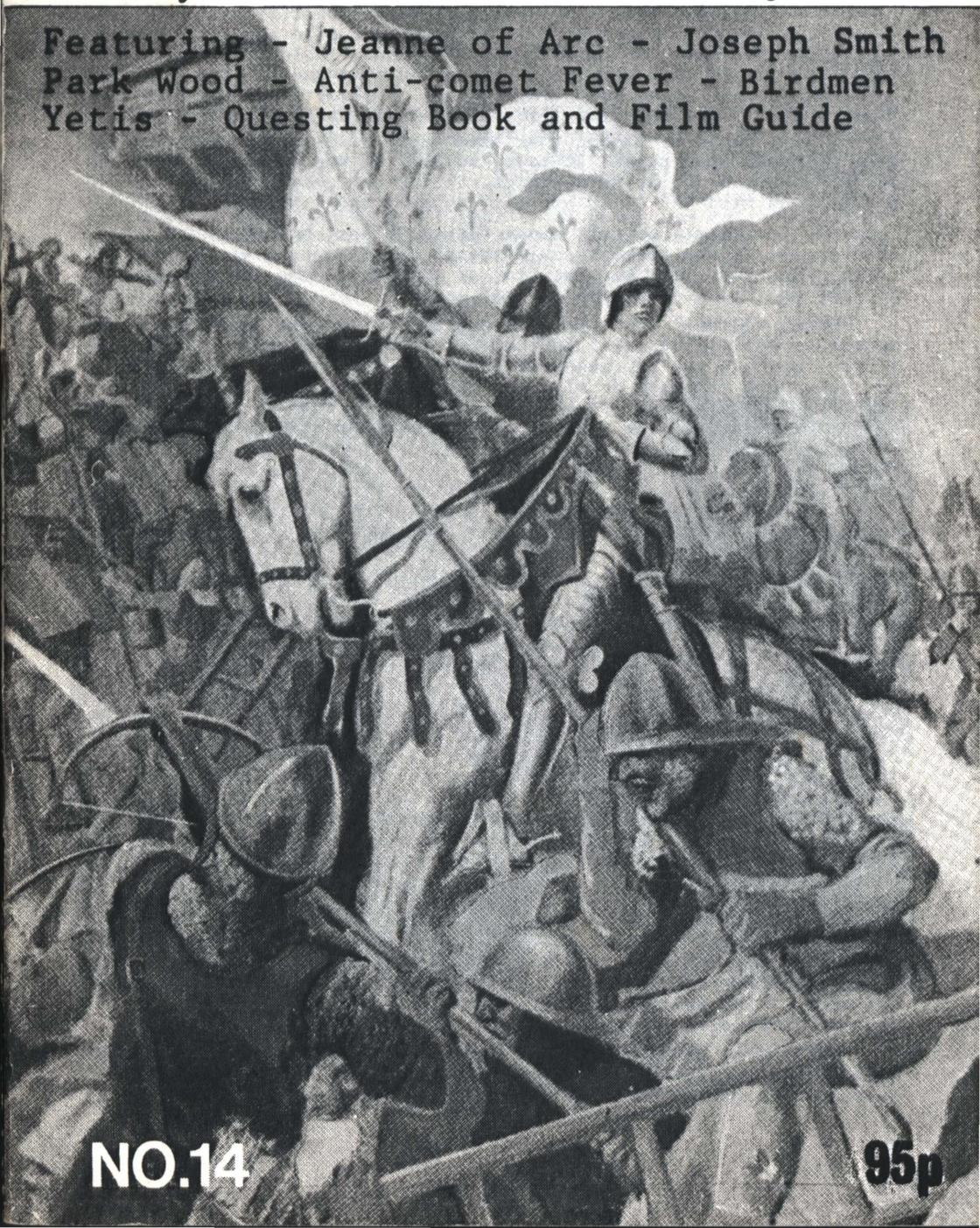


EARTHQUEST NEWS

The Psychic Side of the Earth Mysteries

Featuring - Jeanne of Arc - Joseph Smith
Park Wood - Anti-comet Fever - Birdmen
Yetis - Questing Book and Film Guide



NO.14

95p

Lead In

Hello, Earthquest News back with you after nine months of absence.

I must begin by saying that this whole issue was typed straight from my brain onto paper. At best, some of it was copied from scribbled notes and press cuttings. Still, who cares? As long as it is a good read and there are not too many spelling errors!

So, what shall we talk about first? Oh yes, how about catching up on the gossip, achievements and disasters within the earth mysteries over the past year or so - since the publication of 'The Knights of Danbury' in fact.

Well, the book has sold out completely. It took just six months to get rid of all 2,500 copies. I shall not be reprinting it as I haven't got the money or the time. Strangely enough I did not have much response at all over the book. One man came up to me and claimed that he had been with a team of workers in the 1950's who had been renovating Danbury church. They had apparently come across a coffin containing a 'pickled knight' somewhere in the aisle which contains the two St. Clere monuments. It was opened and the then rector, the Rev. Hopkirk, was informed. He told them to keep quiet about their find as its knowledge would only lead to a considerable legal problem over the exhumation of human remains.

I have tried to follow up this story without much success. The company concerned denied any knowledge of the event. The foreman present when the renovations were in progress said he could not remember any 'pickled knight' being unearthed; and my informant said he did not want to pursue the matter any further and did not wish for any publicity. Good story though...

The most gratifying thing to happen since the publication of 'Knights' was the location of a jousting group of medieval knights from Chelmsford in Essex, which is only a few miles from Danbury. They had just started and were looking for a name and theme for their group. Bernard Gowing - my accomplice on the Danbury saga - found them at a fair taking place at Layer Marney Towers in North Essex and started chatting with them. One of them actually came from Danbury, and they had all read 'The Knights of Danbury' and wanted to meet us. Anyway, after a further meeting at Danbury church, they decided to call themselves the Knights of St. Clere and will ride under the colours of four extinct branches of the family, including those of Essex and Somerset as featured in the book. Already they have invested thousands of pounds in getting exactly the correct surcoats, shields, horse trappings and banners, and much of the heraldic details were gleaned from Bernard's psychic information!

Talking of Danbury church I should mention the meetings I held with Bernard actually inside the church. Somehow I managed to convince the rector to allow me to give lectures on the mysteries

of Danbury and psychic matters in general. These meetings took place on the first Sunday of the month from May through to August from three o'clock onwards.

The first couple of get-togethers were very popular, as can be seen from the picture below. However, a few old ladies got up and walked out when I started to go on about the pagan nature of the site and the association of the Devil with the parish. One of the meetings was devoted to the influence and power behind the medieval St. Clere family and their apparent involvement in various murders associated with 'divine victim' stories. Just for the record it would seem that the St. Cleres, or The Family as I now refer to them, with a capital 'T' and 'F', would almost seem to have been like a form of medieval Mafia. They had the power to engineer kings on to the throne, then take them off when their power was on the decline. William Rufus is a prime example. Anyway, that's another story, but when I brought all this up at a meeting in the church, everyone seemed stunned! Their feelings were epitomized by a lady who came up afterwards and said: 'They weren't very nice people, were they, the St. Cleres?' My reply was that they were the goodies, so you can imagine what the otherside was like!



Above, your editor reads the gospel according to the St. Cleres during one of the successful lectures inside Danbury church this summer. These Sunday lectures did not disrupt any services, only a few Christenings here and there (Pic: Bernard Gowing).

THE BRENTFORD GRIFFIN BOOKLET

By now you should all have received (and hopefully read!) a copy of 'The Brentford Griffin - The Truth Behind the Tales'. If you haven't, let me know. One thousand copies were produced and they are now on sale in and around the Brentford area. So far response has been mixed. Most people I have spoken to within our subject welcomed it and found it a good and revealing read. Others have wrongly interpreted my involvement in the affair, suggesting that I was led up the garden path, so to speak, by taking the bait in the first place. My only answer to this is that I was reporting on the facts and little else. In fact, if this study had not been undertaken, the subject may have passed into modern day folklore without a further word. However, I must say that, so far, sales are certainly not reaching the same proportions as books by my namesake, Jackie Collins! The people around Brentford do not seem too bothered about the affair.

FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

Next year I am concentrating my efforts on producing a definitive book on psychic questing. All other commitments have been dropped for this purpose, although I shall be publishing further issues of Earthquest News in due course. However, from now on I shall say that this journal will be produced twice a year to give me a little extra breathing space. Don't expect any more books until the end of 1987 though.

PSYCHIC QUESTS

On the psychic front, an awful lot has happened since the publication of the Danbury book, most of which occurred under the guidance of information given by Bernard Gowing. We have worked together very closely over the past year and a half and this has led to some of the most astounding research material on questing I have ever come across. We have worked considerably on the so-called Glastonbury terrestrial zodiac and will be publishing the results in the forthcoming questing book. We have discovered three artefacts by psychic means in the past year or so. The first of these was a brass and ebony cross at Wimble Toot, the tumuli in the Virgo figure of the Somerset zodiac, during September 1984. The second was a parchment containing magical symbols concealed below one of the oak effigies of the St. Clere family within Danbury church during March last year, and the third was a stone spear head which was secreted in the ground within a churchyard near the Long Man of Wilmington in Sussex. They are hardly the Ark of the Covenant, but I'm working on it!

There is one other artefact though, a fist-sized celtic stone cross given to me under curious circumstances whilst at an Essex church last year. However, this could not really be termed a psychic artefact, more an indirect psychic artefact (Actually, I think I had better define exactly what we are talking about when we refer to a 'psychic artefact'. It is an artefact described, located and retrieved using psychic means.).

Let me give you the cross story. I had been working on some psychic information concerning the area of Thundersley in South East Essex, the homeland of Jeff and Debbie Seward. Among the information was reference to a particular psychic clean-up meditation we would need to carry out using a stone of importance which would be found

in the churchyard in Thundersley. Since there had already been reference to the two markstones on the site where the church of Ss. Peter and Michael now stands, I naturally assumed this was a reference to one of these.

The following day, Sunday, 5th May, I was at Danbury church conducting one of the summer lectures there. Afterwards, I returned a friend to Thundersley and then decided to take Chesca Potter, who was with me in the car, to see Thundersley church. It was a lovely, sunny day and we stood on the hilltop where the church stands looking out towards the direction of Danbury trying to see if we could see the church (some ten or so miles away). Then a man came along, walking a dog and wearing field glasses around his neck. We asked him whether or not Danbury church could be seen from the site and, quite naturally, a conversation ensued. Like the enigmatic guardian characters who always seem to turn up at sites just when you need them, this man knew all about the folklore of Thundersley church. He mentioned the site's two markstones and knew the story which says that Thor's son is buried beneath the cornerstone of the church.

Then the man mentioned, quite casually, that some years before he had found a strange artefact in the churchyard, near to the 'Old Elm' burnt out tree trunk. He said it was a stone cross a few inches across, which he felt was very old. 'I only live over the road,' the man said, 'if I can find it you can have it.' I said just lead the way! So, we went to his house, disturbed his family's tea and waited whilst the man searched through his old pots of bits n' pieces, as he mumbled things like: 'I'm sure it's here somewhere. It used to be on the window ledge for a long time.' Then he found it, handed it to me as I stared in amazement. It is about three and a quarter inches in diameter and is composed of a very gritty, hand-baked substance. On its face is an incised celtic, or Cornish, solar cross comprising of an outer ring, and four equal arms emanating from a circle at the centre. It is about an inch thick and the sides are perfectly rounded. The reverse side is rough and the whole thing looks as if it has been broken off of something, as along one side is a jagged edge. It is a superb piece of craftsmanship and, yes, it did look very old.

Our first impression was that it was a piece from the old Thundersley church which was pulled down to make way for a new modern building. I felt it could be medieval, maybe a little earlier. One thing which was for certain though, the psychic information the previous evening indicated that we had to use a stone for a meditation of some importance. The strange synchronicity of being given this artefact the very next day under peculiar circumstances, left me in no doubt that I was meant to have it and that it was the stone referred to in the psychic information. What better link to the energies associated with the site than an old piece of the masonry.

Anyway, after thanking the man, I immediately went to see Jeff and Debbie Seward to show them the cross. They too felt it could possibly be a piece of the old church's masonry. Which piece, we weren't sure, possibly a boss of some sort.

So, the meditation was carried out using the focus of the cross for attunement and imagery. Everything went well.

The following week I took the cross to our local museum at

Southend and they took one look at it and said it was probably off an old gravestone. I asked them how old they thought it was, to which they replied: 'Oh, err... no earlier than the eighteenth century.' Despondent, I left and went to see Jeff and Debbie again. None of us agreed with the museum's findings, especially as they had only looked at the piece for a few seconds. No, this was not the answer.

