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UFO UpDates Mailing List

The 'Truth' About BUFORA? - Part 2

From: "Tim Matthews" <matthews@zetnet.co.uk>
Date: Sun, 3 May 1998 07:49:43 +0100
Fwd Date: Sat, 02 May 1998 17:40:34 -0400
Subject: The 'Truth' About BUFORA? - Part 2

Dear All,

My previous posting on BUFORA was cut in half by my email system. Modern technology - ugh!

I was saying that BUFORA is in a right mess and that we are expected to sit back and show loyalty to an organisation which has messed several of us around. I even made the mistake, which I now bitterly regret, of helping to send out the most recent edition of UFO Times - months ago.

BUFORA still owes me =A332 for envelopes - but what's that amongst the thousands that have disappeared down the black hole?

This is all rather shocking and I have no doubt that some UpDates readers will see this as politics as usual. Thing is, this is the kind of nonsense we have to put up with on a daily basis.

What does BUFORA have to show for 30 years of effort at this stage? An almost inglorious council? Threats that the current financial mess might be resolved by attempts to wind the limited company up behind the remaining members' backs? Attempts to bar awkward members from renewing membership (awkward equals those who ask important questions)? Attempts to ban people from speaking at meetings? Pretending that it is business as usual?

I hardly think so.

Why is it that a former prominent council member told me that for years UFO research was not even discussed at council meetings?

Just compare the BUFORA decline with relatively successful groups in the USA. OK, I'm sure there are politics but MUFON is organised to local county level! The Fund for UFO Research puts out some very impressive research as does the Centre for UFO Studies.

In the UK something not unlike the Fund for UFO Research would suit many of us down to the ground - a concentration upon research and efforts to support new investigations.

I am often told, by BUFORA members, that the structure exists to make the organisation great again. What structure?

There isn't even a hierarchy - just a council of management.

This shocking state of affairs must not be allowed to continue and members have the right to know what is being done, or not being done, with their money and in their name.

Perhaps someone should call the trading standards agency? There is, however, light at the end of the tunnel. I understand that various people are getting together to sort all this out and to form a new rival national investigative body. I don't think we need to look far for suspects.....

I wish them well. I cannot help thinking that if just a few researchers can get together and formulate simple ground rules then progress can be made.

This mess has become an international scandal - maybe it is time to wind BUFORA up and start over.....

On a final note - do we really need a national group? What about an alliance of active researchers. That would be around 50 people most of whom known each other already.....

Tim Matthews - ex BUFORA member.

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