

though they were on a different plane."

While I was speaking to the group a man rang up to talk to Tom and Kerry about business.

Way back in 1964 he saw a large, glowing object the size of a single-deck bus, hovering near Wentloog.

"It was one o'clock in the morning. I thought I had been looking at it for a few minutes but my wife told me I had been out for three hours. Some people reckon I might have been taken on board the ship but I don't believe that. I saw what I saw, though."

Marilyn, Kerry's mum, says she's not in the same league as those who have experienced ghosts and UFOs.

"I was interested in astrology and I did the Tarot cards. I haven't had anything like this but all the time I feel there is this force around me."

It's all leading to the Age of Aquarius, Jan predicts. The time when the world at last becomes harmonious and we move towards perfect peace.

"It's all by chance we came together. People who have any sort of awareness are being drawn together all over the world. UFOs are playing a major part; they make people more aware."

You probably meet the people who arrive in them all the time although you don't know it. One of them could be a colleague of yours.

taken over by the people from different planets and different dimensions. Usually it's a swap.

"They could come from Mars or Venus but they could come from anywhere — we don't know."

"Generally speaking they are forces for good. In America there are walk-ins in high office and there is one in this country in high office."



Jan didn't think that Mrs Thatcher was a walk-in although some of the senior Allied commanders in the Gulf are. This obviously pointed to a satisfactory settlement of the crisis.

Jan said she used to spend some of her spirit-energy dispelling clouds but has since realised that this was trivialising her powers rather. She now concentrates on matters of world import like the Gulf.

"Instead of the mass panic there is now the 'Age of Aquarius' will come and people will find that they are able to cope," she says.

"The world will go back to what it was."

The informal group hopes that others who have seen flying saucers or ghosts or who have had out-of-body experience will get in touch.

Especially enlightened souls may wish to do this through the spiritual plane although many will find writing to Argus box no 2612 at the Argus office in Cwmbran more convenient.



Have you heard of 'walk-ins'? These are people who have been

THE SEARCH for other world civilisations has taken a major step forward. For the first time the whole sky is being monitored for extraterrestrial broadcasts.

Astronomers at the Argentina Institute of Radio Astronomy, using a 98-foot radio dish, are now scanning the Southern Hemisphere. Their search will be continuous, the first in that hemisphere, and will compliment the continuous observations of Harvard University in the north.

It is all part of the venture to discover evidence of our counterparts on other worlds, supported by The Planetary Society, this world's largest scientific society which has its headquarters in California.

An awesome computer-controlled radio receiver that can analyse 8.4 million frequencies simultaneously is the heart of the operation. Only two of these computer-receivers exist. One is processing the observations at Harvard; the other is working in Argentina.

Previously, all major searches have taken place in the north, although intelligent extraterrestrials could as well be in the southern skies.



And 'sod's law' would predict that Planet-X has been signalling from the south while our radio astronomers have been observing the northern hemisphere.

The search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI for short) is a low-cost high adventure.

Old 'available' radio telescopes can be used, but they need advanced computer technology plugged into them to process the data collected.

The computer-receiver is programmed to save only 'interesting' signals, which amount at most to a few per cent of what the telescope collects. The rest is re-

casts to be deciphered here. But that doesn't matter at present because SETI is basically the search for universal life, not for messages as such.

If an intelligent signal is detected (an intelligent signal would be one that could not possibly come from a natural celestial source) then we would know that life must be part of the great scheme of things. We don't have to understand the signals to be successful in the search. Any information that could be gathered later would be a bonus.

Observational SETI is very worthwhile for that reason. And, since we're searching for our counterparts elsewhere, it has led us into a lot of fundamental thinking about ourselves on this planet.



Edward Ashpole, who lives near Narberth, Pembrokeshire, is the author of *The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*. Here he writes of the latest developments in that search.

Recognised as natural radiation (from stars and gas and galaxies) and rejected.

Actually, automation makes SETI possible. Scientists check periodically what the computer has saved — and this can usually be traced to such unalien sources as motorbikes, power tools and hair driers.

Nevertheless, some interesting signals do remain unexplained. SETI scientists have suffered from frustration because they have always failed to rediscover those 'interesting' signals on taking a second look.

What frequencies would interstellar broadcasters use? A lot of thought has gone into this question. For various reasons, most SETI observations are restricted to a quiet section of the microwave spectrum between 1,000 and 10,000 megahertz. (The BBC's Radio 4 FM broadcasts are on 92.4 to 94.6 megahertz).

Besides being relatively free from cosmic interference this band contains some interesting frequencies, including the universal hydrogen frequency and that of the hydroxyle radical (OH).

The space between these two frequencies is known as the water hole because if we bring hydrogen and OH together we have our symbol for water (H₂O).

All life on Earth is water-based, and this could be a universal situation. But would extraterrestrial broadcasters understand about water holes and send their messages on this band?

Of course, any aliens out there may be either too advanced or too different from us for their broad-

In guessing the probable evolution and survival of other intelligent life in the Galaxy, we have to take a good look at life and intelligence on Earth.

How, after four billion years of organic evolution, do we happen to be here today?

We also have to try to see where modern technology is taking us. Will we be able to reach a point in the future where we have the resources and social stability to transmit information across the Galaxy?

Thus an unmistakable signal from Planet-X would give us an answer to the most intriguing question in science: Are life and intelligence universal phenomena? Until we can answer that question — and SETI offers the only way at present of doing so — we don't know what our status is.

Are we the result of the biggest chance event in the history of the universe or part of a universal process which leads to life and intelligence wherever conditions are suitably benign?

I think most of us would like to know the answer to that.