One other point was that neither gravestones or church masonry were constructed of hand-baked, gritty white clay, as far as I am aware.

Anyway, I'm going on a bit. This is supposed to be a 'Lead In' and not a book, so I will leave the cross story there. Suffice it to say that recent, rather interesting psychic material has suggested that the cross is far older than we at first thought. Further research is underway.

STATE OF EARTHQUEST

Many people have asked me what the current state of Earthquest is since its transformation into New ERA in June 1984. Well, the answer is that the group is thriving under the joint leadership of Jane Cook and Steve McLeish. I understand that they have produced a newsletter although I have not been given a copy. The group still meets on a regular basis at the Malyons Meeting Hall on the third Wednesday of each month. I know little more than this.

As for my own group activities, Earthquest itself still exists as a small select circle who meet when necessary for purposes of psychic communications and questing work. Group members change according to availability and requirements. I envisage it staying this way until a new group is formed sometime in the future.

GRAHAM PHILLIPS AND CO.

Just for your information Graham Phillips and Martin Keatman's follow up to 'The Green Stone' is published in the new year. It is to be called 'The Eye of Fire' and will be available through the Granada Collins group.

I am not entirely sure of its contents although I do know that it concerns the location of another stone, an orange one this time, named the 'Eye of Fire', which was discovered on the Norfolk Broads. There are other psychic artefact retrievals mentioned in the book, including the bell found in the wall of the strange ruin at Ranton Abbey in Staffordshire.

All I can say about this book is that if you thought 'The Green Stone' a little difficult to believe, then wait until you read this one! It should do well for them though, and it is certainly more publicity for psychic questing.

Other than this I know very little about Graham and company's activities over the past few years, other than the fact that they are gradually collecting quite a quantity of psychic hardware which includes at least one other sword and several stones. This will, I'm sure, ensure several more follow up books.

EARTH MYSTERIES ROUND-UP

Currently a number of earth mysteries characters are engaged, or have been engaged in tours around ancient sites of the British Isles for American tourists.

Jamie George of Glastonbury's Gothic Image, Paul Devereux and several others have all led tours through the south of England, and more are planned. They all go remarkably well with the American punters being left amazed at the magnificence of our sites and how poor those in the earth mysteries seem to be. They cannot understand how internationally famous authors are not rolling in it. This is a sad state which we are constantly trying to rectify.

For this year further tours include Wales and Scotland, the latter involving Jeff and Debbie Seward, best known for their maze and labyrinth research. Not too many people know that they have been carefully studying the prehistoric and early Christian sites of Scotland and Jeff is gradually drawing a large percentage of the stones crosses north of the border. You should see them, they are out of this world.

To cater for the growing awareness in the earth mysteries and to act as a stable base, author Paul Devereux has now set up the Centre for Earth Mysteries Studies. This will be Paul and his wife Charla's permanent home somewhere near Brecon in Wales, along with a centre for lectures, courses and get togethers. He hopes to involve a number of key figures in the subject and this whole venture should start in the very near future. I wish the centre and its founders all the very best.

PUBLICATIONS

This year sees the publication of two new journals for the earth mysteries. During December I received the first issue of Nigel Pennick's new magazine 'Practical Geomancy' and Paul Screeton's new publication called 'Folklore Frontiers'. Details of both are available at the back of this issue. However, we welcome them both to the scene.

STRANGE

Mention should be made of the tremendous success achieved by High Wycombe earth mysteries researcher Alan Cleaver. During 1983 he began to investigate the mysteries surrounding his home town and formed a group with the curious title of 'Strange'. Since then the group has gone from strength to strength, with over forty people regularly turning out for meetings. All the research material the group have gathered was pooled together and the result is the excellent booklet 'Strange Wycombe', reviewed elsewhere in this issue. This sold out its run of nearly 700 copies in just six weeks.

Among the achievements of 'Strange' so far has been the rediscovery of a lost holy well and the revival of the High Wycombe beating of the bounds ceremony on a yearly basis.

All this just goes to show what you can do when you decide to start your own group. Well done Alan and all those involved with Strange.

Anyway, I had better get on with the magazine. I'm not sure exactly what it will contain as a lot will depend on space. Still, let see what I can find in that 'copy' box...

Until next time, happy questing in '86.

Andy Collins,

P.S. WATCH THE SERIES "THE STRANGE AFFAIR OF...", ESPECIALLY ... "THE GLASTONBURY LEGENDS" AT 7.30pm ON BBC 2, 21ST JANUARY. THERE'S A VERY WELL KNOWN EDITOR ON IT!! ALSO "THE OLD STRAIGHT TRACK" ON 11TH FEBRUARY, SAME TIME. WILL BE GOOD!

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IMPORTANT NOTE: -XCUSE HAND WRITING, BUT IF A CROSS APPEARS IN THE BOX TO THE RIGHT, YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE. IF YOU WANT TO COUGH UP AGAIN IT'S £3.80 FOR FOUR MORE BLINDING ISSUES...



THE MAID'S MAGIC SWORD

The remarkable story of Jeanne D'Arc and the discovery of her sword through a vision from St. Catherine. A report by your editor.

I believe I have found another questing hero, or I should say, heroine. For it is Jeanne D'Arc, or Joan of Arc, the so-called Maid of Orleans, who helped to save France from the English in the first half of the fifteenth century during the Hundred Years War.

Most people are familiar with the story of how, from an early age, Jeanne received 'voices' which charged her with a mission to lead the French army against the English invaders and to make sure that the acting king, Dauphin Charles VII, was properly crowned and anointed in Rheims cathedral, then in the hands of the English. Additionally, how after several decisive victories the Maid was wounded and later captured and burnt to death at the hands of the nasty English, accused of heresy and witchcraft.

Yet how many people know that Jeanne's sword was discovered by psychic means beneath the floor of the chapel of St. Catherine at Fierbois following a vision in which her 'voices' told her exactly where to find it.

Before, however, we can recite this fascinating story, an account of Jeanne's short, but eventful life needs to be given as a backdrop to the questing angle of her discovery of the sword.

Jeanne was, I am quite sure, a very remarkable psychic from an early age. At the age of twelve the little Catholic girl from Domremy, on the borders of Champagne and Lorraine, started to receive clairaudient and clairvoyant communication from what she believed were four prominent Christian saints: St. Michael, the dragon slaying warrior and archangel; St. Gabriel, the archangel who came to the Virgin Mary at the time of the Annunciation; St. Catherine of Alexandria, who was martyred upon a wheel, and St. Margaret of Antioch, who was swallowed by Satan in the form of a dragon which she escaped from and later beheaded.

These visions began one summer's afternoon in July 1425 when Jeanne saw a radiance of light appear in her garden which seemed to have emanated from the direction of the local church, dedicated to St. Remy, a place she often frequented both for services and private meditation. A 'voice' told her to be obedient and to go often to the church. This was her first communication. They continued on throughout her life with each of the four saints appearing to her in full physical form. They conveyed one recurring simple mission time and time again: she was to save her country from the invasion of the English by leading its army into battle and making sure that the acting king, Charles VII, was formerly crowned and anointed according to ancient religious tradition in the cathedral at Rheims which would have to be recaptured from the English. However, before all this could be achieved Jeanne would have to convince the Dauphin, as they referred to him, of her divine mission.

In 1429 Jeanne managed to gain permission to travel to Chinon for an audience with the Dauphin. He listened to her very carefully and after some months of interrogation in his court she finally convinced Charles to allow her to march upon the besieged town of Orleans as general-in-chief of the French army.

For her divine mission, Jeanne was given a dazzling suit of armour inlaid with silver. However, when she was offered a sword she refused saying that the weapon destined for her use had been revealed to her in vision by St. Catherine and that it lay below the ground behind the altar of the chapel of Fierbois, dedicated to the saint, where she had stopped to rest and pray on her way to the royal court at Chinon. She said that it had five crosses on its hilt and that it would be found to be rusty.

A messenger was sent by Jeanne to the monks of the Fierbois chapel informing them where exactly the sword could be found. Sure enough, a rusty sword, bearing the five crosses upon the hilt was located beneath the earthen floor exactly where she had indicated. After polishing and sharpening the sword, the monks returned it to the Maid in a sheath of crimson and gold velvet. Another sheath of gold was made for the sword by the priests of Tours, whilst Jeanne provided it with a more sensible leather sheath.

Stories soon began to circulate about the unusual means by which the sword had been found which, it was said, had been sent to her by a miracle from heaven. Some said it was the sword of Charles Martel, the eighth century hero who had defeated the Moors and stopped their invasion of France, and who originally founded the chapel of St. Catherine at Fierbois. Others said it was the sword of Alexander the Great. To the English though, it was an enchanted sword, like King Arthur's magical sword Excalibur, convincing them even further that Jeanne was a witch led by demons.

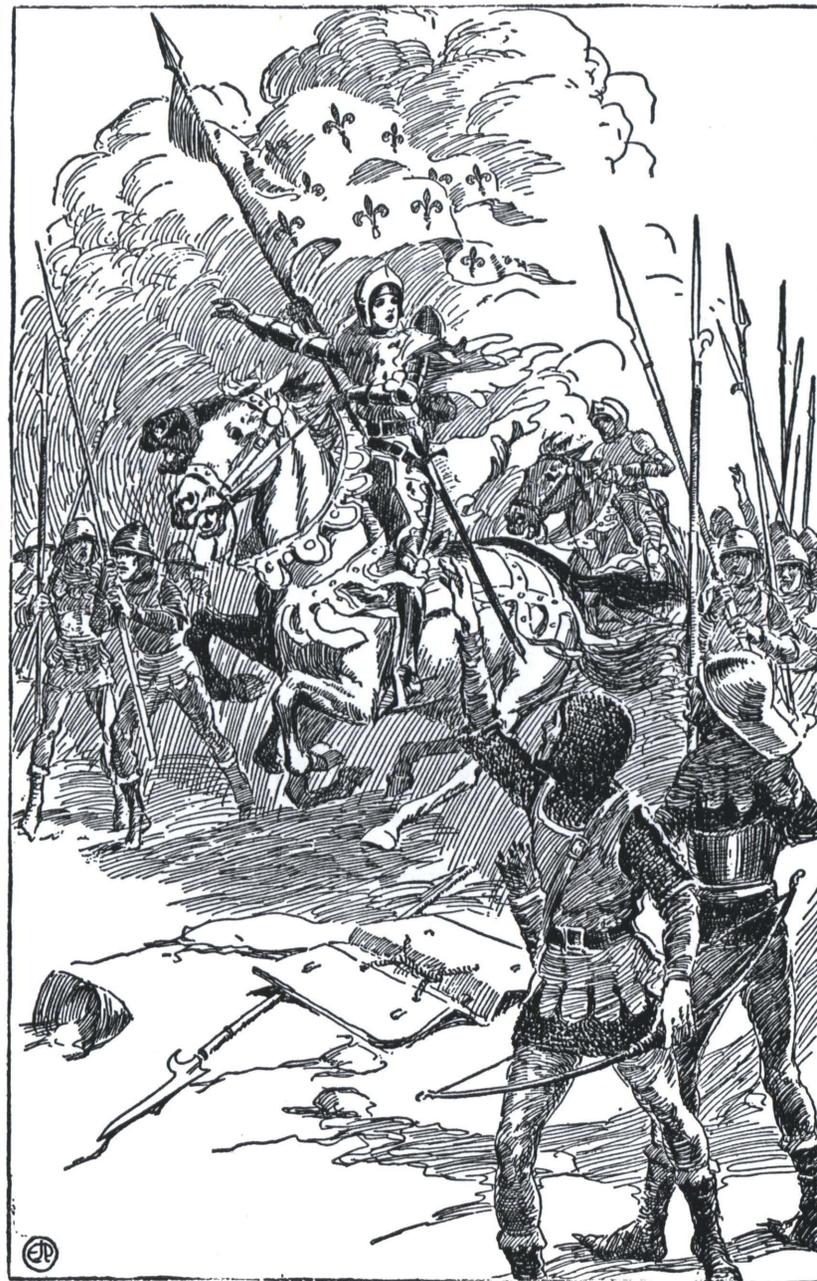
To Jeanne herself, it was only ever St. Catherine's sword, and she vowed that she would always carry it with her into battle.

In truth the sword was probably a votive offering left by a crusader upon his return from the Holy Lands. Several families during the medieval period were allowed to inscribe five crosses upon their swords before commencing on a Crusade. Apparently, there were a number of similar votive offerings which had been left by pilgrims in the chapel of Fierbois.

From our point of view, it is not the origin of the sword which concerns us, merely the method by which it was located, and we shall return to this subject a little later.

