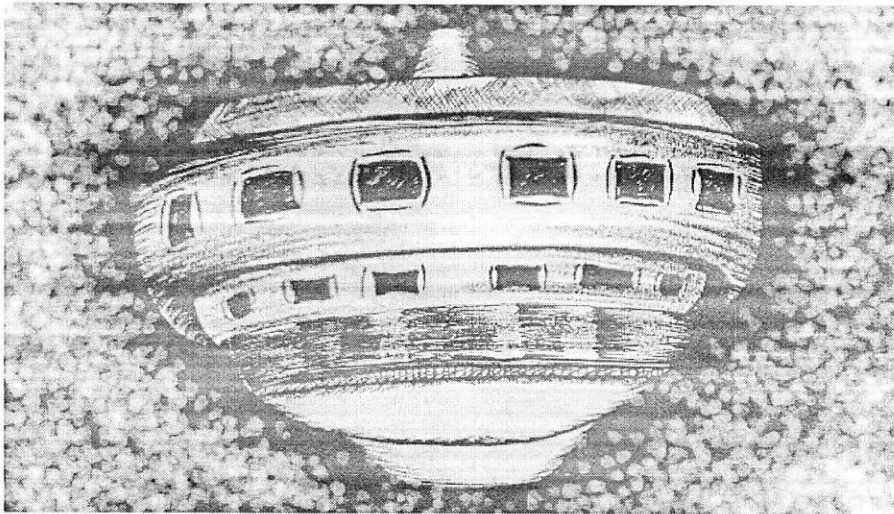


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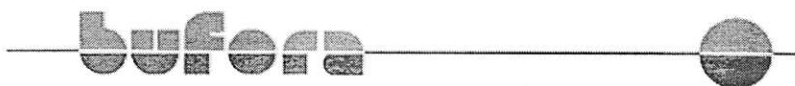


New Lecture And AGM Venue

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Rendlesham Visit



British UFO Research Association

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 The Registered office is at :-
 Bufora Ltd., 15 Holne Court, Exwick, Exeter, Devon, EX4 2NA
 Telephone : 01392 424 811
 Email : enquiries@bufora.org.uk
 Web : http://www.bufora.org.uk
 Ufocall : 09068 121886 (Premium BT Rates apply)

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Heather Dixon

Assistant

Robert Rosamond
rivergypsy@
hotmail.com

Postal Address

BM Bufora,
London,
WC1N 3XX

Editorial Enquiries

NBJ
c/o the registered
office

or email

nbj@bufora.org.uk

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Editorial



Welcome to the latest issue of the BUFORA Journal.

Darwinism and Aliens

UFOs are a strange and varied phenomenon which comes in many guises. If we ignore all the cases which are definite or probable misidentifications and the hoaxes a small hard core of unexplained cases remain. This hard core of unexplained can be roughly split into two groups. These are, firstly, strange objects seen at a distance, and the alien abduction/contactee reports.

I believe that these are two different phenomena and both exist. If we accept the definition of a UFO as being something that a witness could not identify and felt sufficiently strange that they reported it, then clearly UFOs exist. BUFORA, the MOD and the Police continue to receive reports from puzzled witnesses. It does not matter with this definition if a report can be subsequently explained as something mundane, the important thing is that the witness could not identify it before they made the report – it is a UFO.

I have lumped Alien Abduction reports and Contactee reports together as I think there is insufficient evidence to classify them as different from each other.

In Alien Abduction witnesses say that they are taken aboard some form of craft against their will. Frequently they report that parts or most of the memory of their experience has been blocked in some way. Contactees, on the other hand, report that they have been invited

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aboard and voluntarily entered some form of craft.

But if whatever is the controlling force in Alien Abduction is so powerful at mind control, could not the same force 'will' Contactees to enter their craft. Or are Contactees just Abductees that have had the memory of being taken against their will erased or replaced with a memory of going willingly. To differentiate these into different classifications is attempting to force human motivations onto a non-human phenomenon.

On the same basis that the UFO phenomenon exists because people report them, so clearly the Alien Abduction/Contactee phenomenon exists because people report it. It is perhaps unfortunate that the Alien Abduction/Contactee phenomenon makes up probably less than 5% of raw UFO reports, yet gets 95% of the publicity.

I believe that the vast majority of witnesses report truthfully to the best of their ability what happened to them. I do, however, reserve the right to disagree with them on any conclusions they draw.

One popular idea amongst both witnesses and UFO researchers is that the Aliens involved are space travelling extraterrestrials. I think that there is little evidence that supports such a view, and the evidence presented can also be used to support alternative hypotheses. For the sake of the argument that follows I will assume that the Aliens are physical beings. I have to acknowledge that non-physical beings, e.g. energies, amongst other explanations have been put forward. Also, in the past it has been proposed that all Abductees/Contactees must be in some way mentally unbalanced, which has been disregarded for the sake of this argument.

I have had a section of my website for several years which tries to show that much of the evidence put forward to account for Aliens as extraterrestrials could also be used to make a case for Aliens being time travellers.

One of the major features of Abduction phenomena is the missing time element. In a many cases the witness has a missing period of time they cannot account for. However, there are a few cases where the witness has gained time. For example, they will be travelling along a road, pass some point where they note the time and then two or three minutes later appear to be many miles up the road.

If we propose that whatever is behind the Alien Abduction phenomena is extraterrestrial then they would have needed to conquer both long distance space flight and manipulating time. However, if they are time travellers they would have only needed to master one seemingly impossible task - the manipulation of time.

Who are these time lords? Possibly people from our future. It used to be thought that we were descended from Neanderthals. Despite it appearing that some UFO researchers have lots of Neanderthal genes (!), recent research has shown that both Neanderthals and modern humans are descended separately

from a common ancestor called *Homo Erectus*.

Neanderthals were strong, muscular and well adapted to hunting, but they became replaced by the brainier modern humans and appeared to die out around 30,000 years ago. In turn, will we be replaced by a smaller less muscular species which relies even more on its brain power? The small grey Aliens made famous by Whitley Streiber and often described by Abductees could be the ultimate human evolutionary form.

In modern humans the brain utilises around 25% of all the energy produced by the body, yet it comprises around 2% of the body by mass. This implies that 75% of the body's energy is used elsewhere, for example in muscles. But if our advanced creature relies on its brain power rather than brawn, then most of its muscle mass is surplus to requirements. So a logical evolutionary advance would be to reduce the amount of muscle, thereby reducing the amount of energy it requires.

The source of energy for humans is food. Scientists widely predict that with an increasing world population and growth of desert areas because of global warming, in the future there may be more wide spread food shortages. Clearly any species that has a reduced food requirement will be at an evolutionary advantage.

Abductees report that the Aliens they see have reduced-sized mouths and have not been seen to eat. This is consistent with the proposition that humans might evolve into a species with low energy requirement. Counting against the argument that Aliens are time travellers is the consideration that provision of food is a major consideration for long distance space travel. Any species that had a low food requirement would also be at an advantage for long-range space exploration.

Bryan Sykes in his book, "The Seven Daughters of Eve," details studies of human

mitochondrial DNA to trace human origins. Mitochondria are small structures found within the cells of eukaryotic organisms (which include humans) and are responsible for releasing energy to power the cell. Although most of the DNA in the cell is found in the nucleus mitochondria also have a small piece of DNA of their own. Because of the way mitochondria pass from one generation to the next they are very useful in tracing human origins. Could these time travellers be collecting DNA from witnesses and looking at some form of global family history?

And why now? Mitochondrial DNA from different parts of the world has characteristic signatures, tiny mutations. By looking at the mutations it is possible to work out how different groups of people have migrated over the years. But with the increase in mobility of people around the world these genetic markers are all becoming mixed together. In a couple of generations it will be impossible to work out where different people originated. So the reason why now is that it has to be now or never.

Other researchers have suggested that these Aliens are collecting human genes to boost their own impoverished genes. Human genes are unlikely to be any good to a life form from another planet, but could be of use to boost the gene pool of other people from this planet. In his book "Adam's Curse" Bryan Sykes presents evidence that the human gene pool is shrinking. Most noticeable is the destruction of the Y chromosome, the one that makes humans into men.

The ultimate conclusion of this will be the disappearance of the Y chromosome and therefore the elimination of men at some future point in the Earth's history. As a result either humans will die out or the female of the species must adapt to be able to reproduce in the absence of males. This is the process of cloning, making identical copies of one individual. How many times have abductee witnesses said that the beings they encountered were all identical as if they were clones?

Again the current method of reproduction of humans uses a lot of energy – not just at the conception stage. So, cloning would be more efficient for a low energy species., which is also consistent with the line of argument developed above.

But producing clones of organisms can over time produce its own problems. Many problems affecting a mother seem to be amplified in her daughters. This brings us back to what some of the Abduction researchers have been saying about Aliens collecting DNA samples to boost their own flagging DNA pool. The Aliens are visitors from a dying planet, but that planet is our own.

As an aside, it is often stated that Aliens communicate with each other and with witnesses using telepathy. In BUFORA's publication "UFOs and the PSI Interface" I discussed how remote viewing and hypnotic regression sessions could be influenced by the mere presence of somebody in the room 'in the know'. As our brains and nervous system work by sending small electrical impulses they also generate small electromagnetic signals which might be picked up by an external sensor. It is possible that somebody whose brain is tuned to the same signal as you could pick up parts of the messages sent out by your brain. Not supernatural, but a purely physical process. Because the signals are weak, only fragments of information might get across, hence the unreliability and lack of reproducibility of telepathy.

If the 'wavelength' of the signal you transmit is controlled genetically then the people most likely to be able to receive your signal will be close family members especially identical twins. The ability of one twin to know what the other is thinking is legendary. And what are clones? Nothing but multiple twins!

Whilst on the subjects of genetics and biochemistry it would be worth mentioning a couple of other issues. Some Abductees

mention that either they have been shown babies or embryos said to be human/Alien hybrids or even had such hybrids implanted in their wombs. If the Aliens came from a different planet from us it is unlikely that their biochemistry would be compatible with ours.

