to an old lady, half deaf, who lived in a cottage just off the position of the old green. She vaguely remembered the position of the White Elm, but did not actually see it. It had gone just before her time. However, she could recall a remarkable legend associated with the tree, which Bernard later discovered had been recorded in Mary Hopkirk's book 'Danbury' written in 1945.

THE HIGHWAYMAN LEGEND

The old lady said that a highwayman was executed (possibly by hanging) nearby and his body was placed at the centre of the junction with an elm stake through his heart. Another version tells of the tree actually growing above the body of the highwayman, or indeed, that the tree grew from the stake.

The idea of a highwayman being buried at a junction of two roads is common and is attached to the superstitious belief that the bodies of those executed, murder victims and suicides will haunt the place they are buried, unless their spirit is cast to the four winds or buried at a crossroads. This idea, as I mentioned in the 'Guardian Dog' article earlier on, is a degenerate variation of the concept that the spirit is derived from the four elements - fire, water, earth and air - and that in order to disperse the spirit, these elements need to be permanently divided.

I can say little more about the White Elm's highwayman legend, other than it shows the geomantic significance of the tree and is probably an adaptation of an earlier legend.

LOCAL HISTORIAN

I followed up the research into the White Elm by visiting Bicknacre historian M.J. Turner. He has studied the village for many years, and in particular the priory's history. He mentioned that the gateway into the priory grounds would have been in front of the White Elm,

although he doubts very much whether the two ever existed at the same time. He feels the tree could not have been over a couple of hundred years old; I disagree.

He also pointed out that the White Elm Green formed the border between the Danbury manor belonging to the St. Clere family, the Bicknacre lands which belonged to the de Vere family, and the Priory estates. It would therefore have made an ideal meeting place for local landowners. However, alas, if the tree was not around then, well our theory is non-existent.

ADAM'S ELM, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Our last named tree is another long lost elm which stood at a junction on the main London Road in Leigh-on-Sea, outside The Elms public house. It was said that nine people could join hands around its hollow trunk before it finally disappeared around the turn of the century.

Yet Adam's Elm, an intriguing name in itself (There was an Eve's Spring and Pond in Danbury. Infact there still is an Eve's Pond!), has an alternative name: Allen's Elm. Apparently, a family named Allen owned a farm on the site of the public house. It is for this reason that local historians believe that the name Adam was a corruption of the original ALLEN's Elm. I hope this isn't so, but still, nevermind.

AFTERTHOUGHTS

I have come across other named trees since then; or at least place-names indicating where they once stood. The Deal Tree in Danbury is one example.

I just think that named trees are a neglected part of our study of geomantic sites, whereas in the past, they were probably just as important as standing stones or holy wells. It is such a shame that the Dutch Elm disease has managed to get rid of our last remaining sacred elm trees. Still, that's the way it goes.

BOOK REVIEW

Wilson, Colin, 'The Psychic Detectives (Pan Books, paperback, £2.50).

Reviewed by Carole Smith (nee Young).

Well, here we go again with yet another book from prolific writer Colin Wilson. This one concentrates on the psychic ability known as psychometry - the talent of mentally receiving impressions from simply holding an object. He has put together a report of current research in this field, all of which is written in an easy to read way. There is not a lot of philosophising or theorising, yet neither is it a thrill seeking or shallow book. It is very extensive, covering a great many cases and for those interested in learning more about the subject of psychometry it is a useful and interesting book to possess.

In the introduction Mr. Wilson gives some wonderful examples of hair raising reports of paranormal activity which would not stand up to investigation. He tells one story, and I quote: '...

to illustrate the difficulties facing a writer who attempts a serious assessment of psychical phenomena. To some extent, all stories are bound to be secondhand, unless the writer happens to be psychic himself (which I am not). But it is obviously the writers first duty to offer the reader access to the same information that he used himself. If he does not do so, then he lays himself open to the accusation of dishonesty, and he deserves it.' Well said Colin Wilson. Let's face it, it isn't just for the sake of the writer that the facts are correct, but for the sake of the whole subject of the paranormal.

Admittedly this book is a collection of other peoples' research and hard work on psychometry, but it is put together faithfully and in a sensible way. At any rate, it will be a popular book, so it is good for the subject generally.

Chapter one, among other things, tells of the work of Joseph Rodes Buchanan, the discoverer of psychometry and of Baron Reichenbach, who named his discoveries the 'Odic force' back in the 1800's. Mr. Wilson writes why, in his opinion, these two great men were somewhat forgotten and did not make the great impact that they should have done, had their timing been better. I'm not sure if I agree with him, I wasn't around in the 1800's, but it makes interesting reading. Later on in the book we hear how Buchanan came to further conclusions regarding psychometry after obtaining good results from giving sensitives a photograph to hold, along with giving them names on paper which were also successfully psychometrised. Buchanan came to the conclusion that 'Psychometry is the earthly irradiation of omniscience and will be known hereafter to penetrate all things.' Magnificent stuff!