Just as peculiar as the discovery of Jeanne's sword was her beloved banner or battle standard, the design for which, she said, had been given to her by St. Catherine and St. Margaret. It consisted of white linen with fringes of silk and was embroidered with a field of gold fleur-de-lys, the insignia of the French royal family. On this was a painting of Christ seated upon a throne and holding a globe, representing the world. On each side of him was a kneeling angel holding a lily. Above the design were the words: 'Jhesus-Maria'.

On the reverse side of the standard was Jeanne's coat-of-arms



Jeanne leads the French army into battle aided by her 'voices'.

of a silver dove on a blue shield with the motto: 'In the name of the King of Heaven'.

She also had made a pennon, a kind of small, narrow, pointed flag, on which was painted a scene representing the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin.

THE MAIDS PROGRESS AND EVENTUAL CAPTURE

As the army's general-in-chief Jeanne went on to defeat the English at Orleans and in many other major towns. Wherever she went, she put the fear of God into the English as she appeared in her radiant white armour, with her sacred standard and enchanted sword held high. It is said though, that she never actually killed a man and when she was confronted by the enemy, used her sword for bashing only, and not as a cutting weapon. She was also said to have had great compassion and once nursed a fallen English soldier before his death in her arms.

Still the 'voices' stayed with her, giving her instructions on military strategy and foresight of events and situations. She predicted her own wound the day before she was hit above the right breast with an arrow which she managed to pull out before crying in pain.

Jeanne regained Rheims and persuaded the Dauphin to be crowned in the cathedral. The effect of this triumph not only fulfilled part of her mission, but also showed her triumph of moral leadership. In 1430 Jeanne went off with a small army to relieve the sieged town of Compiegne. There she was captured by the Burgundians, the English allies, who sold her to the English. King Charles did not lift a finger to help her.

After nine months of terrible confinement, accompanied only by her 'voices', Jeanne was brought before the court of the Bishop of Cauchon, on trumped-up charges of witchcraft and heresy. During a tortuous fifteen lengthy sessions she stood up against her learned accusers and inquisitors. She was found guilty and sentenced to death.

The 'voices' stayed with Jeanne until her death, even though she renounced them on one occasion after having decided that they had deceived her. Yet she recovered courage and faith and reasserted her conviction that all had been done in obedience and in God's name.

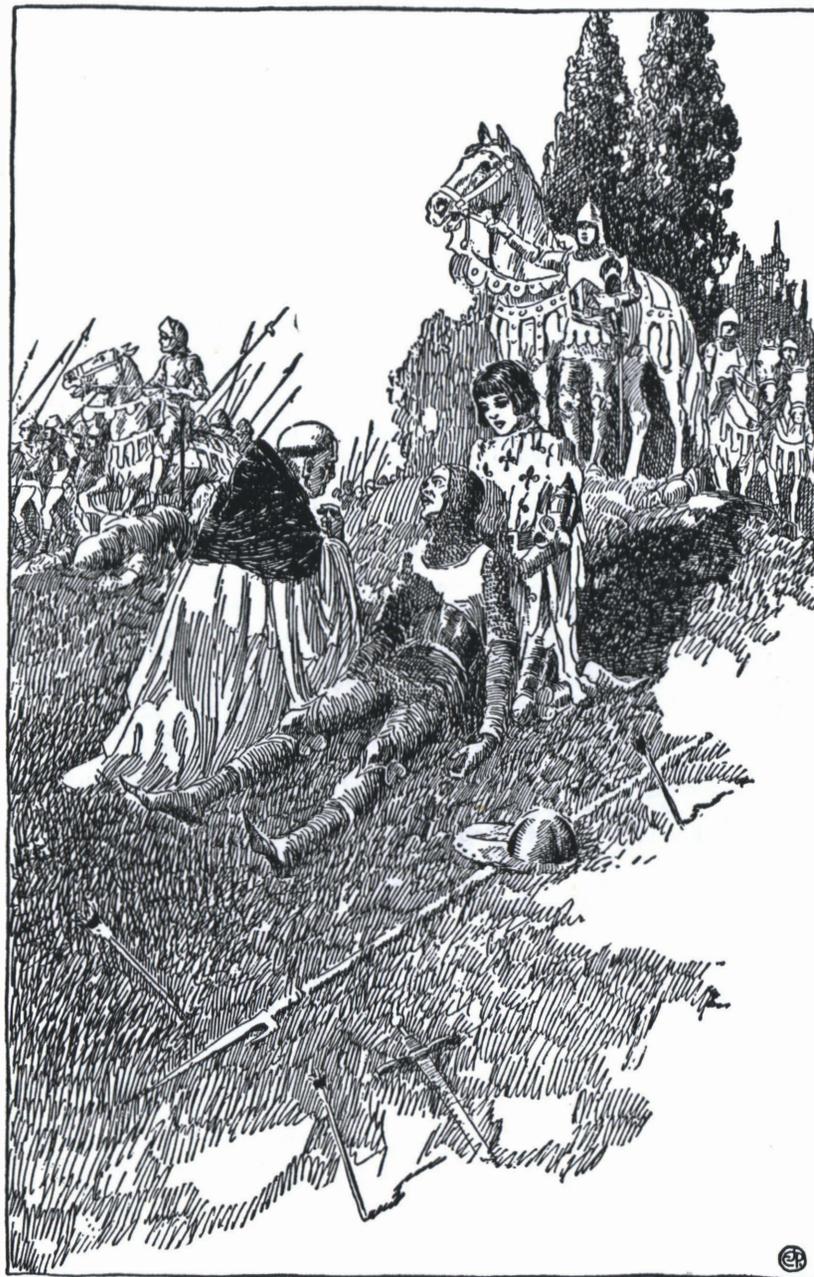
A SAD DEATH

On 31st May, 1431, at the age of nineteen, Jeanne was burnt at the stake in the Old Market Place in Rouen. It was said that her weeping and obvious innocence caused the entire multitude, including the English guards, to burst into a wail of lamentation.

As the smoke rose up over her body, concealing her from sight, the Maid of Orleans shouted aloud: 'My voices were of God. They did not deceive me'.

THE NATURE OF THE VOICES

Jeanne D'Arc's life was short and very sad. To us within the earth mysteries, it is yet another example of a misunderstood psychic visionary who just could not accept why others were unable to accept the reality of her visitations and experiences. Jeanne



Jeanne holds a dying English soldier in her hands as he receives the last rights upon the battlefield of Patay.

seems to have experienced what we would now refer to as clairvoyance, clairaudience and precognition, and all in the context of her own belief system - Catholic Christianity. Each of the saints with whom she communicated would appear in archetypal forms. St. Michael, for instance, appeared in his medieval regal archetype complete with flaming sword and wings, armour and a surcoat. During her trials Jeanne categorically stated that she had not seen his crown, showing that this was an accepted part of the archangel's archetypal image during this period.

It would also seem that the saintly forms manifested to her in a form which she considered fully physical in nature. During her trial she claimed that she had been able to wrap her arms around the saints' legs when kneeling in their presence.

Much of Jeanne's trial centred around the inquisitors' attempts to convince the court that she had in fact been communicating, not with saints, but with demons who had appeared in the guise of saints, therefore making her a witch. Vast amounts of strict theological questions were put to her in an attempt to catch her out, since it was set down in religious treatises exactly how any particular divinity or saint should appear to mortal man. Jeanne, of course, knew nothing of all this and could only answer such questions with the truth.

Constantly Jeanne became perplexed at the disbelief shown towards her visions and communications. She just could not understand why anyone should doubt that she was speaking to angels and saints. Her innocence confused and annoyed the court considerably. She herself was just a young and confused natural sensitive who believed she had a divine mission to fulfil.

WHAT ABOUT THE SWORD?

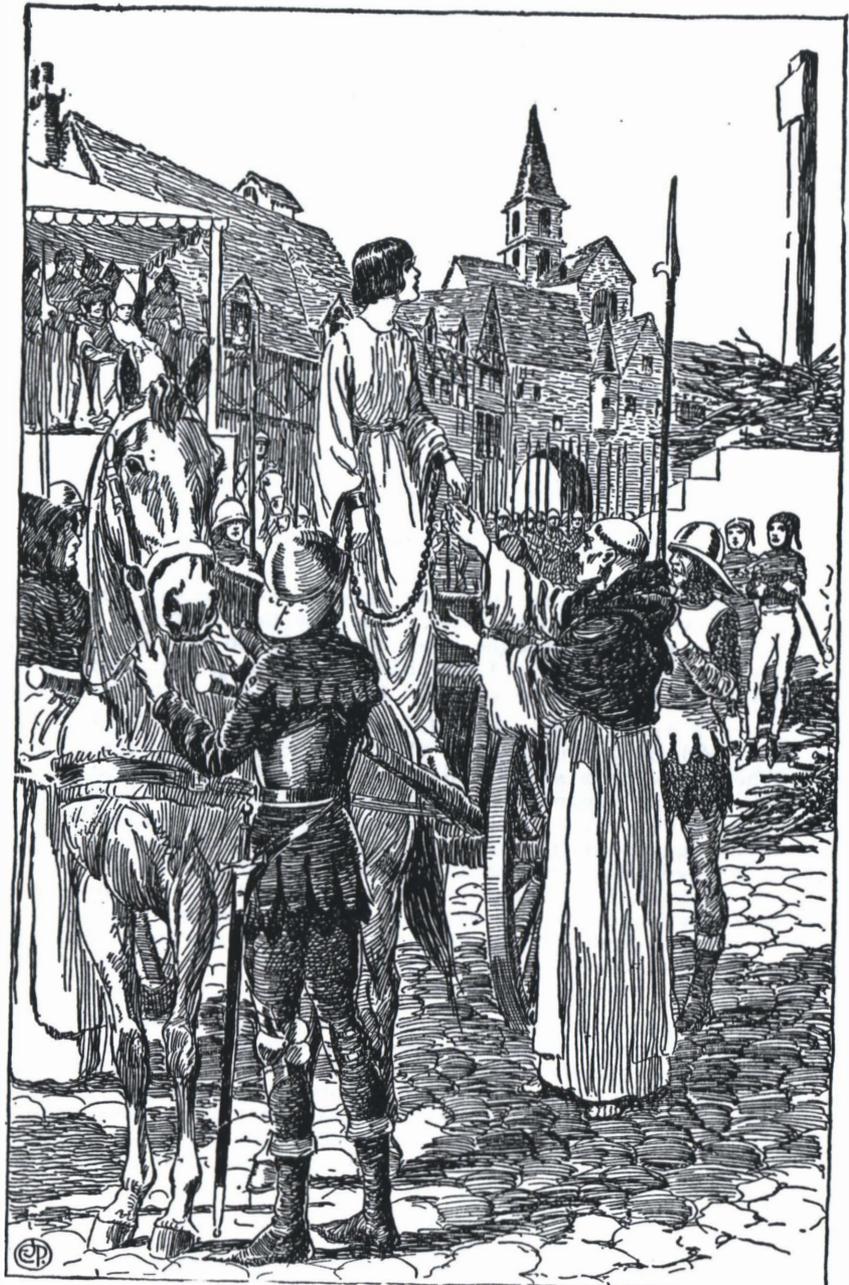
If we accept that Jeanne was a very talented natural psychic then this is further confirmed if we accept that she located her sword using psychic means. Today it is natural (I hope) for exponents of the earth mysteries and the psychic sciences to accept that artefacts, both large and small, can be described, located and retrieved using psychic abilities. As you know, finding swords by psychic means is a subject very close to my heart!

However, to historians this would seem illogical, and stories where such acts have been described, as in the case of Jeanne D'Arc, have always been considered romantic fabrications or allegorical stories concealing some hidden motive and purpose.

It is for this reason that historians have found logical explanations for the discovery, by Jeanne, of the sword in the chapel at Fierbois. Some have suggested that since Jeanne rested and prayed in the shrine on her way to meet the Dauphin at Chinon, she saw the sword then and merely took a fancy to it. It is known that pilgrims left votive offerings in the shrine and so perhaps the sword had been one of these? Either that or it was purely a lucky find.

JEANNE'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE FINDING OF THE SWORD

Logical explanations are all very nice but all the historians have ignored Jeanne's recorded testimony on the discovery of the sword which became a subject of discussion during her trial. This



Jeanne, dressed in a long white robe, is taken to the Old Market Place in Rouen where she is burnt at the stake for heresy and witchcraft.

is how she related the events leading to the weapon's discovery:-

'While I was at Tours, or Chinon, I asked for a sword to be brought from behind the altar in the Church of Sainte Catherine de Fierbois. One was found immediately and it was all rusty.'

To which her inquisitors replied: 'How did you know the sword was there?'