There are complex but very valid physical and chemical reasons why any life form we encounter almost certainly will be carbon-based, like life on Earth. It is even likely that they will have some form of protein like material and nucleic acids. But how compatible these relatively simple building blocks of life would be with our own is debatable. And for any sort of hybrid to have any chance of survival the biochemistry of the two parents has to be very compatible. The best chance at compatibility is if both parent species have evolved from a common ancestor, however far back in history. This is most likely to occur if they both originate from the same planet.

We are able to produce hybrids on Earth. The most widely-known hybrid is the mule, which is produced by mating a horse and a donkey. This is possible because donkeys and horses are very closely related. But mules are sterile. The reason mules are sterile is because horses have two more chromosomes than donkeys. The mule has an inbetween number but its cells get confused when they try to make eggs or sperm, and fail.

Consider now humans and their closest living relative, the chimpanzee. Chimps have one more pair of chromosomes than humans. If it were possible to mate a human and a chimp the offspring is likely to be sterile for similar reasons to mules. There is little point in making a hybrid which is sterile if you are doing it to boost your genetic pool. Chimps and humans share over 99% of their DNA in common. Therefore, IF Aliens are coming here and IF they are producing hybrids with humans they must be a great deal closer to humans in biological terms than even the chimp.

Going back to Neanderthals and mitochondrial

DNA; as far as we know Neanderthals are closer to modern humans than chimps are. It has been possible to extract a few samples of mitochondrial DNA from Neanderthal remains. From comparing this with the DNA of modern humans it appears that interbreeding between the two human species did not occur. It is not clear if this was for cultural reasons or biological reasons. But if for biological reasons, it suggests that IF Aliens are making hybrids with humans they must be even closer in biological make up than Neanderthals. If this scenario is correct what is more likely to be a biological match, somebody from your own planet or somebody who evolved completely independently the other side of the Galaxy?

So, in summary, the Alien Abduction phenomenon may not be Alien (at least in the sense of extraterrestrial) and may not involve the witness being physically removed from their existing location.

I remember, many years ago, purchasing a set of slides about UFOs from Lionel Beer. I believe that the slides had originally been produced in France, but fortunately Lionel had the accompanying notes translated into English. One of the slides related to a series of small human-like skeletons that were found in a cave, which I believe was in southern China, sometime around the 1920s. The notes went on to speculate that the small beings might have been space beings.

Now, alien, of course, really means something in the wrong place or the wrong time. About two years ago archaeologists found the remains of a small human ancestor on the Indonesian island of Flores. They called this small being *Homo floresiensis*. Could these be similar to the alleged space beings found in China all those years ago?

So perhaps, at least in some cases, there is truth in some of the old folk tales. Some aspects of the Abduction phenomenon are very strange, but we should be careful about discarding anything out of hand.

UFO Reports, Crop Circles, and Alignments - The Energy Connection? Geoff Falla

Some UFO reports can, it seems, be linked with the locations of crop circle incidents. There are occasional reports of apparent close proximity UFO incidents when effects on vehicles are experienced, and it is these reports which are found to have some concentration in the same areas where many of the crop circle events have also been discovered.

There are many hundreds of such interference effect cases recorded in Britain and around the world, with some acceptance that this is a phenomenon worthy of serious attention, already recognized by scientists who in a few cases have taken time to examine the evidence.

The reality of these events has been highlighted by the astronomer and science writer Nigel Henbest, author of *The Mysterious Universe*.(1) In a section dealing with the subject of UFOs, he explains "- and of course there is a widely reported ability to stop car engines to be considered. Such evidence does seem to indicate that at least some UFOs are actually physical objects."

Although the general public may not be fully aware of these vehicle effect cases, the fact that there are a large number of these incidents, and reported from many other countries, does greatly strengthen the case for the genuine nature of at least this particular type of reported UFO incident.

The genuine nature of the crop circle phenomenon has also been the subject of much debate. Although many of the reported events have been found to be hoaxes, there are many features of crop circles, with associated effects in some cases, which remain unexplained. Some of these unexplained features are well known, including

the complex swirl patterns, combined with no evidence of any damage to the crop, and reports of no ground marks - even in soft ground in some incidents. There have also been reports of strange effects, including evidence of heating and magnetic effects, and reported malfunctions of equipment within the crop patterns - effects which are not found when compared with the surrounding areas. In some cases there have also been reports of strange luminous phenomena in the same areas, and there now seem to be some indications of definite links with the vehicle interference effect cases in the same areas which have also seen a concentration of the crop circle events.

It is possible to identify several reasons for believing that there is some definite link between the interference effect cases and the crop circle formations. These reasons are based on the locations of the events, synchronicity, and reported characteristics.

Apart from there being some concentration of the interference effect cases in the adjoining counties of Wiltshire and Hampshire - the same counties where most of the crop circle formations have been reported, there is also the finding that half of the interference effect cases in these two counties have come from the Warminster and Winchester areas. These are again the areas where many of the crop circle incidents have been found. The earliest of the interference effect cases to be noted in Hampshire and Wiltshire came from the Westbury area in Wiltshire, just to the north of Warminster, in August 1965. The first of the crop circle events to come to public attention in these two counties was located in exactly the same area near Westbury, in 1980. (2) The two locations of Warminster and Winchester have been recognized by investigators as being important in the development of the crop circle phenomenon, particularly near Warminster in the earlier years, and more recently also in the Winchester area.

A more direct correlation is that in several cases there are also vehicle interference effect reports which have been found to actually coincide with the appearance of crop circle patterns, including reported UFO sightings in close proximity to the crop circle events. Vehicle interference effect cases coinciding with the appearance of crop circles include a case at Winchester in 1980, and Alton Barnes in Wiltshire in July 1990. In July 1985 the reported sighting of a brilliantly lit object hovering in the air near Winchester was highlighted by researcher Colin Andrews. The location was found to be aligned with two patterns of crop circles which were discovered a few hours later, near Goodworth Clatford and Alresford. (3)

The last of the reasons which appear to confirm some definite link is that several characteristics reported in these incidents seem to be common to both types of event - the interference effect and crop circle incidents. These characteristics include sound, heating effects, vibration, magnetic effects, and reported effects on batteries.

Similar characteristics are found in other UFO reports, but in the following summary the interference effect examples are used, as outlined previously.

Sound.

Descriptions of sound noted during vehicle interference effect incidents are found in about 15 per cent of these cases. A significant proportion of the reports also describe objects as being apparently seen on the ground. In these cases sound is described rather more frequently. A small proportion of cases note the silence of the object seen, but in the majority of cases where sound of some kind has been reported this is most) described as a humming or sometimes a buzzing noise.

Although the number of interference effect cases in the counties of Wiltshire and Hampshire is not large, having a total of 14 cases, it does appear to be significant when

compared with other counties, and sound is described in rather more than half of the reported incidents. This is a higher proportion than is found when looking at interference cases in general, and in most cases it is again noted to be a humming or buzzing sound.

In the 1980 case at Winchester, Hampshire, a humming sound was described as accompanying the sighting of a grey object which appeared to land. There were vehicle engine failures, and a crop circle was found at the site. (4) At Alton Barnes in Wiltshire, in July 1990, an overnight heavy buzzing sound was followed by vehicle engine problems, with apparently dead batteries, and the discovery of a large formation of crop circles nearby. (5)

There is also the report of a Leicestershire farm worker who recalled seeing, as far back as 1947, the forming of a crop circle with four small circles around it. He described the event as being accompanied by a gentle hum or buzzing sound, which became more high pitched when the circles had formed after about three minutes. (6)

Heating Effects.

Heating effects, sometimes associated with strange beams of light, have been reported in a number of vehicle interference effect experiences. Descriptions of apparent effects on the surrounding area are also noted in some cases, and in several of the Wiltshire and Hampshire incidents.

Waves of hot and cold air were noted in the first reported Wiltshire case involving vehicle effects, in August 1965 near Westbury, associated with the sighting of two spheres of light which were changing colour. (7)

In another case, in 1967, also near Warminster, the interior of the car suddenly became very hot when a glowing white disc appeared. (8)

In one of the strangest incidents, between Avon and Sopley in Hampshire in November 1967, and involving two vehicles, the sighting of a large luminous egg-shaped object was accompanied by a humming sound, and apparent scorching of the roadside vegetation. Some melting of the road surface was also noticed, with other strange effects.(9)

It is thought possible that microwave heating may be the most likely cause of these effects. (10) Microwave radiation has also been identified as being the probable cause of heating effects noted in crop circle cases including the softening at the base of crop stalks, which allows bending without the stalks being broken.

In crop circle formations reported from other countries, there is the case from Tully in Queensland, Australia, where in January 1966 stem heating effects were also noted - including the bending of stalks below the water surface of the marshy area where the event was seen. The incident included the sighting of a bluish-grey disc which was seen rising quickly into the sky from the marsh. A spiral whirl pattern was found, while the air was described as smelling sulphurous, and seemed to be electrically charged after the incident. (11)

Vibration.

The description of aerial vibrations, and of vehicles being shaken is noted in several of the interference effect cases, including an incident at Warminster in September 1965. In this case the car headlights flickered, while a whining and crackling sound accompanied the shaking effect. (12) In two cases near Winchester in 1976 the vehicle was described as being shaken when an unknown luminous object was seen in the sky in both incidents. In one case clothes were also noted as becoming very hot, with the car engine then restarting by itself, and the lights found to be much brighter than normal. (13)

In the case of metal objects, vibration effects

can be caused by strong variations in the magnetic field.

A case in Warwickshire in 1965 described the experience of a family in a caravan. During the night many coloured lights had been seen in the sky, with the caravan shaken by vibrations. In the morning a large circle was found, covered with a grey powder. The area included an orchard, where grafted cuttings were all found to have been removed from the trees.

An incident at Winterbourne Monkton, Wiltshire, in June 1996 described the sighting of a spinning object with coloured lights, also accompanied by strange vibrations and a buzzing noise, with the object then described as sending white beams of light down towards the ground several times. On the same night a complex double helix shaped crop pattern was found to have been formed nearby, close to the ancient stone circle at Avebury.

Magnetic Effects.

Reported effects on watches and on compasses are noted in a significant number of interference effect experiences, and amount to about ten per cent of these cases. Magnetic effects are also noted as sometimes affecting the vehicle itself, or other equipment. There is sometimes a pungent or sharp smell described in these reports. When metal objects become magnetized, picking up an electric charge, a smell can be the result of an electric discharge. The effects of apparent electrical discharge are also reported to be associated with the heating of stalks in crop circle formations.