We also read of Casper Hauser who had abnormal sensitivity and could read aloud from the Bible in the dark and instantly detect copper and brass in a room. Chapter two deals with William Denton, a colleague of Buchanan, who worked with his wife, sister and son as sensitives at sites and buildings. The book is a mine of information and with a good bibliography and index, at £2.50 it is excellent value.

EXCHANGES

All exchange details are true and correct as far as is possible. Any errors, alterations or editorial changes should be notified to the editor in writing. For all overseas charges to the listed publications, please refer to the editorial addresses concerned.

ASSAP NEWS and ANOMALY ed. Caroline Wise and Alan Cleaver respectively. First, A4, 4 pp., paranormal and earth mysteries forum. Sub. £6 for one year from The Membership Secretary, 56 Telemann Square, Kidbrooke, London SE3.

CAERDROIA- ed. Jeff and Debbie Seward, 40pp, A5, turf mazes and earth mysteries, £3.50 pa, 4 issues, from Caerdroia Project H.Q., 53 Thundersley Grove, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex SS7 3EB.

THE CAULDRON- ed. Mike Howard. A4, 10pp. Pagan journal of the Old Religion & Wicca. £2 PA, (cash and blank P.O.s only) 4 issues, from M. Howard, 4 Llysonnen Cottages, Llysonnen Road, Meidrim, Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA33 5ED.

EARTHLINES- ed. Jonathan Mullard. 40pp, A5, earth mysteries in Wales and border counties. £4 pa., 4 issues, from Jonathan Mullard, 7 Brookfield, Stirchley, Telford, Shropshire TF3 1EB.

EARTH GIANT- ed. Jeremy Harte. 30pp., A5, earth mysteries in the south of England. £3 pa., 4 issues, from Jeremy Harte, 35A West St., Abbotsbury, nr. Weymouth, Dorset.

FORTEAN TIMES- ed. Robert Rickard. 70pp., quarto, Forteana, curiosities, paranormal, major forum. £6 for 4 issues, from Fortean Times, 96 Mansfield Road, London NW3 2HT.

THE LEY HUNTER- ed. Paul Devereux, 40pp, A5, leading earth mysteries Forum. £3.75 pa., 4 issues (!) from The Ley Hunter, P.O. Box 13, Welshpool, Powys.

NORTHERN EARTH MYSTERIES- ed. Philip Heselton. 30pp., A4. Northern earth mysteries. £2 pa., 6 issues, from Philip Heselton, 170 Victoria Ave., Hull HU5 3DY.

NORTHERN UFO NEWS- ed. Jenny Randles, 16pp., A5, Northern England UFO Forum. £5.40 pa., 6 issues from Jenny Randles, 21 Whittlewood Close, Gorse Covert, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6TU.

PENDRAGON- ed. Chris Lovegrove. 34pp., A5, Arthurian tradition, British mythology, earth mysteries. £4.50 pa., 4 issues, from Kate Pollard, 27 Roslyn Road, Redland, Bristol.

QUICKSILVER MESSENGER- ed. Chris Ashton. 28pp., A4. Earth mysteries, conspiracy theories. £4 pa., 4 issues, from Chris Ashton, Garden Flat, 46 Vere Road, Brighton, Sussex.

RILKO NEWSLETTER ed. Bob Cowley. 20pp., A4, advanced earth mysteries, sacred geometry, astro-archaeology. £5 pa., 2 issues, from Bob Cowley, 8 The Drive, New Southgate, London N11 2DY.

THE SHAMAN- ed. Paul Screeton, 12pp., A4, duplicated, incorporating ASWR. Earth mysteries, reviews, Forteana, forum. £2 pa., 4 issues from Paul Screeton, 5 Egton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 2AT.

TOUCHSTONE - ed. Jimmy Goddard. 12pp., A4, photostat. Earth mysteries in Surrey. £1 pa., 4 issues, from Jimmy Goddard, 25 Albert Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey.

UFO RESEARCH REVIEW - ed. Bob Morrell, 20pp., A4, duplicated. Critical UFO matter. Sample 25p, from NUFOIS, 443 Meadow Lane, Nottingham.

Old Earthquest News issues.

NO.5 Winter 82. Fobbing Puma. Mahoney and Arthur's Cross. Stone Tape Reality. Astrology of Jinxs. Earthlights Review. Price 75p + 15p pp.

NO.6 Spring 83. All sold out.

NO.7 Summer 83. All sold out.

NO.8 Before 1984. The Cuffley Lioness. Synchronicity in a cathedral. The Circle of Perpetual Choirs. Photographic Evidence of the Plymouth Hay-Fall. Runwell Up-date 2. Price 95p + 15p pp.

NO. 9 & 10. Spring 1984. The Horndon Black Panther- Parts One and Two. Gateway to Reality. The Secret of the White Leafed Cross. The MLF Strike Again : Price £1.50 + 20p pp.

NO.11 London Walkabout. Summer 84. All sold out.

The face of the earth mysteries back in the early seventies. Just how many names can you put to the faces? Answers on a postcard please to the editor. Thanks to John Michell for the picture.