She continued: 'The sword was in the ground, rusty; there were five crosses on it; my voices told me where it was. I had never seen the man who went to fetch it. I wrote to the priests asking if I might have the sword and they sent it to me. It was not, it seems, very deep in the ground behind the altar, in fact I am not quite sure whether it was in front of the altar or behind it, but I think that, at the time I wrote, it was behind it. As soon as it was found, the priests rubbed it, and the rust came off immediately with no trouble. It was an arms dealer from Tours who went to fetch it. The priests of Fierbois made me a gift of one scabbard, and those of Tours gave me another... When I was captured I did not have this sword with me. I had always worn this sword, from the time I had it until my departure from Saint-Denis after the attack on Paris.'

What happened to the sword no one knows. Jeanne did not have it with her when she was taken prisoner. She may have left it at Saint-Denis, or hidden it at Compiègne when she realised her freedom had come to an end. So it may still lay hidden, waiting for another psychic charged with a divine mission to come along and retrieve it.

There are a great many contradictory stories concerning Jeanne D'Arc's life, all of which suggest that far more conspiracy surrounded her 'divine mission' than was recorded in the history books. Some of these suggest that she was of the royal bloodline herself and possibly even the king's sister. There are also theories which suggest that the magical sword was planted so that she might retrieve it in an amazing fashion to affirm her divinity. Of such claims I can say very little. All I do know is that the non-acceptance of the sword's psychic discovery by all previous historians would quite obviously lead to speculation concerning the real reasons why the Maid was able to say the sword was buried in the chapel of Fierbois.

I see no reason not to accept that the sword could, quite conceivably, have been located by psychic means for three reasons. Firstly, it was not uncommon for religious artefacts, including swords which belonged to warriors, to be buried beneath or very near to the high altars of churches. If laid in the correct manner by religious ceremony, then it would ensure a guardianship-type protection over the building by the owner or force associated with the artefact.

Secondly, Jeanne had already visited Fierbois on her way to Chinon and had prayed to St. Catherine inside the chapel there. It is very possible that the whereabouts of the sword could have been revealed to her then, but that she decided not to mention this until she had been granted permission to commence her divine mission. Perhaps some form of unconscious place psychometry came into play

here, which she interpreted as a message from St. Catherine. In other words, she picked up on its vibrations when there inside the chapel.

Thirdly, and most importantly, we now understand and accept that an artefact can be located by psychic means and, until anyone proves otherwise, I have no reason to doubt Jeanne's testimony concerning the locating of the magical sword which stated: MY VOICES TOLD ME WHERE IT WAS.

PARK WOOD: The Final Solution?

The Battle for Park Wood, the geomantic centre of the Glastonbury zodiac is over.

A report by Anthony Roberts

Towards the end of Tolkien's great magical masterpiece of mythic sub-creation 'THE SILMARILLION', there is a terrible, climactic battle between the forces of good and evil. One of the epics' superb human heroes (as opposed to its many non-human heroes) is trapped at sunset in a fen or swamp with a handful of his soldiers. In these dark marshes he makes a voluntary last stand as a rearguard action in the true Roland tradition. Finally, alone on top of a heap of slain enemies he fights, indomitable and unconquerable, to a bitter yet proud resolving of his destiny. As he labours in the face of darkness and evil Húrin gives voice to a magical mantra in the High Elvish tongue of Quenya. Quenya is Tolkien's Elvish Latin, a language formulated to encompass a magical, geomythical potency. Húrin cries seventy times 'Aurë entuluva', meaning 'Day shall come again'. In other words the Darkness must always retreat (eventually) in the face of the True Light. Day has come again in the outwardly strangely passive yet 'inwardly' ferocious struggle for the destiny of Park Wood.

The above analogy is indeed elliptical... but accurate. Park Wood is a holy geomantic centre and it exists in the Somerset levels (which were once a vast fenland) and its legends involve a struggle between Darkness and Light. Indeed a battle of Darkness and Light has been fought over and around it in the last few months. But leaving the ferociously psychic 'inward' energies to resolve themselves I will now enlighten the readers of this magazine with a brief resumé of the 'outer' situation up to Halloween 1985.

Pursuant to the information given in the last 'Earthquest News' I, and a deputation of concerned geomants (including RILKO's Elizabeth Leader) met the local M.P. David Heathcoat-Amory in April. I informed him of the Zodiacal (and other) significances of Park Wood and he showed great interest and concern. In fact his interest in geomantic matters even extended to purchasing a copy of my anthology 'Glastonbury: Ancient Avalon, New Jerusalem' from me. Heathcoat-Amory assured me he would make enquiries among the concerned would-be purchasers of Park Wood who were locally based and that he would make them aware of the wood's importance in the local geomantic/ecological scheme. This he did.

Following this fruitful exchange I then released another of my 'arrows of fire' towards the Bristol auctioneers OSMOND TRICKS LTD. This firm was arranging the sale of Park Wood, being executors of the decaying empire of SNOWS, the bankrupt timber business who

then owned the wood. A spokesman for the company listened sympathetically to my exposition of Park Wood's importance (I have a reasonably silver tongue) and then told me of the 'troubles' that were surrounding the logistics of the sale. I was told that all the other 'lots' were being swiftly processed but the Park Wood situation was chaotic and plagued with 'misnomers' and 'odd' events. The auction was to be finally arranged for June 21st, a date not without interest to those who study the art of geomorphics.

I have been making 'therapeutic' visits to the wood throughout the year and have constantly been coming across the remnants of obvious ritual activities of a magical nature. As the build-up to the Solstice approached these activities (particularly a great deal of 'crystal' work) increased markedly. I even found (to my anger and dismay) that there had been a small animal sacrifice! Various bidders of a known magical persuasion, including French Templars, sought possession of the wood but by June the before mentioned 'TEMPLE TRUST' had dissipated into the same swamp-like miasma of highly coloured (yet insubstantial) gases from which it had arisen. In other words it was defunct.

The sale was duly held on 21st June. The wood was bought by the Butleigh Shoot, despite a valiant counter-bid by one of Glastonbury's eco/ mystical scions, Chris Black. It will now be left alone to muse upon its future, disturbed only occasionally by the consortium of local farmers and business men who will stock it with game birds and slaughter them at suitably ritual times of the year! Of course it will still be used by those of a more mystical (but as the above 'sacrifice' shows sometimes equally bloody) disposition. Therefore I think it is safe to assume that the 'BATTLE FOR PARK WOOD' is won, but the victory could turn out to be somewhat pyrrhic. The more sinister armies of magicians have been beaten off and the geomantic/geomorphic sanctity of the Glastonbury Zodiac's spiritual centre is preserved. It can now dream on in the splendid isolation (and neglect) of the past few decades. But the fact that it is to become an occasional slaughterhouse is extremely disturbing. As Nigel Pennick might put it, in a ruthlessly de-sacralised Cosmos what else might one expect?

"Aure entuluva"!

Editor's Note: I wish to thank Tony for the work and words he has done in connection with the 'Battle for Park Wood' through out last year. Without both the mundane and magical involvement of earth mysteries exponents in this affair, the result could have been a lot worse than it actually turned out. One thing the sale of Park Wood has certainly done is re-activate the interest and concern in the Somerset terrestrial zodiac which I believe to be one of the most profound mysteries of Britain. Park Wood is a very powerful and emotive place unlike any other wood I know.

The date of the sale, 21st June, was highly significant and bizarrely coincidental. That very day more people were carrying out some form of magical observance upon the Circle of Perpetual Choirs, of which Glastonbury is a major site, than any year previous. I did not know of the sale until very recently, however, by another bizarre coincidence I was in the terrestrial zodiac that very day involved in a quest. Strange eh?... Thanks Tony

EXIT THE STUMPS CROSS BIRDMAN

Last issue we reported on the strange sighting of a mysterious birdman in the skies over Cambridge. Now, new evidence has painted a different story to that originally recorded.

Your editor reports.

In the last issue of Earthquest News we reported on the apparent sighting of a strange aerial form by Leicester medium Rita Goold and her husband Steve in May 1984. The incident took place at what we thought was a location called Stumps Cross on the A604 in Cambridgeshire and due to this fact and the creature's apparent bizarre appearance, its became known as the Stumps Cross Birdman..

The sighting occurred as Rita and Steve were returning home from a curious and unplanned trip to Epping Forest which they had made from their home town of Leicester on instructions given to them by psychic means. The day concerned had been significant in itself as it was on this day that the police had finally uncovered the body of a young girl who had been murdered and buried inside the forest.

In our report we considered that the phenomenon witnessed by the Goolds was supernatural in nature and was thus of importance to this journal. However, since that time new evidence has come to light which has shown that a logical explanation for what was witnessed could well be the answer. Let me explain.

Following the report in EN 13 Cambridge earth mysteries author and researcher Nigel Pennick contacted the journal and queried the location given in connection with the case. This is what he said:-

' - the "Stumps Cross" stuff seems out, for the following reasons: 1. There is no village of Stumps Cross - Stumps Cross is a roundabout, former crossroads on the All road south of Cambridge. 2. I don't think Stumps Cross is meant, as the M11 motorway joins the A604 road to Huntingdon a mile and a half south of Bar Hill. At Bar Hill there is a petrol station. Someone going to Huntingdon from the M11 would not detour to Stump Cross, as that is on a spur of the M11 which means the motorist would then have to go through the city of Cambridge instead of bypassing it. The site is important, for a mile back from the A604 petrol station at Bar Hill (actually on the A604 which avoids Bar Hill) is the phenomenal "Oakington Crossroads" - see the enclosed page 18 bottom (here was a reference to strange events recorded as having taken place there in the past-editor).'

A check with a detailed map of the region revealed that Nigel had been correct. The position of the sighting should indeed have been at the Bar Hill Service Station, just north of where the M11 becomes the A604 (and incidentally, only a few hundred yards from Nigel's own home!). How we had got Stumps Cross, I am not sure; incompetence I suppose. So, if anything, the incident should have been referred to as the Bar Hill Birdman!

So the position of the sighting had been rectified, but by virtue of this further information there came to light a significant explanation to the sighting itself. As, on 15 May 1985 I received a further letter from Nigel which read as follows:-

'The Birdman saga gets worse, as, just after I had mailed your letter, I went over the flyover over the A604 to go towards Cambridge, when I saw a huge kite being flown over the fields which belong to the trials section of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany. There, they try out various seeds etc., and I think that the kite, which resembles the birdman and is birdman sized, is used for scaring off birds. I will get you a photograph of it if I see it again. Its siting is opposite the A604 petrol station, so the birdman may be a kite after all.'

Although the description of this huge kite does not totally explain all the reported movements and appearance of the Goold's birdman sighting, it does certainly seem very feasible that this was what they saw on that day in May 1984. It might be said that the couple's agitated state after they had visited Epping Forest had catalysed their supernatural explanation of what they witnessed.

I am indebted to Nigel Pennick for his valuable information in connection with this case, for without him this 'birdman' sighting would have been recorded in the annals of Fortean without query. We were wrong, and this I readily admit. That will teach me to run articles which I have not checked out at all. Still, the matter was put right and there the subject will lie.

A SEPARATE SIGHTING REPORT

However, just to confuse matters, Caroline Wise, membership secretary to ASSAP and editor of ASSAP News, contacted me after the publication of the birdman article to say that a similar report of a strange aerial form, with similarities to the 'Stumps Cross Birdman', existed and enclosed details of the case concerned.

Known as the 'North Walsham "Batmobile"', this case took place during the mid-1970s and appeared in the Winter issue of a journal called 'Lantern', produced by the Borderline Science Investigation Group. The piece had originally stemmed from an article in 'The Fountain Journal' No.2 of 1976.

The incident was reported by a retired solicitor's clerk, a Miss Bertha Humpries of North Walsham, Norfolk, as she was out walking her dog early one winter's evening.

Travelling along the Mundersley Road Miss Humpries became aware of a dull, red glow moving above the ground from side to side. At first it was thought to be either car lights or some other reflection, but then she saw that the light was in fact a circle of a dull red colour on the centre of a jet-black oblong shape which

was erratically moving towards her slowly and taking up the complete crown of the road.

As it reached a wider section of the road, it floundered and fluttered as it slowly rose up into the air until it reached housetop level; the red circle still visible and the black shape flapping and billowing like a cloak. 'Then,' said Miss Humpries, 'I observed it was dragging behind, as if it were the tail of a kite, a miniature of itself - black, oblong, with a glowing red circle in the centre.'

For a moment or two the bizarre phenomenon stayed at housetop level before, with a renewed effort, it shot up to a much higher level and floated again, before it carried on and vanished into the clouds.

The whole event had taken place in complete silence and no one else witnessed the extraordinary event.