In the experience described at Warminster in August 1965, when a motorcycle engine failed as two spheres of light were seen, and waves of hot and cold air were felt, both witnesses reported that their watches stopped at the same time. The Hampshire case reported from Winchester in November

1976, when an orange cigar-shaped object was seen coming close to the vehicle, also produced apparent heating and an effect on the driver's watch -it was noted that the watch started to gain time considerably after the incident. Watches have been reported to be affected in other UFO incidents, and when taken for repair can be found to have been subjected to a strong magnetic current.

Strange magnetic effects have also been reported in crop circle formations, with compasses deviating considerably or spinning within the affected area. One example, in the investigation of a crop circle pattern at Beckhampton, Wiltshire, in 1995 showed wild oscillations of a compass, and the indication of a changing polarity.

Interference effect cases involving reported UFO sightings have also included compass effects. In many reports involving aircraft a compass variation has been noted at the same time, also with some cases of spinning compasses until the object has moved away and the situation has returned to normal.

Battery Effects.

Interference effect experiences reported from Wiltshire and Hampshire seem to include a higher proportion of unexplained characteristics than in similar cases elsewhere. Reports of battery failures associated with UFO reports are uncommon, but are found in two of the cases in Wiltshire and Hampshire, and can also be linked with what has been reported in some of the crop circle incidents.

In the November 1967 interference effect incident in Hampshire, involving two vehicles - a car and a diesel engined lorry when a luminous egg-shaped object was seen, producing evident heating effects, the recently fitted battery of the lorry was found to be dead when it was examined later. The torch carried by the car driver was also found to be unworkable, although it had been used the previous evening without any apparent

problem.

The Wiltshire case at Alton Barnes in July 1990 reported the failure of many vehicles to start, with batteries found to be dead, after a heavy buzzing sound was heard during the night, followed also by the discovery of a large formation of crop circles in a nearby field.

There have been many reported problems with battery operated equipment during crop circle investigations. It has been noted that there seems to be a significant lack of normal energy within the formations when compared with the surrounding area. Camera and videocamera batteries and other equipment has been found to fail in a number of cases during these investigations - as if there is some draining of energy. In one case in 1991 a mobile phone was found to be unworkable within the area of a crop circle formation, yet worked normally when held outside the area. Even more surprising has been the renewal of apparently 'dead' batteries.

It has been suggested that it is perhaps the same apparent lack of normal energy that is responsible for the reported failures of vehicle engines and lights in the interference effect cases. In some of these incidents the engine, lights, or other equipment has been found to return to normal operation unexpectedly - sometimes without any further action by the driver to restart the vehicle.

All of these described characteristics, which seem to relate to both the vehicle interference effect cases and the crop circle formations, can be compared and may help in identifying with more certainty the type of phenomenon involved in these events, particularly when examining also what has been discovered in the course of crop circle investigations. (14)

Alignments.

The particular luminosity of UFOs is noted in many described experiences, and in observations connected with some of the crop

circle incidents. The luminosity is thought to be produced by ionisation of the atmosphere, and there is also evidence of alignment in some of the reports.

Some underlying cause may be involved in linking these incidents.

The UFO observations, many of these including interference effects, and the crop circle formations, have some characteristic effects in common as outlined, with other strange phenomena described in some cases.

One significant clue is perhaps to be found in the location sites. A study of UFO reports following the major wave of British sightings in 1967 revealed three particular alignments of locations identified in the reports. One of these followed a significant line through Warminster to the Essex coast near West Mersea. (15)

This alignment links with the identification of a line of strange phenomena, mostly in the 19th century, found by the American researcher and author Charles Fort, whose work formed the basis of the Fortean Society. The particular alignment identified was through Reading in Berkshire to Colchester, near the Essex coast, forming the base line of a 'London Triangle'. Charles Fort noted from his research that the most severe earthquake of the 19th century was centred near Colchester, with a strange red appearance in the sky at the time of the earthquake, and that the West Mersea area of Mersea Island was one of the places which suffered most from its effects.

There are also what has been termed 'ley lines' - the apparent connection of ancient and sacred sites. The British discovery of these alignments was by the Hereford archaeologist Alfred Watkins, who wrote of the findings in his book, *The Old Straight Track*, which was first published in 1925, and republished in 1970. These alignments have also been discovered in other countries - including

China, where they are referred to as 'dragon lines'.

Although these alignments do not have a physical appearance on the ground, they are marked out as the connection of ancient sites, and the lines can apparently be detected - because of the presence of some kind of energy. One of the most important British alignments passes through Warminster - which is recognized as being a major centre of the ley lines. (16) The alignment is from Somerset, then passing near Glastonbury, and on through the Warminster area to the Essex coast, again at West Mersea, following the same line as the alignment of UFO sighting observations, and the base line of Charles Fort's 'London Triangle'.

There is now also found to be some concentration of the vehicle interference effect cases in the Warminster area, associated with UFO sighting reports, with many of the crop circle formations also noted as appearing in the same area.

The Energy Connection?

Crop circle events are also found to be on detectable energy lines, when the formations are later investigated. The presence of some energy source having some connection with the

UFO sightings, the interference effects and descriptions of other strange phenomena, and being also an essential part of the crop circle events, seems to be a reasonable conclusion. It seems too much of a coincidence to believe that all of these different events - the UFO sightings, and interference effects, the strange phenomena noted by Charles Fort, and the connection of ancient and sacred sites, should all follow the same line by chance alone.

Significant alignments of UFO sightings have

also been noted in France, and were set out by Aime Michel in the book *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*. (17) Research in France has also confirmed that magnetic field disturbances have been detected and found to coincide with the time and location of UFO sighting reports. (18)

The energy present at the many ancient sites in Britain is also apparently detectable. There is evidence that this may have been known from ancient times, and could provide a reason for the particular placing of ancient and sacred sites along the noted alignments. The energy is also reported to be detectable in the standing stones at megalithic sites, which form part of the alignments, and contain quartz. This crystalline mineral is noted in particular for being capable of holding and producing a significant electric charge, with Wiltshire having a concentration of the ancient megalithic sites - more so perhaps than anywhere else.

It does seem to be a real possibility that the UFO sightings, the associated interference effects - which have been recognized as electro- magnetic effects, the location of the ancient and sacred sites, and the crop circle formations may all be linked with some kind of energy, perhaps a varying magnetic force, the importance of which has not yet been properly recognized.

The luminous appearances described in the UFO reports, and in some of the crop circle events are more than that in some cases. There is at times some solidity or structure in what is seen, at least for part of the time. Physical effects are produced, but there is also what can perhaps be described as a 'transient reality' in some of the objects seen, and time anomalies in some of the experiences.

A geomagnetic explanation, giving rise to luminous effects, is not sufficient to explain an apparent intelligence, and sometimes more than that, being described in many cases. If there is an energy link as suggested by the interference effect cases, and as noted at

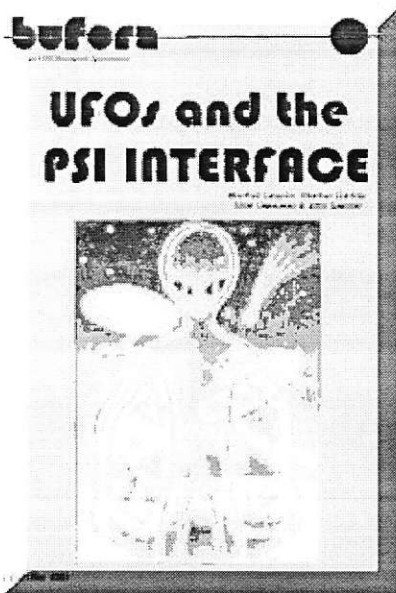
some of the ancient sites and at crop circle formations at similar locations, this may help towards an explanation of these strange phenomena, and the apparent alignments.

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UFOs and the PSI Interface

By Manfred Cassirer,
Stephen Gamble,
Elsie Oakensen and
John Spencer

In this publication, (shown left) four contributors – all of whom have different backgrounds and viewpoints into the subject – have assembled current ideas on the possible interaction/crossover between UFO reports and PSI experiences.

- Manfred Cassirer presents a research paper – UFOs and the PSI Interface - in which examines the main theories revolving around the subjects.
- Stephen Gamble (who has carried out many roles for BUFORA) compares UFO and Psychic Entities.
- Elsie Oakensen (a fellow experimenter) describes Life After a UFO Close Encounter – and this includes life-changing events.
- John Spencer (renowned author, and BUFORA's former Director of Research) examines and discusses UFOs and the Paranormal Interface.

Copies are available at £7.50 inc p&p.

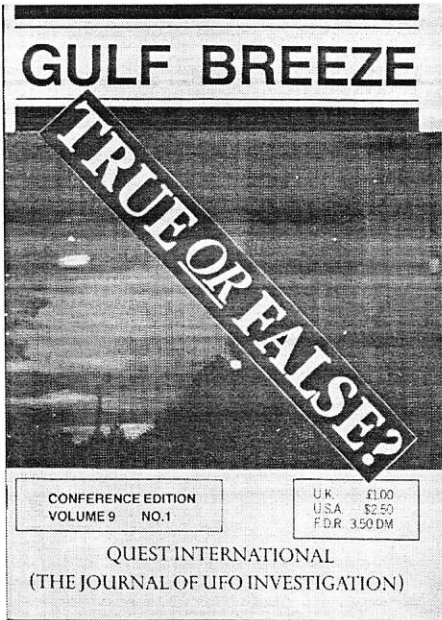
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GULF BREEZE – TRUE OR FALSE

Norman Oliver

So read the original heading to a major article I wrote for the late Graham Birdsall, which appeared in *QUEST INTERNATIONAL Vol 9 No.1*- the forerunner of the sadly no longer published *UFO MAGAZINE* - back in 1989. With some amendments and additions here and there where subsequent information has come to light I am now pleased to (re)present it in the pages of NBJ.