The only additional information was that the overall form of this monstrosity was described as like 'an oblong sail and it floated towards me.'

This event is possibly significant as in this case, and the 'Stumps Cross Birdman', a smaller form was witnessed moving around the larger object. However, if the Goold's sighting does turn out to be a kite then the comparison will have been in vain. AC.

DEVIL TALK

EARTH MOVIE: The people watching television in Cairo recently must have thought that the old gods were having a joke. For, as Egyptian television screened the film 'Earthquake' earth tremors shook the capital. Now that is what we call a synchronicity mate.

MORMON FOUNDER WAS A QUESTER - OFFICIAL

A lot of very embarrassing questions are being asked by the officials of the Mormon Church following the discovery of an 1825 letter which suggests that its founder, one Joseph Smith, was involved in dowsing, the occult and yes, psychic questing!

The letter, apparently the oldest ever discovered in Joseph Smith's own hand, gives instructions to a man in Pennsylvania on how to test to see '...if any valuables remain' in a secret treasure trove.

The Pennsylvanian man, who was a fortune teller, is told in the letter: 'You know the treasury must be guarded by some clever spirit and if such is discovered so also is the treasure. So do this: take a hazel stick one yard long being new cut and cleave it just in the middle and lay it asunder on the mine so that both inner parts of the stick may look one right against the other.' Smith goes on to say that if treasure is present, then the sticks will 'close together again of themselves.'

I do believe this is a form of dowsing!

Now the Mormon Church is attempting to equate the contents of the letter with the spiritual 'channel of god' - like Joseph Smith claimed to have been. This approach to spirits and treasure hunting is almost pure psychic questing and leaves them in doubt of his original story which forms the basis for the foundation of the Mormon Church.

As those of you who have been given a Mormon bible will know, during September 1823 Joseph Smith had a series of illumination experiences involving a robed angelic figure named Moroni who informed him of the whereabouts of a series of gold leaf plates. These, he was told, contained an account of the former inhabitants of North America and the source from whence they came. He was also told that they contained Gospel-like texts which implied that Jesus Christ and other Judaic prophets had sailed from the Holy Lands to the Americas taking with them the 'everlasting word of God.'

With these plates would be 'two stones in silver bows' which



THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

He translated the ancient writings inscribed on gold plates from which the first edition of the Book of Mormon was published in 1830.

when fastened to a breastplate would constitute the Urim and Thummin of Mosaic tradition. By using these he would be able to translate the engravings on the gold leaves which were of 'curious workmanship'.

He was shown the whereabouts of this little trove and after repeated visions of the angel, who gave his name as Moroni again and again, Joseph Smith went to a hill near the village of Manchester, Ontario. Here, beneath 'a stone of considerable size (a megalith?), lay the plates, deposited in a stone box. This stone was partially hidden beneath the earth and once the earth around the edges had been removed, Joseph Smith recorded: 'I obtained a lever, which I got fixed under the edge of the stone, and with a little exertion raised it up. I looked in, and there indeed did I behold the plates, the Urim and Thummin, and the breastplate, as stated by the messenger. The box in which they lay was formed

by laying stones together in some kind of cement. In the bottom of the box and on these stones lay the plates and other things with them.(1)'

The 'messenger' Moroni told Joseph Smith that he could not remove the contents of the box for four years, although he was to return to the spot on the anniversary of their discovery before the appointed time, where he, Moroni, would appear to give him further divine instruction.

Exactly four years to the day, on 22nd September 1827, Joseph removed the contents of the box. The gold plates were translated using a 'divine voice', possibly a form of clairaudience, which came into his mind. Then, following the translation of several of the gold leaves, we are told: 'the messenger called for them'. In other words, Moroni took them into spirit. They disappeared, or asported, as we would say.

This may or may not have had something to do with the fact that Joseph Smith claimed that: 'the most strenuous exertions were used' to get the leaves, breastplate and stones from him. As he said: 'The persecution became more bitter and severe than before, and multitudes were on the alert continually to get them from me if possible. But by the wisdom of God, they remained safe in my hands .(2)'

The first book of Mormon was published in 1830 and to those who have seen it, it appears to be just a type of bible, so to speak, but from an American viewpoint. It supposedly gives a history of America starting around 500BC and bringing it up to around 400AD, where Moroni, last of the Nephite race, completes his records and buries them on the hill called 'Cumorah', where Joseph found the tablets. The text also contains a considerable amount of philosophy and



Above One of the Kinderhook plates: the founder of Mormonism, Joseph Smith, claimed to have discovered, hidden in a hill, golden plates on which was recorded in mysterious characters the history of tribes of Israel who had migrated to America centuries before the time of Christ. Later, in 1843, it was announced that six similar plates, bell-shaped and made of brass, had been discovered at Kinderhook, Illinois. Smith translated them and said they were a history of a descendant of Ham

spiritual teaching in the same vein as the Christian Bible.

The entire contents of The Book of Mormon could, quite conceivably, be pure automatic writing from Joseph Smith's own mind and therefore bear no direct relation to the engravings on the gold leaves. However, the power of psychometry in its guise as a 'psychic memory bank' could explain a lot of things, although that is another debate.

Some years after the finding of the original plates, in 1843, it was announced that six more, relatively similar plates had been located at a place called Kinderhook, Illinois. These ones were bell-shaped and made of brass. Smith translated these and said they were the history of a man who had descended from a tribe called Ham.

The Mormon Church grew and grew, led by Smith. However, it underwent many problems and upheavals, including Joseph Smith's eventual imprisonment in Illinois. Here, in June, 1844, he was murdered by a disorderly mob, leading, of course, to his martyrdom.

The whole Joseph Smith story is very fascinating and the more one studies his life, the more it becomes apparent that he can be regarded as a true questing hero. Recently, I discovered (through the advice of Caroline Wise), an interesting article on Mormonism which had been published in the sixties occult magazine 'Man, Myth and Magic'; issue 67 to be precise. In here it confirms that even before the discovery of the aforementioned letter, dated 1825, Smith was into psychic treasure hunting. I quote: 'Smith was known locally as a romantic who professed on several occasions to know the whereabouts of buried treasure, revealed to him through a luminous peep-stone (a kind of crystal), and once he was brought before the courts because of these activities. Treasure seeking was a not uncommon enthusiasm in this part of America in that period, and Smith, who was a fluent talker and a young man of considerable charm, certainly convinced some people of his exceptional talents. (3)'

This latest discovery has more-or-less confirmed Joseph's involvement in questing (the main result being his discovery, through psychic means, of the gold plates), and was conversant with the ideas of spirit guardians, dowsing and artefact retrieval.

We welcome Joseph Smith to the hall of questing fame.

Credit: The Guardian Newspaper, 13.5.85 and 'Anomalous Phenomenon Review' No.2 Vol.2, available from 443 Meadow Drive, Nottingham NG2 3GB at £2.52 p.a.

Notes: 1. 'The Book of Mormon: An Account Written by the Hand of Mormon Upon Plates, translated by Joseph Smith (Deseret Enterprises Ltd., Manchester, 1976).
2. -as above-
3. 'Man, Myth & Magic' No.67 (Purnell, 1971).

LEY HUNTING MEMORIES

On the back of the last issue we published an old photograph of several earth mysteries researchers and authors taken at an event back in the 1970s. Not being around then, I asked readers to identify those in the line-up and let me know where and when the picture was taken.

Well, the response was amazing - well, good - in fact I had three replies, one of which I have since lost! So, to Jan Roberts, Nigel Pennick, and the girl who wrote in, thanks a lot! It was, I am informed, taken at the Festival for Mind and Body, in May 1978. From left to right (top-standing) we have: Paul Devereux; Kay Thompson; Patricia Villiers-Stuart; Nigel Pennick; Jan Hoult; Shelley Phillips; Jay Devereux; Michael Behrend; John Barnatt; Tony Roberts; Mrs Barnatt; Colin Murray; Tom Graves;(bottom) Prudence Jones; Mary Caine, and Jan Roberts.

IGNORED WARNINGS LEAD TO 'BAD MEDICINE'

Despite warnings from an Indian 'priest king' that running a new highway through their ancient burial ground would lead to 'bad medicine', New Jersey officials went ahead and are now counting the costs of a number of bizarre accidents during construction work.

In March 1983 permission was given to commence work on the new Route 55 highway at Camden, New Jersey, despite quite specific warnings from the leaders of the local Delaware Indians.

The intended course of the highway would take it straight through the Indians' ancient burial ground, which according to ancient lore would result in considerable 'bad medicine' or strange accidents if tampered with.

As is generally the case, the Indians' warnings were ignored and the highway is now near completion. However, the New Jersey State Department is now counting the costs of their decision as the construction has resulted in a string of bizarre and very coincidental mishaps and accidents centred around those working on the site.

One worker was killed when an asphalt roller ran him over; an inspector collapsed and died of a brain disorder. Another construction man was seriously injured when he was blown off a trestle bridge which lasted less than a minute, whilst five others were hurt when a van in which they were travelling suddenly exploded.

Yet it didn't stop there. Several more instances of curious accidents and mishaps struck down construction workers under strange circumstances.

Karl Kruger, engineering supervisor at New Jersey's State Department of Transportation is baffled: 'Nobody can explain why it's all happening. We're pretty scared,' he admitted. 'We asked the Delawares, and they don't know either - except that disturbing the burial grounds was unwise.'

Despite the thirty-two months of constant bad luck, the cursed highway will be opened this year. However, according to the 'priest king' the jinx will not end there. Said Mr Kruger: 'He told us that road will never be safe to travel.'

All we can say is that they should have listened (Credit: Daily Express, date unknown & Carole Smith).

NEW BOOK ON WANDERING BISHOPS

Following our report on the subject of 'Episcopi Vagantes' or 'Wandering Bishops' in our issue No.7 during 1983, it seems that the subject has been on the tips of the tongues of a number of

earth mysteries researchers.

Now, in the wake of this newfound interest in the subject, and several requests by readers to tell them where they might chance upon a copy of Peter Anson's book 'Bishops at Large', the definitive work on Episcopi Vagantes, comes a new book.

Entitled 'Bishops Irregular' this book has been written by one of their own number, the Archbishop Alan M. Bain who belongs to the Apostolic Episcopal Church, and can be gained from A.M. Bain, priced £7.50, inc. post and packing, from 14 Tyndall's Park Road, Bristol.

I have no idea of its contents as I have not written off for a copy yet. However, I really do advise you to get a copy now as you will remember what happened to the other books on this subject! (Credit: The Guardian Newspaper 21.5.85).

SAVE OUR FAERIE TREE!

Life will never be the same if they cut down our faerie tree say little Naomi and Eloise Forsyth, seven and nine, of Emmer Green, Oxfordshire.

For a long time the two little girls had left their teeth at the foot of the faerie tree, half way down the hill, and the following day found that these had been replaced with presents by the faeries.

Now they want to chop down the tree as part of a re-development scheme to build houses and Naomi and Eloise are up in arms.

The two have appealed to Environment Secretary, Kenneth Baker, to 'Spare our fairy tree', and their campaign has led to widespread national publicity, including a chat with Mike Read on his Radio One Breakfast Show. A public enquiry concerning the development is being held this month and I feel that after all the publicity, only a very nasty person would do anything other than use the



WHOOPS! ... OH WELL, IF THIS TOMB DOES HAVE A CURSE ON IT, PETRIE, I DARESAY WE'LL BE THE FIRST TO FIND OUT.'

Picture by courtesy of 'The Mail on Sunday'

faerie tree as an omphalos and centre point to the whole housing estate. I'll keep my fingers crossed girls! (Credit: Daily Mirror 19.9.85).

THE QUESTING BOOK GUIDE

Many people have asked me what books I could recommend which might aid them in becoming familiar with the subject of questing. Well, aside from pointing them towards a copy of 'The Green Stone' it is very difficult at first thought because it is a new subject in its infancy. However, I felt it would be a good idea if I set down and made a list of all the various books in my own library which aid me in my own research and are therefore a guide line to others who may wish to take up their own work in this bright new field.

Questing itself does not just involve careering off round the landscape in search of lost secrets and hidden artefacts. One has to possess a good understanding of many allied topics such as historical reference sources, archaeology, symbolism, archetypes, psychic research and, of course, the earth mysteries itself. The following list is by no means complete. I am sure that many of our readers could add further titles to each of the categories and I would be happy to receive suggestions for a future list. However, all the listed books are actually in my possession, unless otherwise indicated, so represent an active quester's list. So here goes:-

EARTH ENERGIES/DOWSING/PLACE MEMORIES

Graves, Tom, 'Needles of Stone', Granada 1978
Lethbridge, T.C., 'Ghosts and the Divining Rod', RKP 1963*
" " 'Ghost and Ghoul', RKP 1961*
Underwood, Guy, 'The Patterns of the Past', Abacus 1972

EARTH MYSTERIES (Relevant to questing work)

Bord, Janet & Colin, 'The Secret Country', Paladin 1978
Ashe, Geoffrey, 'The Avalonian Quest', Fontana Paperbacks 1984
Caine, Mary, 'The Glastonbury Zodiac', Grael Communications 1978
Charpentier, Louis, 'The Mysteries of Chartres Cathedral', RILKO 1980
Hitching, Francis, 'Earth Magic', Cassell & Co. 1976
Maltwood, Katherine, 'A Guide to Glastonbury's Temple of the Stars'
John M. Watkins 1935
" " 'Air View Supplement'(to above), John M. Watkins
" 1937
" " 'Enchantments of Britain', RILKO 1982
Michell, John, 'The View Over Atlantis', Garnstone Press 1969
" " 'City of Revelation', Garnstone Press 1972

EGYPTIAN MYTHOLOGY

Rundle Clark, R.T., 'Myth & Symbol in Ancient Egypt', Thames & Hudson 1978

FOLKLORE IN BRITAIN AND EUROPE

Frazer, J.G., 'The Golden Bough', Macmillan paperback 1974
Readers' Digest Association, 'Folklore, Myths and Legends of Britain'
1973
Whitlock, Ralph, 'In Search of Lost Gods - A Guide to British Folklore',
Phaidon Press 1979

HISTORY OF ENGLISH COUNTIES

Mee, Arthur, complete 'King's England Series' covers virtually all British counties on an alphabetical town basis. Available from all central libraries.

Victoria County History series. Hundred by hundred histories in volumes covering most of the English counties. Available in all central libraries

Boumphrey, Geoffrey, ed., 'The Shell and BP Guide to Britain', Ebury Press 1964. Brief summaries of English towns in alphabetical order on a county by county basis, complete with references to sites of an historical interest.

MYSTICISM

Gaynor, Frank, ed., 'Dictionary of Mysticism', Wildwood House 1974

MYTHOLOGY IN GENERAL

'Encyclopaedia of World Mythology', Peerage Books 1970-71

'New Larousse Encyclopaedia of Mythology', Hamlyn 1974

'Heroes & Heroines of Fiction, Classical, Mediaeval, Legendary' Walsh, William S., J.B. Lippincott Company, 1915

OCCULT IN GENERAL

Cavendish, Richard, 'The Black Arts', RKP 1967

Seligmann, Kurt, 'The History of Magic', Pantheon Books 1948

OCCULT HISTORY

Baigent, M., Lincoln, H., Leigh, R., 'The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail', J.Cape 1982

Collins, Andrew, 'The Knights of Danbury', Earthquest Books 1985

Yates, Frances A., 'The Rosicrucian Enlightenment', Paladin 1975

OCCULT PRACTICE

Torrens, R.G., 'The Golden Dawn - The Inner Teachings', Samuel Weiser 1973

Anderson, Mary, 'Colour Healing - Chromotherapy and how it works', The Aquarian Press 1979

PREHISTORIC BRITAIN

Thomas, Nicolas, 'A Guide to Prehistoric England', B.T. Batsford Ltd., 1960

PSYCHIC PROTECTION

Fortune, Dion, 'Psychic Self Defence', Aquarian Press 1974

PSYCHIC WORK - CLASSICS

Bligh Bond, Frederick, 'The Gate of Remembrance', B.H. Blackwell 1917

" " " 'The Hill of Vision', Constable & Co. 1919

Lodge, Sir Oliver, 'Raymond or Life and Death', Methuen & Co. Ltd. 1916

PSYCHOMETRY

Goodman, Jeffrey, 'Psychic Archaeology'

Wilson, Colin, 'The Psychic Detectives', Pan 1984

QUESTING

Phillips, Graham, Keatman, Martin, 'The Green Stone', Collins/Granada 1984

" " " " 'The Eye of Fire', Collins/Granada Collins 1986

Collins, Andrew, 'The Sword and the Stone', The Supernaturalist 1982

" " 'The Running Well Mystery', " " 1983

SHAMANISM IN SAXON TIMES

Bates, Brian, 'The Way of Wyrd', Century Publishing 1983 (a must!)

TREASURE, HIDDEN OR LEGENDARY

Noorbergen, René, 'Treasures of the Lost Races', W.H. Allen 1983

Wilson, Derek, 'The World Atlas of Treasure', William Collins & Son Co. Ltd 1981

WESTERN MYSTERY TRADITION/GOD FORMS/ARCHETYPES/SYMBOLISM

Branston, Brian, 'The Lost Gods of England', Thames and Hudson 1957

Graves, Robert, 'The White Goddess', Faber & Faber 1984

Knight, Garath, 'Secret Tradition in Arthurian Romance', Aquarian Press 1983*

Mathews, Caitlin & John, 'The Western Way', Arkana 1985

Squire, Charles, 'Celtic Myth & Legend', Newcastle Publishing Co. Inc. 1975

Steiger, Brad, 'The Gods of Aquarius', Panther Granada 1977

Vallee, Jacques, 'Passport to Magonia - From Folklore to Flying Saucers', Tandem 1975

NEGATIVE OCCULT

Grant, Kenneth, 'Cults of the Shadow', Frederick Miller 1975

WITCHCRAFT/PRACTICAL EARTH MAGIC

Farrar, Janet & Stewart, 'The Witches Way', RKP 1985

That ends the list for the moment. Many of you have already probably thought of other titles which could be added to this list, or have wondered why I have included one book and not another, or even missed out certain authors altogether. So get writing, and remember, this list was compiled from books IN MY POSSESSION - so if I have not got it, it will not be included (unless the reference was marked with an asterix * at the end of the line).

QUESTING FILM CHART

Okay, so we've had a listing of books relevant to the questing cause, so how about a film chart! Here is my suggestion for a 'Top Five' based on what's been around over the past few years.

1. RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
2. THE AWAKENING
3. THE EXORCIST/THE EXORCIST TWO: THE HERETIC
4. GHOSTBUSTERS
5. INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM

PSYCHICS DISPEL COMET OMENS

Despite earlier anticipations, no psychic has yet claimed that the approach of Halley's Comet last autumn has brought about global changes.

Eclipses, equinoxes, solstices and full moons are all penned-in dates on the calendars of any good quester and are kept clear just in case some psychic message will come through to send you off to some cold and lonely spot. You can almost count on something cropping up on each of the important celestial dates due to the apparent change in influences during these periods.

Yet, despite its advance publicity, its past omenistic tendencies and coincidentally timed events, the appearance of Halley's Comet has not prompted psychic messages suggesting that unless we do some meditation at a certain spot another war will be forthcoming! It was anticipated though, and American psychic and researcher, Joe Jochmans, who works integrally with sensitives and mediums, has called for Halley's Comet meditations, feasts and parties to mark the celestial body's first, closest and last appearance in our heavens.

Joe Jochmans also arranged for an Egyptian tour of major sites to climax on the first day of the comet's appearance with a 24 hour relay meditation in the Great Pyramid! He feels there is an integral link between the comet's approach and the opening of the so-called Hall of Records, the apparent underground complex of passages and chambers beneath the Gizeh plateau, and which many psychics have said contain the records of the fallen Atlantean civilisation. It was a theory first popularised during the 1940s by the 'sleeping psychic' Edgar Cayce in the United States.

The only other murmur I have heard linking the comet to global events has stemmed from Northampton mystic Gary Harlow, although it is unclear what he believes it will do.

From my own point of view I have been asking several psychics whether the comet is linked with any form of natural or astrological upheavals, and so far all of them have just shaken their heads or said 'No' quite emphatically. Do I feel an anti-comets as omens kick-back after all these centuries? Obviously, comets are 'out' this time around.

Anyway, just in case, we have set up a Halley's Comet Hotline to receive any calls from sensitives who do receive psychic messages involving our celestial visitor. It is Wickford 4189. No calls after 10 o'clock at night as my dad'll go wild.



Halley's Comet as it appeared to King Harold a little while before the Norman Conquest as depicted upon the Bayeux tapestry. To them it was a heavenly sign of great changes on the horizon.

CAN YOU HELP?

Presently I am after certain books and items which some of you out there may well be able to help me with.

Firstly, I am after a copy of Frederick Bligh Bond's 'The Company of Avalon' and certain of his booklets entitled 'The Glastonbury Scripts (excluding nos. 1,3,6,7, 'Memories of the Monks of Avalon' and 'Harmony of Traditional Measures etc.'). I am also after any material concerning the visions and paintings of Bligh Bond's daughter, who I understand lived somewhere close to Glastonbury.

Secondly, I am after any material or books concerning Wellesley Tudor Pole and the location of the 'sapphire blue bowl' discovered at St. Bride's Well, Beckery, Glastonbury in 1906. I am especially looking for any photographs of this bowl.

Thirdly, has anyone heard of a French Egyptologist called Baron d'Espiard de Cologne and a book he apparently wrote in 1882 called 'L'Egypte et l'Oceanie'?

I am also looking for any material or books mentioning the existence of an underground stone complex of passages and chambers supposedly located beneath the pyramids and sphinx at Gizeh, excluding Charroux' 'Legacy of the Gods', Le Poer Trench's 'Temple of the Stars', Noorbergen's 'Treasures of the Lost Races' and all Edgar Cayce material.

Additionally, I am on the look out for a book by Gerald Massey, the nineteenth century visionary and poet, called 'Egypt - Light of the World' or any other of his works on Egypt.

Lastly, I am, as already mentioned, looking for any material concerning the location of hidden artefacts or buildings using psychic means, either present day claims or those in legend.

All this information is required for current research projects which will form future articles and publications. All help will be duly acknowledged. Thanks. Andy Collins.

MORE YETI STORIES

Following our editorial in the last issue asking for details of the captured yeti in China, Margaret Revell of Hounslow, Middlesex, wrote in with details of the aforementioned incident.

It would appear that the Chinese captured a 'wild man' in the mountains of the southern Hunan province. It was a young male only 3 feet, 8 inches tall and is said to be thawing out in a heated



The female yeti who tried it on with a Tibetan (see over).

apartment in the town of Wuhan. The little yeti is covered in hair, walks upright, reeks of garlic and is none too fussy about his diet. He '... drinks water with a dipper, eats like us and produces sounds like an old man', or so say the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone Daily newspaper.

The progress of the wildman is now being watched by people from the Chinese Society of Wild Man Research Group anxious to establish its pedigree.

Hopefully the western world will get a chance to see this remarkable discovery in due course. A photograph would suffice us for the time being...

However, London Zoo's mammal expert, Dr Brian Bertram, said he wasn't totally convinced. Not yeti, at least (Credit: Daily Express 9.2.85).

Yeti story number two also comes from Margaret Revell and concerns a randy female yeti who tried it on with a young Tibetan man in a Himalayan mountain cabin!

The man in question was awoken from sleep by a large, hairy female-form apparently intent on mating with him! A colleague overpowered the wild lady and tied her to a post. However, when they awoke in the morning she had broken free and made a run for it, or so claimed anthropologists Chen Naiwen and Zhang Guoying.

Apparently, the two scientists, writing in the magazine 'China Reconstructs', came across quite a number of stories of wild men, abominable snowmen and yetis on their travels around the Himalayas.

One story spoke of a hunter who, whilst sheltering in a cave, was disturbed by a huge yeti roaring his head off and chucking stones. The man built up a fire and the wild man retreated.

Other stories told of how hunters from a village called Chentang, near the Tibetan border with Nepal and Sikkim, often encountered yeti in the forests. Such confrontations usually ended in both parties running in opposite directions! (Credit: Daily Express 16.6.84).

HASN'T THIS HAPPENED BEFORE?

How many of you watched the BBC Two series 'Voyage of the Argonauts'? Author and archaeologist Tim Severin constructed and built an exact replica of Jason's vessel Argo and got a crew to sail it from Jason's homeland in the Aegean, right through Turkey, and out into the Black Sea to the original Argo's destination in Georgia, Russia.

The voyage, like Tim Severin's other ventures 'The Voyage of Brendan', across the Atlantic, and 'The Voyage of Sinbad' to the Far East, was highly successful with the new Argo reaching Georgia and providing strong evidence to show that a boat could row from Greece to Russia.

However, the most interesting facet of this whole saga was how various incidents which occurred to the original Argo strangely happened to the new one, like bizarre synchronicities. Talk about treading in somebody else's shoes, this was very uncanny.

BOOK REVIEWS

We have not had any book reviews for some time so there is quite a few to catch up with from the pass year or so, so here we go...