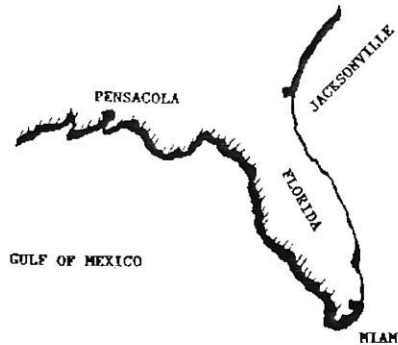


In the course of my article in NBJ13 about the Eureka Springs Conferences, I referred to **Gulf Breeze** and 'Mr Ed.' (NOT the talking horse!!) several times without going into any detail, but what WAS – or IS, for occasional reports are still surfacing – this Gulf Breeze 'flap' all about?

Some, indeed, may well ask, 'Where is Gulf Breeze?' Well, Gulf Breeze is in northwest

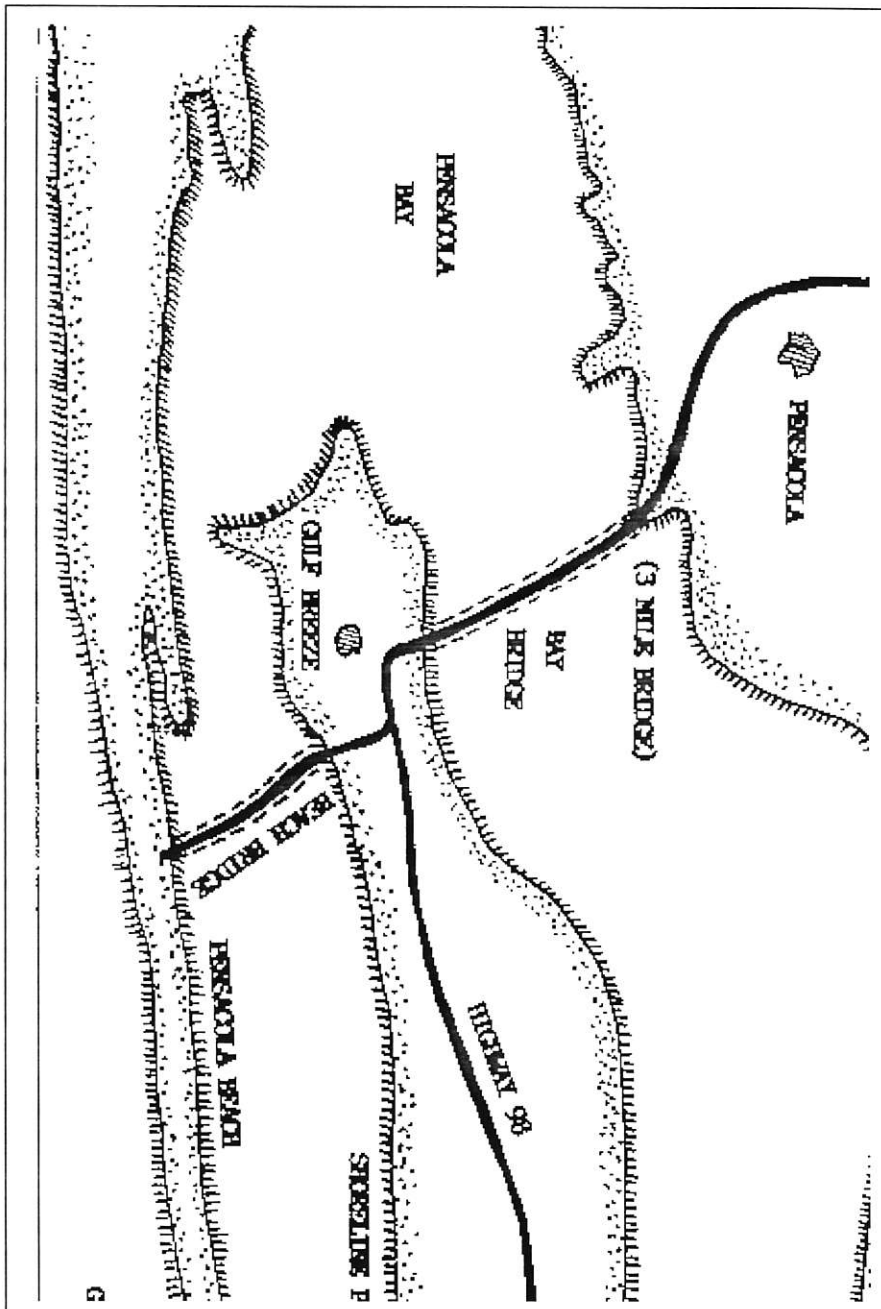
Florida facing the Gulf of Mexico. Just to its south lies a long strip of land – Pensacola Beach – reached via the Beach Bridge. To the north across Pensacola Bay via the Bay Bridge (severely damaged, I believe, in a 2004 hurricane), lies Pensacola with a population of around 60,000. To the east lies Eglin Air Force Base – an extremely large military area.

A flashing neon fish sign pointed the way to Pensacola Beach, but it is not suggested this is in any way responsible for the UFO reports! From January 1989 (Fortunately perhaps not in 1987 as you will see) the Bay Bridge was out of action due to an incursive barge. The most recent census figures for Gulf Breeze itself show a population of 5530. The diagrams will give the reader an approximate idea of the locality.



The story of Gulf Breeze has to begin with that of 'MR. ED', as he became known, since it was HIS photographs that initiated the flow of other reports, and also because he would seem to have had many more and varied experiences than anyone else.

It is not my intention here to go into arguments for or against the photographs themselves, or to present lengthy analyses of the equipment used and prints produced.



G

Those in a better position and far more qualified than myself (**Bruce Maccabee's** article in the April 1989 MUFON UFO JOURNAL No. 252 refers), have done so in great detail. In the last analysis, however, one can only say 'yes' or 'no' to their authenticity or otherwise.

Jennifer Tucker wrote in the *Florida Tampa Tribune* of 30th. January 1989:- "Ed's story is lengthy and strange and he knows it". I can only comment that in doing my best to untangle the innumerable newspaper and media references to his claimed experiences: to the authenticity of his photos and general background information, that I know it too!

The Gulf Breeze 'flap' began when the *Gulf Breeze Sentinel* of 19th. November 1987 published photos received from 'an anonymous Gulf Breeze resident'. These had been accompanied by a 'To Whom It May Concern' letter commencing '*On the night of November 11th., I took the pictures you now see before you. I was reluctant at first to show them to anyone, but my wife convinced me to show them to Ed. Ed in turn said that the photos should be shown to the press. That is why I am presenting them to you...*'. The letter went on to say that the writer had seen an object after sitting down to dinner: had then rushed to his bedroom, got out his 17-year-old Polaroid camera, went outside and took four good pictures on one film and one on another before the object shot up and disappeared.

This had seemed 'about the size of a small house', but was quite some distance away. It 'weaved and bobbed' a little as it hovered for several minutes, but there was no rotation. A glow could be seen from the bottom as though that might be the power source. The 'windows', or whatever they were, were equally spaced. No flashing lights were to be seen: it was a dull gray-blue 'thing'. The writer reiterated that the letter and photos were not a hoax, stating he was a prominent citizen of the community 'I have nothing to gain, I have everything to lose....'

These and later photos that Ed took mostly showed craft of a general 'layered' spherical type – not really the same as a 'conventional flying saucer' but, to my mind, rather like model Chinese Lanterns on a Christmas tree. (Please – no quotes to the effect that I'm saying they WERE – I'm NOT!). In most cases the diameters of the craft Ed saw were estimated to be around 10 to 15 feet.

Over the ensuing months numerous UFO photos were taken by Ed who, in the early days, had also been given the appellation of 'Jim'. Some were taken by his home: some from country roads and some at Shoreline Park opposite Pensacola Beach. A video film was also included.

It's interesting that three reports from other witnesses (*see report list*) on 11th. November 1987, although reported AFTER the time of Ed's first sighting, actually occurred BEFORE it, and that a beam of blue light featured in one, whilst Mr. Somerby, the Editor and Founder of the *Sentinel*, together with his wife, were witnesses to another. By a coincidence, when he subsequently called in at the *Sentinel's* offices, they were just 'pasting up' a front page which included Ed's pictures. Both he and his wife then said, '*That's what we saw*'. Their experience took place only five minutes before Ed's. 'Believer Bill's' 22nd. December 1987 photos (*see list*) were also coincidental as Ed took another of his pictures early the following morning.

The 'blue beam' was very relevant because, in a later addition to his account of the first photographs, Ed. (now revealed as local resident Ed Walters), claimed that the UFO had, in fact, shot a blue beam at him. He had then been 'frozen' and lifted up from the ground. He believed, amongst other things, that this beam was an aid to telepathic conversation. Ed's experiences, and, indeed, the vast majority of all known sightings in the Gulf Breeze area were thoroughly researched by the local MUFON investigation team of Donald Ware, Charles Flannigan and Bob Reid.

Subsequent to his first experience, Ed frequently heard a 'humming' or 'buzzing' sound prior to a sighting and MUFON had arranged a radio 'hook-up' with Ed for him to let them know when he heard this sound so that they could be aware a sighting might be imminent. Sometimes, Ed ignored the noise, but usually he would go outside to see if he could get pictures. At dusk on 20th, November 1987, he saw an object and took four more.

On 5th, December 1987, just before dawn, Ed photographed a craft hovering just above ground level in the school yard behind his home. Then, soon after midnight on 17th, December 1987 he took five more shots of a craft, including one picture looking straight up into what could conceivably have been the power source – something resembling a 'food-mixer'.

This was followed at 8pm on the 28th, December by Ed taking a video lasting one minute and thirty-eight seconds of a craft traversing behind his house. There was then a break in activity until the mid-January. On the night of 21st, January 1988 Ed was getting a little concerned about experiences he'd had with the object – concerned about going outdoors unprotected. Nevertheless, on this night, he was bringing material to MUFON investigator Bob Reid, who'd spent some nine nights in a van a quarter-of-a-mile from Ed's home waiting for something to happen, and he heard the hum as he was walking through trees half-way to the van. He called Bob on the walkie-talkie, saying he'd seen a small object near the star Sirius. It had not been much larger than a pinpoint and had quickly flashed out. Bob had not seen the object – he was looking in another direction, but DID get video shots of his own of Ed holding his head and shaking it in disbelief that Bob was unable to hear the noise.