SKYWAYS & LANDMARKS REVISITED, Philip Heselton, Jimmy Goddard and Paul Baines, Northern Earth Mysteries Group and Surrey Earth Mysteries Group. £1.15, incl. postage and packing from 170 Victoria Ave., Hull HU5 3DY. A5 booklet, 44 pages.

This is a reprint and reappraisal of a 1961 booklet by a man named Tony Wedd on the apparent links between UFOs, space being messages and ley-lines. Apparently, this was the first time that the link had ever been made between these subjects and subsequently resulted in the likes of Jimmy Goddard, Philip Heselton and a number of other earth mysteries characters embracing the subject of landscape mysteries from the flying saucer camp. It is therefore some sort of landmark to us all.

So, although Tony Wedd believed that flying saucers flew along ley-lines, especially those with Scots pines, his ideas were somewhere near the truth as we know so well in recent years by the publication of books such as Devereux and McCartney's 'Earthlights'.

I'm afraid that a lot of the evidence Wedd used to substantiate his claims would not hold up much credence today. Vague lights in the distance were used to support flight paths, and spurious messages from the space brothers provided the icing on the cake. It is all a bit naive, yet, as I say, the man had stumbled upon something, and as is so often the case, the answer may be correct, it's the evidence that is incorrect.

However, Philip Heselton, Jimmy Goddard and Paul Baines pay tribute to Wedd, who died a few years ago, and reassess his more mundane research, like the association of Scots pine with leys and the authenticity of certain sites mentioned as markers along the alignments. Using computer analysis and field work they come out in support of the alignments.

To me the most interesting material was Jimmy Goddard's work on the significance of sound in association with ancient sites and the four elements. Brilliant stuff.

In short, definitely something that any earth mysteries person should read at least once. A.C.

THE HUGHENDEN DRAGON, Clive Harper, A5 booklet, 12pp., Torsdag Publications, 1985, 65p from 7 Malmers Well Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 6PD.

A short, but fascinating account of a previously undiscovered dragon tale from a village called Hughenden in Buckinghamshire.

This booklet, along with Alan Cleaver's 'Strange Wycombe' booklet (reviewed elsewhere in this issue) shows the amount of

earth mysteries work going on in and around the Buckinghamshire area. It also shows that you don't have to have volumes of research material before you can write and publish your own booklets. This one is only twelve pages long, but it works. A.C.

THE DRAGON OF CHRISTCHURCH AND OTHER WONDERS SEEN ON A JOURNEY THROUGH THE WEST OF ENGLAND IN 1113, translated with notes by Jeremy Harte, A5 booklet, 24pp., £1, incl. postage and packing, from The South Western Antiquarian Society, 35A West Street, Abbotsbury, nr. Weymouth, Dorset.

This fascinating medieval account, translated into English, describes a fund-raising expedition through Wessex undertaken by canons from Laon in France. It contains healing miracles, detailed local historical information and an eye-witness account of a flame-breathing five-headed dragon.

Interesting stuff, especially I should think, for people living around the towns and sites mentioned in the account. A.C.

RUNESTAVES & OGHAMS, Nigel Pennick, Runestaff Publications, A5 booklet, £1.15 incl. postage, from the publisher at 142 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8SD.

This booklet is an absolute must for all those with an interest in the earth mysteries and its associated subjects, for it contains an excellent history of runes with a number of examples of runic staves. Their symbolism, as I am sure you will know, goes far beyond modern concepts, for within the simple lines of the figures lies the mysteries and secrets of ancient lore.

Thirty-three runes are clearly drawn, and alongside each is an interpretation, by Nigel, of their accepted meaning and usage. The last section is devoted to Oghams, the main script of the celtic people and often to be seen on their monuments. The Oghams derive from the age of the elder faith and are associated mainly with Ireland where they are referred to constantly in ancient historical tales.

This masterful publication should be on everyone's bookshelf. Better still, buy two and carry one on your research trips for 'on the spot' reference. Bernard Gowing.

GEOMANTIC SURVIVALS IN YORK, Ben Fernee, Northern Earth Mysteries Publications, A5 booklet, 24 pp., obtainable from the publisher at £1.15, including postage, from 170 Victoria Ave., Hull HU5 3DY.

This booklet was originally published to coincide with the Ley Hunter's Moot in York last summer.

It is a collection of the geomancy, leys, sacred geometry, sites and traditions associated with the city of York and its surrounds.

Some of the links between sites, pagan and secret traditions and mystical sites makes fascinating reading. However, I feel Ben Fernee has gone into the proposed sacred geometry of York a little too deeply for such a small publication.

A pot-pouri of information like this should be re-hashed by the author into a more simple format and marketed to the tourists of York. They would love it! A.C.

GENESIS - THE FIRST BOOK OF REVELATIONS, David Wood, Baton Press, 1985, £15.00, hbk., 320pp.

Not since the publication of 'The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail' has the release of a book on the mysteries caused such a stir before its publication.

The advance publicity handout claimed that the book was the final solution to the Rennes-le-Chateau mystery, and with a foreword by Henry Lincoln, one would certainly anticipate a treat in store. So, here goes.

The author, David Wood, is a cartographer by trade, and he has studied the connections between Christianity, Judaism and the Ancient Egyptian religion. These subjects he blends together to present us with a new perspective of the French mystery which he uses as a backdrop to interpret such enigmatic topics as the dreaded Ark of the Covenant, the Holy Grail, Atlantis, the Isis mysteries, the origin of life on earth, in fact, everything but the kitchen sink. It is all there in some capacity or another.

All the usual old chestnuts are there too: Sauniere, the Prieurè of Sion, Poussin's paintings, ciphers, the secret of the Templars and treasures hidden within the landscape. These, so the author claims, are clues to intricate landscape geometry based on concentric circles, an irregular pentagram, crescents and a six pointed star.

At first glance this landscape geometry, or surface geometry as they call it in the States, is visibly very dodgy to say the least, although its rigid nature, and the apparent references to

THE BATON PRESS ANNOUNCE

The book you'll ^{HAVE} want to read twice!

GENESIS

The First Book of
Revelations



The book we said we could
never publish
But we had to!!!

THE 'GENESIS' PUBLICITY HANDOUT
INCORPORATING THE DRAMATIC
FRONT COVER FOR THE BOOK.



David Wood, right, at the launch of his book 'Genesis' last April, talking to (from left to right) Andy Collins, Johnny Merron, and Roger Sandell of 'Magonia' magazine (Pic.credit: Caroline Wise).

it in a so-called Prieuré document called 'Le Serpent Rouge' is quite remarkable. I think it would be foolish to dismiss his findings without serious thought.

David Wood uses gematria and numerology which he constantly invokes to prove that his cosmic groundplan was constructed by initiates endowed with knowledge of the mysteries of Isis and the other Egyptian gods and goddesses.

More gematria and numerology is used to show that the dimensions of such biblical set pieces as the Ark, Solomon's Temple, the Menorah and the Grail were all representations of the Rennes landscape groundplan. Numbers and more numbers are used to prove that literally everything in the world is associated with Rennes and Isis. It becomes very tedious after a while.

The other overwhelming theme of the book is that many of the ancient mysteries and initiatory processes are explainable as representations of divine sex between the gods and men. He even suggests that mystery initiations, like those of Christian gnosticism and the Grail romances, involved the chopping off of a man's private parts so he could become an androgynous god! Well, my mind is open to any new theory, but really, I don't think I want to become a member of that club! Seriously though, I feel David Wood is well off course here and so does virtually everyone I have spoken to about the book. If he is in any way correct, then it is certainly not what I feel about the nature of divine intervention either in the past or at the present time.

Henry Lincoln, in his foreward to this book, makes a point of putting his seal of approval on the rigidity of the landscape geometry, but little else. He makes it quite clear that the rest of the contents are nothing to do with him.

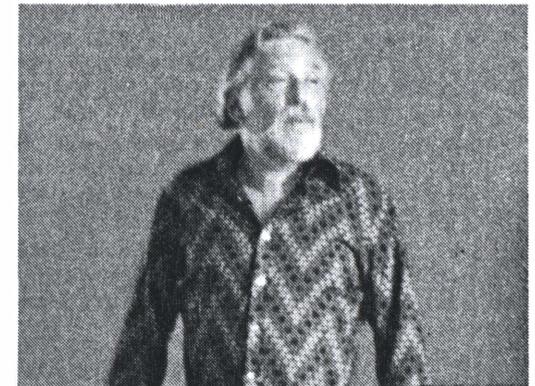
'Genesis' is an exciting new book, beautifully illustrated and well presented. It is a good read. However, although I do genuinely feel that the author has uncovered some interesting new points about Rennes-le-Chateau, it is not the answer as he would like us to believe.

There is no doubt that the idea of landscape, or surface geometry playing an important part in our understanding of prehistoric civilisations is fast becoming an integral solution to age old enigmas. Pentagrams, circles, hexagrams, crescents, squares, lines and effigies are being discovered regularly in earth myseries communities across the world. And of course, any alignment is the simplest form of landscape geometry. Much of this material is very suspect indeed and is almost certainly inaccurate. I have used the idea myself in the final solution of the Runwell saga presented in 'The Running Well Mystery', and that really was spurious landscape geometry. Yet this is not important - it is the acceptance that ancient man used a form of complex geometry upon the landscape to enhance and symbolise his relationship with the heavens. I'm sure it was used in the past and it is this that a great many researchers intuitively know and desparately attempt to prove by providing evidence to show its presence upon the landscape. Quite often, I believe, what we find bears very little resemblance to what was there in the first place. That has been lost for good.

Problem number two is that, okay, so you have landscape geometry, but what does it mean? It is obviously very important so we will probably find the answers we need in our sacred texts and recorded history. That too is probably the correct answer, but once again, the researcher can get this wrong. It is almost a case of right answer, shame about the evidence and interpretation.

Henry Lincoln put his seal of approval on David Wood's book. Why? Was it just for money? He must surely have known that writing a foreward to this book would virtually give it a seal of approval to be classed as an 'official' Rennes-le-Chateau book. Yet if he, like so many other people, did not accept David Wood's findings, then why give his approval?

The answer came at the Ley Hunter's Moot in York during July last year. Here, both privately and publicly, Henry Lincoln showed that he too was working on a new layout of landscape geometry in the Rennes-le-Chateau area and that some of it corresponded precisely to the findings of David Wood. He even admitted in private that to him the most important facet of the whole Rennes-le-Chateau mystery was the landscape geometry and its association with the harnessing



HENRY LINCOLN AT THE LEY HUNTER'S MOOT '85 (PIC: CAROLINE WISE).

of cosmic and terrestrial energies. Apparently, the Jesus Christ divine bloodline answer in 'The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail' was just a showpiece conclusion to sum up the book and that is all you can expect in the next book as well. Apparently, landscape geometry does not make bestsellers.

So the Rennes-le-Chateau mystery remains unsolved and, despite recent, rather disturbing insinuations by Paul Smith in 'Pendragon' magazine that the Prieuré de Sion and its association with the whole saga is a complex hoax, the show goes on. That small French village still holds more of a fascination for mystery seekers than anywhere else outside Egypt and Glastonbury, for the time being at least. A.C.

EARTH MYSTERIES - An Exploratory Introduction, Brian Larkman & Philip Heselton, Northern earth Mysteries Group, 1985, 36pp., A5 booklet, £1.20 incl. postage & packing, from the publisher at 170 Victoria Ave., Hull HU5 3DY.

This earth mysteries primer is a must for novices to the subject and should be published on a much greater scale. It would make an ideal addition to the Aquarian Press series of introductory books on the mysteries.

Everything is in there - and all explained in simple form. You can find pieces on leys, earth energies, folklore, ancient sites, psychometry, dowsing, ritual, and much more. There is even a glossary of terms which includes the Dragon Project, Gaia, Rennes-le-Chateau, etc.

Excellent stuff, and I do suggest the authors take the idea to a major publisher pretty soon, because if they don't, someone else will. A.C.

THE WESTERN WAY - A Practical Guide to the Western Tradition, Caitlin & John Mathews, Arkana, 1985, 180pp., £4.50, and THE WITCHES' WAY - Principles, Rituals & Beliefs of Modern Witchcraft, Janet & Stewart Farrar, Robert Hale, 1985, 349pp., £14.95.

Two books, both from husband and wife teams, on two different disciplines of western occult tradition, and both act as practical guides useful to earth mysteries exponents should they wish to become familiar with the subject of earth magic.

The first, by Caitlin and John Mathews, stems from the community I refer to as the Aquarian mystics - the followers of an Arthurian secret tradition, of path-working, the Hawkwood movement, Dion Fortune, Garath Knight and the Society of Light.

The second, by Janet and Stewart Farrar, hails from the Modern Witchcraft community, the latter day exponents of Celtic paganism, Alexandrian and Garnerian covens, the 'hereditary craft' and the Book of Shadows.

Now, from an earth mysteries viewpoint, the idea of active involvement with earth magic (the use of magical ritual out in the landscape, particularly at ancient and sacred sites) has always been left to one side in favour of more orthodox lines of research and field work. This has especially been so in print and in public, even though virtually all earth mysteries exponents would admit, in private, to believing in the subtle forces of both the landscape and the universe.

Working in the landscape with psychics and mystics has undoubtedly shown me personally that there are forces within this world which need to be understood and worked for all sorts of reasons. Psychic questing has a growing following and to take part participants need an acute knowledge of the occult; and this inevitably includes everything from rituals, to seasonal observations, psychic self defence and an understanding of god forms, symbolism, archetypes, guardians and mythology. In fact, everything that a ritual magician, an occultist, a witch or a Christian mystic would need to know.

Let me give you an example: Would you know what to do if your psychic friend was blasted unconscious in a psychic attack by a Saxon god? Would you know why it happened or how it could have been prevented? Probably not.

Psychic questers are new to this game, and firmly under the banner of the earth mysteries they are finding out about the practical application of the western occult tradition by experience, errors and mistakes. The Aquarian mystics and the modern witches are years ahead as both disciplines have been carrying out earth magic for a very long time indeed.

However, the more psychic questers discover about the lore and applications of earth magic, the more they begin to see the similarities between what they are doing and the work being carried out by the other occult disciplines. Soon they will write their own earth mysteries-style text books on the practical side, but until then they will have to make do with what they can get their hands on.

Both the books under review are essential guides for all would-be exponents wishing to start their own earth-questing magic.

'The Western Way', by Caitlin and John Mathews, is probably the more accessible of the two as it has not got lots of pictures of 'skyclad' people, something I still find downgrading to the wiccan beliefs.

The Mathews are leading lights in the Aquarian scene, alongside such people as Garath Knight - whose book 'Secret Tradition in Arthurian Romance' (Aquarian Press, 1983) is also a bible to the subject. Their book details the nature and purposes behind earth magic, our subtle relationship with the universe, and how to commune with these forces through the use of meditation and ritual. It is all very pagan and mystical, but not in a heavy way, if you know what I mean. Some of the contents are a bit airy-fairy in places, yet it is a good book and well worth the money.

'The Witches Way', by the Farrars, is by way of contrast, a different approach to the same subject. It is far more practical and in Modern Witchcraft terms, is probably the best text book of its type ever to see the light of day.

Along with the principles, rituals and beliefs there is everything anyone will ever need to know about reincarnation, psychic awareness and defence, astral projection, subtle energies, guardians of sites, etc.

Of course, there are the usual explanations of nudity, scourging (ritual whipping) and sex magic - difficult topics for anyone who is not a practising witch. However, the whole book is written in a

very down-to-earth manner, without heaps of philosophy, and in a way which should appeal to the casual reader of witchcraft and the occult.

Modern Witchcraft has matured considerably since the days of the Sunday paper exposés during the late sixties, and although it will be a long time before the supporters of psychic questing accept modern witches as blood brothers (and sisters!), we can still learn a lot from their experience. 'The Witches' Way' is an excellent way to start. A.C.

STRANGE WYCOMBE - Traditions, Mysteries & Legends of Wycombe, ed. Alan Cleaver, Strange Publications, 1985, A5 booklet, 48 pp., £2 incl. p & P., from the publisher at 65 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5AA.

This is a privately produced booklet compiled and put together by the members of Alan Cleaver's excellent, but curiously named group called 'Strange', who came into being to study the earth mysteries of High Wycombe and the surrounding area. It was published in association with the local council of High Wycombe to commemorate the 700th mayoral anniversary in the town.

The contents consist of articles concerning different traditions, mysteries and legends of High Wycombe, many of which are the direct result of active field and archive work by the group. These include such topics as forgotten holy wells, hauntings, such as those of Bishem Abbey and of ghostly riders; the green man story of Fingest; High Wycombe's own town crier; and its ancient beating of the bounds ceremony, resurrected this year for the first time. There is also pieces on the Bledlow and White Leaf hill crosses.

Every article is well researched and written with the author's personal touch, giving the overall effect of a combined achievement by the group, under the guidance of helmsman, Alan Cleaver. And what an achievement it is. Here we have a very fine example of how an earth mysteries group can be formed and instructed to collect together every different aspect about the area in which they live and work. This booklet needs to be on the bookshelf of every person who intends to discover the mysteries of their own homeland.

The production and presentation of 'Strange Wycombe' is excellent and shows how, once again, do-it-yourself booklets and books aimed at a local market are the key to getting across earth mysteries ideals to a wider audience. They also make money if you budget them correctly by using a bit of commercial know how.

One thing is for sure, the general public around High Wycombe certainly appreciated the booklet as nearly all of the 700 copies of the initial print run sold out in just six weeks. So get your copy now as there are only a few left. A.C.

SACRED WATERS - Holy Wells and Water Lore in Great Britain and Ireland, Janet & Colin Bord, Granada, 1985, 232pp., £9.95.

This finely produced hardback, with lots and lots of fascinating pictures, contains everything you will ever want to know about holy wells and water lore in Great Britain and Ireland. Well, almost (no pun intended!).

The whole idea of well worship and its association with both pagan and Christian beliefs is discussed and considered using hundreds of example cases. In the Janet and Colin Bord tradition, 'Sacred Waters' contains chapter after chapter of in depth information about well lore drawn from archive and fieldwork.

There is also a county-by-county account of worthwhile wells and sacred water spots for those intending to visit these places for themselves. My only criticism here is that only the most well known or picturesque wells are included, leaving out other more obscure examples of equal importance.

In Essex, for example, only the Running Well at Runwell (a place dear to my heart!) is listed for sites to visit in this county. Left out is the picturesque St. Cedd's Well, with its square brick enclosure, at North Ockendon. Here, it is said, St. Cedd, the famous Saxon missionary, baptised the local community into the ways of Christianity in the seventh century, showing its antiquity and significance. St. Osyth's Well at St. Osyth is also missed out, probably because of its non photogenic nature.

All-in-all, 'Sacred Waters' is a valuable addition to the earth mysteries' bookshelf. If the price is a little too high, there is always the trade paperback which is sure to follow. A.C.

THE COSMIC AXIS, LABYRINTHS - Their Geomancy and Symbolism, both Nigel Pennick, and SKYLORE OF THE NORTH, ed. Nigel Pennick, written by O.S. Reuter, all Runestaff Publications, 1985, details from Runestaff Publications, 142 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8SD.

Every few weeks, it seems, another Nigel Pennick publication falls onto the doormat! I don't know how the man gets time to do them all! Still, they are always full of intricate research on obscure and neglected areas of ancient lore, geomancy and magic. Most of them are centred around Nordic traditions and reading through them I really don't know where he finds out about all this stuff. What he says about the geomantic layout of buildings, sites and towns makes Milton Keynes look like a shanty town!

All these publications are essential research tools for the earth mysteries bookshelf and I advise you to send off for a full list of available titles as soon as possible. Keep up the good work Nigel! A.C.

EXCHANGE LISTING

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.

ANOMALOUS PHENOMENON REVIEW - ed. R.W. Morrell. 24pp., A5, earth mysteries and anomalous phenomena with a focus on the Nottingham area. £1 sample issue, from NUFOIS, 443 Meadow lane, Nottingham NG2 3GB.

ASSAP NEWS and ANOMALY - ed. Caroline Wise and Alan Cleaver respectively. First, A5, 4pp., paranormal and earth mysteries forum.

Second, A5, 40pp., in depth articles on same. Former, £6.50 pa., with ASSAP subscription, from the Membership Secretary, Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomenon, 56 Telemann Sq., Kidbrooke, London SE3. Latter, £1.50 sample copy from Alan Cleaver, 65 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.

CAERDROIA - ed. Jeff and Debbie Saward, 40pp., A5, turf mazes and earth mysteries, £3.30 pa., 4 issues, from Caerdroia Project, 53 Thundersley Grove, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex SS7 3EB.

THE CAULDRON - ed. Mike Howard, A4, 10pp., Pagan journal of the Old Religion and 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 and Chris Fletcher. 40pp., A5, earth mysteries in Wales and the border counties. £4 pa., 4 issues, from Earthlines, 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. Paul Sieveking and Bob Rickard. 70pp., quarto. Fortean, curiosities, paranormal, major forum. £6 pa., 4 issues, from Fortean Times, 96 Mansfield Road, London NW3 2HT.

THE LEY HUNTER - ed. Paul Devereux, 34pp., A4, leading earth mysteries and ley hunting journal. £4 pa., 3 issues from The Ley Hunter, P.O. Box 13, Welshpool, Powys.

NORTHERN EARTH MYSTERIES - ed. Philip Heselton, 32pp., A5. Earth myseries in the north of England and in general. £2.50 pa., 4 issues, from Philip Heselton, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY.

NORTHERN UFO NEWS - ed. Jenny Randles, 16pp., A5. Northern UFO scene and 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 and historic enigmas. £4.50 pa., 4 issues, from The Secretary, Pendragon Society, 42 Burghley Road, St. Andrews, Bristol BS6 5BN.

QUICKSILVER MESSENGER - ed. Chris Ashton. Geomancy, earth mysteries and ancient traditions. 14pp., A4. £4 pa., 4 issues, from Chris Ashton, c/o ELTI, Hotel Wisata International, Jl. Thamrin, P.O. Box 2457 Jkt., Jakarta, Indonesia.

RILKO NEWSLETTER - ed. Michael de Styrcea. 20pp., A4, advanced earth mysteries, geomancy and sacred geometry. £5 pa., 2 issues, from Mr B. Hargreaves, 10 Kedleston Drive, Orpington, Kent BR5 2DR.

FOLKLORE FRONTIERS - ed. Paul Screeeton. 14pp., A4, duplicated. The magazine of urban belief tales, like foaf stories, modern myths and human psychology. £3 for 4 issues from Paul Screeeton, 5 Egton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 2 AT.

SOURCE - ed. Mark Valentine. 30pp., A5. Articles and listings of holy wells and sacred waters in Great Britain. £2.70 pa., 3 issues (cheque to M. Valentine) from Mark Valentine, 35 Grafton Way, New Duston, Northants NN5 6NG.

TOUCHSTONE - ed. Jimmy Goddard. 12pp., A4. Earth mysteries in Surrey. £2 pa., 4 issues, from Touchstone, 25 Albert Road, Addlestone, Surrey.

EXCHANGE LISTING CONTINUED

Last, but not least, we have a new addition to our listing:-

MAGONIA - ed. John Rimmer. 28pp., A5. The socio-psychological side of the paranormal, the earth mysteries and the unexplained. £2.50 pa., 4 issues, from John Rimmer, 64 Alric Avenue, New Malden, Surrey KT3 4JW.

That concludes the current list, although we should soon have another addition - PRACTICAL GEOMANCY, edited by our old friend, Nigel Pennick. It will deal with all aspects of practical and theoretical geomancy, as the the title suggests. The subscription will be £3.40 for three issues, the first one being due out around the end of 1985. All enquiries should be directed to Nigel Pennick at 142 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8SD.

EARTHQUEST NEWS BACK ISSUES

We still possess quite a little box full of Earthquest News back numbers which are gradually gathering dust in the corner of my room. I would like you to peruse the following list to see which issues you may not have on your bookshelves (I hope that is where you keep them!). I would then like you to put pen to paper and announce which ones you wish to purchase at very reasonable prices. If you already have all of them, how about sending a few to a friend, or an enemy.

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

NOS. 9 & 10 Spring 84. Double issue. 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 incl.

NO. 11 'LONDON WALKABOUT'. Summer 84. All sold out.

NO. 12 1985. What Happened in Menorca? - The Menorca Affair. The Doc Shiels Phenomena. Monstermind 83'. The Battle for Park Wood. Price 95p incl.

NO. 13 1985. The Goffs Oak Panther. The Guardian Dog of Leigh. The Battle for Park Wood - An Up-date. Enter the Stumps Cross Birdman. The Old Maids Tale and Others. 95p incl.

THE BRENTFORD GRIFFIN - The Truth Behind the Tales. 1985. A report into London's most bizarre supernatural visitor for a very long time. £1.25 incl.

Earthquest News is published twice a year at a subscription rate of £3.80 for 4 issues. Subscriptions and enquiries should be directed to The Editor, Earthquest News, 19 St. Davids Way, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EX. Cheques and P.O.s are to be made payable to Earthquest subscriptions A/C.



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