A point of possible significance during this period was that a symmetrical area of brown, dying grass appeared in the school yard at the rear of Ed's home, though the occurrence was

never directly associated with any of Ed's experiences.

The 'hum' was again heard on Sunday, 24th, January 1988 and Ed rang the *Sentinel*. On that date he had been unable to make contact via MUFON's radio set-up and consequently phoned the newspaper instead to say he could hear the 'buzz'. *Sentinel* Editor Duane Cook then accompanied Ed in his pick-up truck through Naval Live Oaks to Tiger Point East. On the way, Ed said that he was feeling stabs of pain in various parts of his body and stated 'they' had spoken to him telepathically, saying, '*in sleep you know*'. They stopped in the road. Ed had his Polaroid and a video camera and Duane a 35mm camera.

Ed took the Polaroid and walked up the road a little. The buzz in his head grew louder and he felt a severe pain in his left hand. This gradually subsided and, just as he was going to get back in his pick-up, Ed saw and object and used his Polaroid. The *Sentinel* Editor watched the film come slowly out of the camera and develop. On it there gradually appeared a similar picture of a UFO to those previously taken. Duane had started videoing Ed prior to his using the Polaroid and had continued to do so as Ed took the photograph.

On other occasions when he had heard a buzz or a hum in his head and had seen a craft, Ed had heard telepathic commands to '*step forward*' and saying, '*photographs are forbidden*'. - after he had taken one. Once, at 1.00am, Ed had taken five photos of a UFO that appeared to be exuding moisture and steam from its underside. The UFO was seemingly in trouble and prior to the sighting Ed had heard something like a '*waterfall*' in his head.

It was on 26th, January 1988 that Ed appeared in the same photograph as a UFO, the photographer being his wife, Frances. Ed

had been in the shower when the craft showed up and had heard no 'buzz', knowing nothing of its presence till his wife called him: he then dashed out with a towel around him to be photographed – together with the UFO – by his wife.

On being provided by MUFON with a sealed NIMSLO 3-D camera, Ed took a number of photographs at Shoreline Park at 9.30pm on 26th. February 1988 – photographs of a completely different type of UFO. Film had been placed in the camera by Tom Dooley in San Antonio. The camera was then boxed up and sent to Donald Ware: Bob Reid had then passed it on to Ed about a month before. Later, a Press Conference was called to witness the camera being unsealed.

Those present included Walt Andrus, then International Director of MUFON: MUFON investigators and radio and press representatives. The camera having originally been sealed with wax, all of them watched the seals being broken, the film being removed, then developed and printed. Walt Andrus had prefaced the 'unsealing' by saying,

This is the first time in recorded history that we've had the opportunity to work so closely with a witness as sightings are still being made...We don't know if anything will show up on this film. There are so many things that could go wrong...

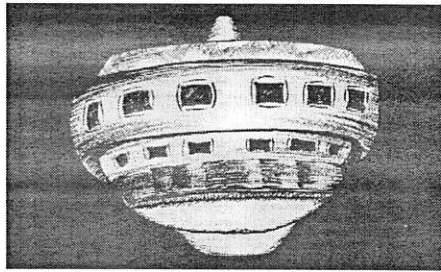
Well, something DID show up.

On 7th. March 1988 Ed purchased a non-double exposure Polaroid type SUN 600 camera and was rewarded by getting a photograph of a UFO with it the following day – 8th. March

Whilst in Duane Cook's office at the *Sentinel* on other business on 17th. March 1988, Ed got the 'hum', and a group of people including TV Director Peter Newman, who loaded Ed's camera – the new stereo – with un-opened packs of film, went down to Shoreline Park. At 10.10pm, Ed saw a UFO and took some

quick pictures. Others in the group saw the flashes, but at that particular moment they were all a little way from Ed and consequently missed seeing the object itself, which, nevertheless, came out on the film as those in the group watched the pictures develop. On May 1st. 1988 Ed took his final pictures from Shoreline Park.

In view of their multiplicity, the media's main concern was largely in connection with his photographs, but he was also reported as having, on 2nd. December 1987, a CE III type experience after being awakened in the early hours by the ubiquitous 'hum': he was then said to have seen a gray 'childlike' figure through glass doors. It was also alleged that, when on 12th. January 1988 he took a 'road' picture – of a craft with its lights reflected from a wet road surface on Soundside Drive – he again saw a number of similar creatures.



Ed had said that when he had first sent in his 11th. November photos to the *Sentinel* he thought they would be published and that would be the end of the matter. In fact, of course, MUFON (Mutual UFO Network), CUFOS (Center for UFO Studies), the media and others soon became involved and Ed found that his family, including his young daughter were also being approached: he was accused in some quarters of faking the photos and so on. He then thought he would maintain – if possible – his anonymity as 'Mr. Ed.', and also work on a book about his photographs, experiences and a rebuttal of his critics.

His first book – *The Gulf Breeze Sightings** - was published early in 1990, just in time for 'pre-issue' copies to be available at the April Eureka Springs Conference of that year. Another book- *UFO Abductions in Gulf Breeze** – was published in 1994. Both books were co-authored by Ed and his wife Frances. It is only fair, of course, to say that there WAS considerable controversy as to the authenticity of Ed's experiences and his photos, the two main protagonists being CUFOS and MUFON. CUFOS, to say the least, appeared to be more than a little doubtful about their genuineness, whilst MUFON, who would seem to have conducted by far the more comprehensive and intricate investigations considered it most likely they were genuine. An article, 'The Scale Remains Unbalanced' by Bruce Maccabee in the *MUFON UFO JOURNAL* of April 1989 – an extremely detailed and informative one – was strongly supportive of this viewpoint. At some point Philip Klass had surfaced to support the debunkers – but then he would have done, wouldn't he!?

Ed, incidentally, underwent five subsequent regressive hypnosis sessions with Dr. Dan Overlade, a Pensacola resident and highly qualified practising clinical psychologist. Each session opened up new chapters of his memory. Dr. Overlade, skilled in his field, had already regressed two other abductees. He is on record as saying that as a result of his study and association with these apparent abductees it had become increasingly difficult to remain a sceptic.

It is perhaps wise to bear in mind the words (or a paraphrase thereof) of the late Dr. Hynek, when he said *'The most that one can say about a UFO photograph is that one has done one's best to disprove it and failed'*. It IS only fair to Ed, though, to point out that he had, on occasion, used a sealed camera provided by MUFON, whilst on another, the *Sentinel* editor, as already recounted, watched a Polaroid print developing at the actual time of one of the sightings – as later did others. I, for one, would have had absolutely no ideas on how to fake this, and, indeed, it must be a

unique occurrence in UFO annals. It should also be added on Ed's behalf that he had a lengthy lie-detector test and an electronic voice analysis. All investigators' conclusions agreed that Ed was both honest and sane.

Also, of course, there were two other sets of photographs showing a similar type of UFO. 'Believer Bill's' were received at the *SENTINEL*'s office on 22nd. December 1987, whilst others dated back to June 1986. It is a great pity that neither of these photographers came forward or were traced, as even one completely independent known source would surely have set the seal on the authenticity of Ed's photos. However, one can appreciate their position, which might have become virtually the same as Ed's.

Dr. Bruce Maccabee said in his *MUFON UFO JOURNAL* article that this is 'not primarily a photographic case', because the truth or falsity of Ed's reports must be based on non-photographic information. This I would certainly agree with, and one thing I found of interest was a 'non-event'. Namely, there was no 'flap' in June 1986 when two photos of a craft similar to Ed's were alleged to have been taken, but not sent to the *Sentinel*'s offices until December 1987. All sorts of conclusions might be drawn from this – the obvious one being that there was no media interest in June 1986 and consequently no-one was looking up!

As I wrote in my recent *Ozark Conference* article, I then had the chance of speaking to 'Mr. Ed', chatting with him for some twenty minutes and I certainly then considered him to be a most genuine person. In a subsequent letter to me in 1990, Ed authorised me, if I wished, to quote him and I now do so. He wrote.....

The staggering UFO events that overwhelmed me and my family remain an enigma. We have been interviewed and investigated more times than I can count and

I respectfully say I have no answer to the most frequently-asked question, 'WHY ME?'

The regressive hypnosis under the care of Dr. Dan Overlade does hint at some answers and infringes on my personal life. I study those tapes and memories in hope of understanding.

This is a very serious event that is best served with patience, but some people have been influenced by much telling and re-telling of what happened, so a book became the only way to record the complete details.

I understand the 'book motive' will be hurled against me, but it doesn't matter. The debunker will continue to degrade the photos and other witnesses, sight unseen. One actually faked UFO photos and implied that I took them. Lately, the same debunker faked a computer test on a 3rd generation copy and then mailed it about.

All of the debunker's dis-information amounts to zero and the sightings have continued with more and more witnesses each week reporting the strange objects over our city. It seems that the more the critics try to explain it all away, the UFO shows itself to more and more people.....(signed) Ed...

It should be noted that Ed has always been considered a most meticulous person and that he has kept fully-detailed diary entries of events. To my mind, remembering all the photos: telepathic messages: that there were witnesses to some of the Polaroid films developing: that there were similar photos and numerous witnesses to sightings of like and unlike craft, plus the hypnosis sessions with Dr. Overlade, that Ed's claimed CE I: CE II and possibly CE III and IV experiences take some disproving, though Graham Birdsall's comments that follow, together with my own are relevant in this connection. Altogether, Ed – and in at least six cases his wife also – featured in over 20 reports on the following dates:-

1987: 11th & 20th November; 2nd, 23rd, 27th and 28th December.

1988: 12th, 16th, 21st, 24th & 26th January; 7th & 26th February; 4th, 8th, 17th & 20th March; 21st April; and 1st May.

* * * * *

A year after my article had appeared in *QUEST INTERNATIONAL Vol.9 No.1*, however, in *Vol.10 No.1* of that magazine, the late Graham Birdsall reported on some controversial aspects that had subsequently developed. The report itself had been condensed from a longer one that Graham had contributed to Jim Moseley's *Saucer Smear*.

Briefly, as reported therein, these surrounded the statements of two young men who claimed to have assisted Ed. in faking photos.. The youths were named in the article as Tom Smith and Hank Boland. Smith's information was stated as centering around a group of five photos showing very similar UFOs to those seen in the photos taken by Ed.Walters. Smith, it seems, had claimed that Ed had taken these with Smith's camera and asked him to take them to the *Sentinel* as if they were his own. It appears that Smith knew the pictures were fake, because he said he was present when a set of pictures had been faked earlier by Ed with the same camera, but these had not turned out good enough to use. Smith said he'd considered taking them to the newspaper, but thought better of it and just retained the pictures.

Ed. Walters version of events was that Tom Smith had taken the pictures himself, though not in Ed's presence, but that the photos were genuine. He was reported as saying that Smith's father disliked the publicity that would have ensued and also had religious objections to UFOs. Therefore Tom got 'off the hook' by making out to his parents that the films were not genuine and had also implicated another youth by the name of Hank Boland.

Ufologist Jim Moseley felt that Ed. Walters's defence sounded unlikely but possible. MUFON announced on June 19th. 1990 at a press conference in a Pensacola hotel that they still supported Ed., but would investigate further. Later that day at another press conference at Gulf Breeze City Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Smith testified under oath supporting their son.

The case became even more complicated when, apparently, Tom Smith claimed that the photos taken by Ed. Walters on his camera were shot after Ed.'s first group of five pictures were taken on November 11th. 1987, the pictures that appeared later in the local paper. However, a local teenager known only as 'Rob' then came forward to say that Tom Smith showed him his photos before anything appeared in the press and before November 11th. According to Rob, Tom Smith was 'white with fear' after taking genuine photos of an alien craft and accordingly went on to back Ed's version of the matter.

The whole thing became even more bizarre, Graham Birdsall's article states, when several teenagers from Ed's parties alleged that Ed engaged in 'occult' activities – including reciting biblical excerpts including the 23rd psalm backwards! This Ed completely denied.. In his article, though, Graham went on to say it was his belief that this would tie in with Ed.'s bizarre behaviour in a 40-minute video tape he showed Moseley during a visit to his home in 1988, in which he cursed and raved wildly while driving his truck to a hoped-for rendezvous with a UFO. Duane Cook, of the *Sentinel*, was, Graham Birdsall records, 'sitting next to Ed and doing a good job of overacting, or else in what occultists would call 'Demoniac Possession'.

To quote further from Graham's 1990 article, "There are apparently four people who have taken pictures of Gulf Breeze phenomena. The best known is, of course, Ed. Another has the pseudonym 'Jane' and nothing is known about her. The third is Tom Smith Jnr. and the fourth is 'Believer Bill' Who is

'Believer Bill'? Some think it is Ed. Walters, but there are other theories.....

A former neighbour of Ed Walters is Ray Griffin, but he denies being 'Believer Bill', though admitting 'being into UFOs and the paranormal'. Griffin moved to Gulf Breeze some time ago (*This was in 1990 – N.O.*), from Fyffe, Alabama and enquiries revealed that whilst a resident of Fyffe, Ray Griffin was known locally as 'Believer Phil'!"

Graham continues:

There are other strange coincidences. One of the most intriguing.....is that of an elderly witness named Billie Zammit, wife of a retired military officer named Captain Joseph Zammit. She reported a seeing a blue beam come from a craft. Less than 24 hours later, Ed. Walters produced a photo of a craft emitting a blue beam.

The above apart, a model of one of the UFOs Ed claimed were in his photographs had been found in his former residence when Ed moved house. So far as this was concerned, Ed stated that before being purchased by the new owner, the house had been unlocked during the daytime over a period of months and anyone could have planted the model. The new owner, named Menzer, found the model weeks before it became public knowledge, but never thought about it until a reporter 'just happened' to turn up one day and ask Menzer, amongst other things, if he had found a model! Personally, if this model HAD been used by Ed to take fake photos, I can't imagine why he left it in the house when he moved!! There was also a difference. The model had only one set of portholes, whereas the UFOs in Ed's photos had two!

Included in Graham's article were a number of quotes on the Gulf Breeze affair from well-known ufologists. Amongst these were the following:-

Walt Andrus: (Then) MUFON
International Director



"The real significance of Gulf Breeze is that aliens are making contact". Source: *Woman's World* December 12th. 1989.

"It is no longer necessary to preface the Gulf Breeze, Fl., case with a disclaimer that it is either one of the most incredible cases in UFO history or the most fantastically orchestrated hoax – one that would challenge the production skills of Steven Spielberg to duplicate. The overwhelming evidence is in. Gulf Breeze is indeed one of the most incredible cases in modern history." Source: *MUFON Journal* August 1968.

Budd Hopkins: Researcher and author

"The credibility of the pictures and the photographer should not be questioned. The fact that the photos are clear, detailed and contain so much information that can be

validated, shows they are authentic". Source: *Gulf Breeze Sentinel* February 25th. 1988.

James Greenham (Then) MUFON Section Director

"They used to zip in and out. Next they were coming down. Now they're saying, O.K., you can take pictures." Source: *Orlando Sentinel* May 13th. 1990.

Bruce Maccabee: Chairman of the fund for UFO Research

"One must consider at least the possibility that UFOs really were flying around Gulf Breeze and that Jim (*Ed Walter's alias*) happened to get pictures of them." Source: *Pensacola News Journal* June 23rd. 1988

Don Ware: (Then) MUFON Eastern Regional Director

"The photographs show an unknown of great significance." Source: *Gulf Breeze Sentinel* February 25th. 1988

Timothy Good: Researcher and Author

"The description that all witnesses gave matched remarkably. I am convinced of their validity." Source: *Pensacola News Journal* October 12th. 1990

Graham Birdsall – Then himself Editor of QUEST INTERNATIONAL

"It is a sad fact, but photos taken anonymously should find no credibility amongst professional UFO organisations. Full Stop. And although we are led to believe one of the anonymous senders is now known to researchers and is believed to be credible, that fact remains that as long as this person

and others like him/her request anonymity, they ultimately damage Ed's credibility.....”

A LIST OF THE MAJOR GULF BREEZE REPORTS

June 1986. The two photos said to have been taken in this month which were sent anonymously to the *Sentinel's* offices in Decembr 1987. These showed an object similar to those photographed by Ed and were stated to have been taken with a 35mm camera after dusk facing west in Shoreline Park South. Coming from behind trees, this object was said to hover for five or six seconds before shooting off northwards.

November/December 1986. 'Jean' and her son were driving north over Bay Bridge in the afternoon. To their right was an object hovering just above the water. It had windows and moved with a circular motion. The water underneath stayed calm.

October 1987. Pam Strickland and her son were driving west along Highway 98 towards Gulf Breeze. Near the Breeze Plaza they saw an oval-shaped object in the distance 'near the sunset'. This 'hovered for a moment', then turned on its axis and disappeared.

11th. November 1987. 2.30am. Witness was awakened by her dog and saw a craft similar to Ed's photos hovering over the water behind her house east of Gulf Breeze. There was a blue beam of light leading down from it to the dog..

11th. November 1987. 8.15am. Jeff Thompson of Gulf Breeze was in the Tiger Point region taking his son to school when he saw an object over the Oriole Beach School area ten miles east of Gulf Breeze. This shot up at an angle, stopped suddenly, hovered for 30-45 seconds, then moved off at high speed. It had the same window formations as in Ed's photos, but without the brightly-lit bottom.

11th. November 1987. 9.30pm. An anonymous Pensacola resident witnessed an object moving in a north-westerly direction, arcing downwards. A bright, white light then lit up the wooded area around his home.

12th. November 1987. App. 2-2.30am. Mrs. Joseph Zammit was woken by her Labrador Retriever scuffing and growling. On opening the door she looked up at the sky and saw a similar object to that shown in the *Sentinel* photographs. Estimated to be about a mile up it emitted a stream of light which 'came down into our canal'.

15th. November 1987. Dusk. 'Cathy' and three friends heading north on the Three-Mile Bridge saw a 'hanging object' with four bright lights on it over the Bayou Texar area close to the water. After a few minutes it dipped to the right and disappeared.

24th. November 1987. 7.30pm. A Villa Beyonce woman was returning from Pensacola with her 11-year-old daughter and 15-year-old son. Driving down Highway 98 through the Naval Live Oaks area she saw a lighted craft in the air by the Santa Rosa State Bank. It had red and white lights , hovered silently and was spinning some 100 yards above the ground in th Bay area. A 'red ball of light' dropped from it to the ground. The craft then made two 90 degree turns and disappeared.

2nd. December 1987. 'Just after midnight'. Witness and his wife were watching TV when they saw a bright light hovering over Santa Rosa Sound. It bobbed up and down and they went on the balcony to see it better. It then seemed to be shining a searchlight on the water and pulsated and moved towards them, then abruptly winked out. Five seconds later a dimly-lit silhouette of a huge, circular object approached and passed overhead, making a low, humming sound. As it moved out over the Gulf, bright lights came on and it accelerated out of sight.

10th. December 1987. 6.pm. An anonymous letter and photos sent to the *Sentinel* by 'A Believer'. The letter read:- *"Please find enclosed the four photos I took of an object which I observed on the evening of 10th December 1987 at about 6pm. near Soundside Drive. The object moved west to east, repeatedly retracing its path with a slow, bobbing motion. It then remained motionless for about thirty seconds before moving off to the east at a very high rate of speed. It made no noise and moved like no other aircraft I've ever seen. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes. Sorry, because of my position I must remain anonymous."*

N.B. Whilst the letter gave the date of 10th. December, something is amiss here as it was actually reported in the *Sentinel* issue dated 3rd. November 1987!

December 1987 'Two weeks before Christmas' Eleven-year-old Christina Holscher and two other girls all reported seeing a round craft engulfed in a bright, white light moving slowly and silently, then disappearing behind trees.

22nd December 1987. App. 5-5.30pm. 'Believer Bill' claims in an anonymous letter to the *Sentinel* that he saw three UFOs on this date above trees along Shoreline Drive. He states he went in to get his camera and took nine photos. The sighting lasted for ten minutes. All three objects could not be pictured on one photo. They were white on the bottom at first, but when lower, became more orange. At the end, all three glowed white and shot up.

22nd. January 1988. 8.00pm. Three teenagers were playing basketball when a brightly-lit object was seen some 100 yards away hovering just above the tops of 10-15 feet tall pine trees. It approached them and when 60-70 yards away it became very bright, seeming to shine straight at them. After 2-3 seconds it returned to its original location and disappeared behind a house.

'Late January 1988'. Christine Holscher (see also sighting in Dec '87) was walking home from a friend's house on a dark night; she saw a 'street light' at the end of a long, straight road. As she turned, this moved and she watched it cruise silently behind trees and houses until it disappeared.

6th. February 1988. 5.00am. Linda Wilson went to her backdoor to see a very large oval-shaped light above the street beside her house about 100 feet higher than a telegraph pole. It had a 'wavy look' as though heat waves were coming off it. She watched for two or three minutes, then went back to bed.

12th. February 1988. 11.00pm. Mrs. Belinda Jackson and her sister, Tina Vickery were outside the Vickery house when they heard a loud-pitched scream seemingly from above and behind them. Looking up, they saw a large, boomerang-shaped object covered with white lights. It passed overhead – possibly as slowly as 30mph., at a height of 150-200ft. About the size of a house, its trailing edge seemed brighter than the rest and its outline looked 'fuzzy' as it moved majestically out of sight.

February 1988. 8.30pm. Chris Poole, aged 17, was at a McDonald's restaurant when friends pulled into a parking lot saying they'd seen a UFO from Highway 98. He and six others went outside to watch a large, yellow light hovering very low over the Bay. It grew brighter, then dimmed and went out completely, re-appearing a few moments later in a slightly different location. After ten to fifteen minutes it disappeared.

26th. February 1988. A 15-year-old GBHS student was at the beach at night with friends. One pointed out strange lights apparently moving over Gulf Breeze. These gradually moved out of sight.

28th. February 1988. 9.45pm. John Fletcher was returning to Gulf Breeze from the beach. He drove north across the Bob Sikes bridge and noticed strange lights over the Sound to

his right. "I've lived on the water all my life and I've never seen anything like this before", he said. He reported seeing 'weird golden amber lights' that made up a circle and seemed to be about 225 feet over the water and 25 yards off the Sound's north shore. He slowed down to watch and saw the light spinning in a slow, circular motion, making some six complete revolutions before going out one at a time. Diameter of the ring estimated at app. 20 feet.

3rd. March 1988. Sighting reported by a 'Prominent Gulf Breeze Resident'. He and his wife were on College Parkway in Polynesian Isles when they both noticed two oblong-shaped craft with very bright lights hovering over Whisper Bay. After a few minutes the UFOs moved out over the Bay and disappeared.

11th. March 1988. 6.30pm. From Shoreline Park, David Sominski, aged 11, saw an object which had a bright light at the bottom, a small one at the top and a row of little lights round its middle. At first, it was 'flat', then it tipped up at an angle and began to spin. Then, tilting the other way, it spun again and began to move to one side. David was playing baseball and at this point someone hit the ball and he turned. When he looked back the object had gone.

11th. March 1988. 6.45pm. A local church minister was going to a meeting when he saw lights in the sky above trees. It was an object with unblinking lights circling round the bottom. He watched it for a minute, then it moved away and disappeared.

13th. March 1988. 10.30pm. Dennis Warren, on the Sound side of Pensacola Beach, south of Shoreline Park, had a call from his mother to say a friend was watching a UFO. He then watched two very bright lights moving towards him. These went below the treeline near Shoreline Park, but popped back up, first moving westward past Deer Point, then east towards Shoreline Park, vanishing below the treeline. They popped up again over the trees, then moved off out of sight. Dennis watched the whole thing through 7x 50 binoculars, but 'the intensity of the lights' kept him from seeing

what was behind them.

14th. March 1988. App. 8.00pm. A family reported an object coming in at an angle to Gulf Breeze from the southwest on an easterly course. About 1500 to 2000 feet away it had a bright light – apparently on the rear – with a smaller greenish-blue blinking light above: there was another bright light forward – at one time three bright lights, but at one point the third light disappeared to be replaced by a circular orange glow. The father thought it was about the size of a 747. The son, sitting in the back seat of the car, screamed that he heard an adult male voice in his head and yelled, '*It's talking*'. The parents could hear nothing, but the son said the voice commanded '*STOP*', but that it was like the voice was talking to someone else.

17th. March 1988. A Soundside resident and two of her children saw an object 'Like a Goodyear blimp' with a flashing light just before dark. This stayed motionless for some 45 minutes before disappearing.

17th. March 1988. 8.50pm. Witness was at home in Navarre when she noticed a very large, bright light moving southeast to northwest over the Sound five miles west of the bridge. 'It came close enough for me to see a light on the bottom with dimmer lights on the top'. It had a spherical shape. The lights grew very bright, then dimmed. The object stopped and hovered, then began a back-and-forth movement, north-south, south-north, finally descending slowly near the shore. It took on a red hue and went below tree level. Duration 15 to 20 minutes.

20th. March 1988. Witness reported a small object with windows to the north side of her house in the area of Villa Venyce and Blue Heron Cove. It was 'very bright with a blue cast. Watched for 90 minutes. Similar object seen again the next day.

20th. March 1988. Roger McCann, his daughter Jennifer, aged 13 and son Trey, 8,

together with three adult friends all saw three UFOs hovering in a triangular formation above the beach, one larger than the others. After watching for ten minutes another 'ship' whizzed by about 1000 yards offshore. This was 'kind of oblong' with four pulsating 'strobe' lights on top. Near its lower middle was a row of yellow lights like portholes: it also had a row of yellowish, rotating lights along its bottom. Two of the witnesses reported blue beams coming from the craft. An aircraft appeared and the objects moved out of sight.

24th. March 1988. App. 8.30 – 9.30pm A witness who had previously reported a sighting on 20th. March again saw a 'colourful object' above tall trees at Soundside. It was 'huge, with unblinking red and blue lights'. 'Windows' could be seen in a circle. It went down behind some trees over the Sound.

30th. March 1988. Two women aged 20 and 23 were returning home. Turning into Fairpoint, they saw a bright light from behind the Exxon building and a large 'almost diamond-shaped' object raised up, rolled over, then headed off over the 'Big B' building till out of sight. It was outlined in 'small white light bulbs' and had red lights in the tail. No sound was heard.

31st. March 1988. 8.45pm. A witness with a previous sighting, together with her husband and child saw a 'large craft' hovering over their home in Villa Venyce, 'elongated and soundless'. Although dark they saw the craft 'as plain as anything'. Beside it was a white light – either a plane or a small 'ship'. The light on the smaller craft went out for a few minutes, then reappeared in the same spot. The UFO moved 'with a gliding motion in a north-easterly direction' and disappeared from sight.

2nd. April 1988. 11pm. Soon after this date, the *Sentinel* had received a roll of film, a hand-drawn picture and a note in a brown paper bag. The note read: *This was in the sky over the Beach last Saturday, April 2nd., maybe a jet. I think it was a UFO. Other people saw. Five minutes and disappeared.*

Another note with the drawing read: *11.00pm. Later that night we were on the Beach. It came overhead, maybe 100 feet. A white light hit us. I think we were out.*

3rd. April 1988. 2.45am. Witness 'Ann' was awakened by a 'thumping sound'. She got out of bed, checked rooms and the back yard but found nothing. Re-entering her bedroom, she saw a bright glow coming through the window. About that time, her daughter woke up and came into the room awakened by the noise. They looked out of the window and saw a UFO hovering beside their house at the same level as the street light.. It was a 'saucer-shaped craft' emitting an orange, blinking light and making a sound like a loud heartbeat. It moved in a circular motion. Ann felt the thing was watching her. They lay down on the bed until the craft moved off into the distance and disappeared.

4th. April 1988. 8.45pm. Margaret Cunningham of Tiger Point was on her way home from a meeting when she saw something hovering over the golf course. It had very bright, white lights at either end and pulsating red lights from 'portholes'. She had binoculars and could see an indeterminate shape – definitely NOT a helicopter. There was no sound. She watched it for five minutes, then it slowly moved off below trees.

7th. April 1988. 8.30pm. 'Grandma' and Amy watched an object with *real bright lights which looked like a car with four big spotlights on it* on Highway 98 by 'Western Sizzlin'. It was 'like an airplane with a big circle in the middle with blue lights shooting out'. It flew over the car and lower down they saw a second object. The small one went down behind trees, then came up again. Both objects were 'travelling up and down and sideways'.

7th. April 1988. A male witness was driving towards Bay Bridge when he saw an object moving slowly towards Pensacola 100 feet up. It had three lights in a row – two dimmer ones on the outside and a bright one in the

middle. One dimmer one was below it. There was no noise. He watched the object move towards Cervantes Street and disappear.

7th. April 1988. 11.30pm. a Gulf Breeze stockbroker crossing Bay Bridge saw a small craft over the Bay flying in from the east. He came to the base of the bridge, pulled over to the left and got out. The object was triangular shaped and about fifteen feet long. As it neared the bridge, it glowed and hovered for a few seconds. The UFO was outlined in white lights with red and green ones at the centre, near which were two indentations. It turned and 'glided' back over the bay towards Pensacola making a 'tiny, low, aerodynamic sound'.

28th. April 1988. In the early morning a 57-year-old retired Air Force man – a local disabled veterans' President – was driving east on Highway 98 near his home when he saw an object 'half the size of a water tank' which paced his car for about 45 seconds till he reached his turn-off. Just above treetop level, 150 feet away, as he stopped to watch, so did the object. It then emitted a blue beam over the Highway behind him and, as well as the object itself, he could see the 'beam emitter' which seemed to be about four feet high with a pointed top and bottom like two faceted cones joined together and was apparently mounted on the side of the craft. Beam and craft seemed the same colour. He got back in his car, but as soon as he touched the accelerator the object 'blinked out' and disappeared.

8th. July 1988. A pathologist was getting ready for his early morning jog. On looking out over the Sound he saw what he first thought was a low-flying aircraft on collision course with his house. He woke his wife and they watched for five minutes as they saw an identical object to the one in the *Sentinel* hover low over the water without disturbing the surface: fringed portholes were clearly visible. After hovering two to three hundred feet away near the end of their pier, the object proceeded westwards and its lights gradually blended with those of a distant Navy base.

September 1988 8.07pm An anonymous witness saw two objects over Hardee's in downtown Gulf Breeze. She then proceeded east on Highway 98 until in front of Food World. Two objects were seen just over trees on woods behind the *Sentinel* office, heading towards the bay. Only the bottom of the first craft could be seen: three red lights on it lit up and winked out one after the other. The second craft then lit up all round at once. There were round portholes on the second one each with two lights, producing an orange glow. The lights were glowing from INSIDE the craft. The first was round and long – about four times the size of the second which looked like a child's top with a flat bottom. The second was immediately behind the first, almost as though being towed. There was no noise. The objects were then lost to view.

17th. March 1989 3.45pm. Letter from 'Astounded in Milton' (received later by the *Sentinel*) read:-

I have enclosed three photographs I took on the afternoon of 17.3.89 at about 3.45pm from the Garcon Point peninsula. Photos taken facing west with a Polaroid 600 camera. Three photos were taken in succession before the object departed to the west. It made no noise and climbed away like a rocket. I am a real estate agent wishing anonymity – also a retired F-4 pilot. P.S. My truck would not start for about five minutes after the object left and I noticed I had built up a pretty stout electric charge when I touched the door handle. Craft in the photos were too small to show up in newsprint.

The foregoing was a selection of reports made during the 'flap' period, which, as can be seen, was quite an extended one. In all, there were well over 100 reports from over 150 witnesses. For a town of around five thousand inhabitants this is pretty good going. Though I have mentioned Warminster, one should perhaps be wary of comparisons with British 'flaps' since the area covered by Gulf

Breeze is many times greater than a 'compact' British town with a similar population. That said, another comparison DOES spring to mind, namely the 'flap' in the Broad Haven area of South Wales in the 1970s – but with 'space-suited entities' substituted for photographs.

What is my own overall opinion?

Although I have made favourable references to Ed Walters, I have to say that some of Graham's comments were very much to the point. Whilst he agreed that there were two inescapable 'pro' facts - *the belief by intelligent and wholly responsible Ufologists that Ed was telling the truth and the supportive testimony given by ordinary people, residents in and around Gulf Breeze* - (also, of course, Ed had passed lie detector and similar tests), his points against included the following...

More independent analysis should have been conducted, perhaps by people having no connection with Ufology.

Despite the length of some witnesses' sightings, the only photos taken were those sent in anonymously and their anonymity *could* have been part of a deliberate plan of action to foster a hoax

Regarding the trip by Ed with *Sentinel* reporter Duane Cook, Graham wrote,

Did Ed mention physical pain to researchers before this meeting, or was this yet another experience worthy of news copy? Yet again, Ed takes a Polaroid photograph of an object, but Duane sees nothing of the UFO. She is, however, handily placed to see the object develop on the print, a factor repeated with other witnesses. We would be extremely interested to discover what precise route both Duane and Ed followed that day and who dictated the route to follow. By implication, could someone have been waiting out of sight of Duane, ready to partake in a prearranged exercise?

Graham goes on to ask,

On the 26th. February 1988, Ed takes more photos of a UFO and great publicity is given to the sealed camera. But were the same people present at this ceremony alongside Ed when the UFO was captured on film?

Another comment made refers to 7th. March 1988 when it was pointed out that Ed was given a brand new camera and a brand new roll of film yet only produced the one photograph. Why did he not take more? Also, ten days later, again Ed produced a UFO photo when having wandered away from a group of people, but all anyone saw were flashes. Several other points made by Graham were very apposite and I would just add one thing myself that I would like to have seen done by the MUFON investigators. Namely, for a comparison to have been made with the reports of those whose sightings were of craft similar to Ed's to see if they were all in the same general area, and a 'plan' to have been made of their trajectories and direction of movement to see if there might have been a common 'source'. It should also be borne in mind that – again as with Warminster – there were Armed Forces bases not that far distant with craft and operations that might have accounted for some of the reports.

I recall, also, my experiences with the 'hoaxed' Scoriton Mystery where four people were involved in the hoax. Is it possible that a similar number of people could have been so involved in the main Gulf Breeze events? That said, to this day, the source(s) of what happened at Gulf Breeze remain(s) an enigma.

* Obtainable from Lionel Beer, Spacelink Books, 115, Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2QY

Strange Places: A Few Seconds Behind Cotherstone

Gloria Dixon

The following events took place during the mid eighties just outside the village of Cotherstone in County Durham...

Tom, his wife Melanie (pseudonyms) and his parents rented a cottage near Cotherstone in County Durham. During their six-day summer holiday they experienced some very odd events.

They arrived at the cottage on a Saturday and by the Sunday there were unusual things occurring, beginning with noises that were occurring in their bedroom. The hot water tank was located in their bedroom and they wondered whether there were birds in the eaves and even thought of rats. However the noises Tom describes sounded to him like those of a pneumatic drill, which seemed to get louder and louder and he claims that the ceiling appeared to be moving.

Because of the constant noise and the fact they could not establish what was causing it they went to see the key-holder to the cottage, but he was of no assistance at all and could not explain the cause of the noise. The cottage had originally been an old farmhouse and was now two cottages.

During the week, they went for a walk down to the river, which flowed at the back of the farmhouse at the end of the field. Tom went on to describe some curious events during this walk on that summer's day. Both Tom and his wife had the powerful and extremely eerie sense of other people with them and they heard shuffling sounds and both felt 'out of sync' with things. They had walked down to the river and along the river bank and during that time could feel and hear 'shuffling sounds' reporting that the grass and undergrowth were moving as though people were walking with and around them and they had the impression there were about six people there, although no-one else was in sight. They commented that there was no wind or breeze of any kind that would have been

responsible for this movement in the grass and undergrowth. Melanie became upset and said to Tom, "We've got to go away."

As they approached a small footbridge Tom saw a figure cross over the bridge, which disappeared totally before his eyes. Tom stepped onto the bridge with Melanie calling to him to 'come back'. As he stepped onto the bridge he felt as though he was taking a step down and then another step into nothing as though his foot had gone through the ground. The shuffling noises continued directly alongside them.

Melanie was so very uncomfortable about these events that they headed back to the cottage and consequently she decided that any more walks in the area of the river bank were out of the question.

A culmination of these anomalous events occurred five days later on the Friday night before they were leaving the cottage.

Melanie had fallen asleep in the lounge on the couch, as she was extremely tired due to the fact she had been unable to sleep for the previous five nights. Tom was watching television when he noticed some disturbance on the television affecting the picture, which was fading. At this point the plug jumped out of the socket. He tried to awaken his wife, but could not do so. He went into the kitchen where the fridge plug also jumped out of the socket and the cable seemed to be moving around. The French windows began to rattle and he then became aware of something over the tree line at the back of the cottage (where the field and river were). He went outside and observed what he described as a 'thing moving very slowly over the tree line, like a metallic purple in colour, oval shaped and massive with a defining deep purple edge. It moved over the cottage - he does not recall any sound - and it appeared to recede as it moved towards Cotherstone and then disappeared. He describes half the horizon being blocked from his view. I questioned him as to whether this was a light rather than an object, but he was definite that this was an object with the purple colour emanating around the edge.

He felt that his observation time was about four to five minutes, but cannot be sure of this due to not checking the time before or after. He went from the back to the front of the cottage while he observed this and goes on to describe how he felt after seeing this object. His words to me were 'I felt absolute sadness', totally gutted - an empty feeling like dreaming on your feet'. At this point Melanie awoke coming out of her sleep to say 'I'm glad it was you, not me'. Tom did not understand why she said this and neither did Melanie.

One of the things that Tom emphasised during our conversation was that throughout the entire week they were at this cottage and indeed in the area, they both felt 'out of sync' with things as though they were a few seconds behind everything'. I asked him to describe this feeling more fully and he said 'it was like a plate of glass between us and everyone else'.

During the time they were there, they visited the local pub in the evenings just to get away from the cottage and I asked whether they tried to find any further information about the area and the cottage. However, Tom told me that the people didn't seem very friendly, so they did not discuss the events occurring at all as they didn't want to trigger any ridicule from anyone. According to Tom, Melanie had made the comment that it was as though the people they met were people they had known before.

I visited this area during the summer of this year (2004) and I will update this case in the future with some further information, having talked with the local historian there and visited the site of the cottage, which Tom and Melanie rented. I also walked along the footbridge and pathway where they observed the mysterious figure and received additional information about another very strange occurrence there involving a mist. This was in addition to gaining some insight into the history and local legends surrounding the area.

They did not report any of this to anyone. Melanie wanted to totally forget it and Tom searched the newspapers for quite a while after that to see if there had been any other reports or information, but nothing came to light at all.

Tom cannot remember a specific date or even year for these events, so this makes it all the more difficult to corroborate these experiences. The Barnard Castle case referred to earlier occurred in June of 1977 and involved a fuzzy hazy glow, which engulfed a sixteen year-old farm work riding his motorcycle late one night on the B6278 north of Barnard Castle in County Durham, near the village of Lartington. This glow appeared to be linked to a major power loss to his motorcycle in addition to causing physiological effects to the witness. Tom felt that the glow he observed at their cottage in Cotherstone was similar to one described by the witness at Barnard Castle. (See Time Storms, page 17-19) Coincidentally, the village of Cotherstone, lies to the north of Lartington and these villages are in very close proximity to one another.

Durham has generated some highly unusual reports and I have personally investigated several strange cases from Durham, one of which occurred near Brancepeth on the A690. This involved an observation of a very strange small figure very early in the morning of 2nd January 1995. The lady concerned was driving to work when she saw what she describes as a 'small leprechaun-sized man, yellow in colour with almond shaped eyes' appearing to climb the grass verge at the side of the road with a 'puppet-like action'. The lady slowed her car to walking pace where she was only yards aware from the figure and observed it walking sideways up the grass verge for a couple of minutes. She emphasises that this was not wildlife of any known kind and was stunned for several days by what she had seen. Subsequent calls to the police did not bring any further answers other than the usual jokes that this form of enquiry would bring. A colleague and myself spent several hours with the lady and her family as well as visiting the location of the sighting. A further update on this case will be documented in the near future, which involves a paramedic observing a strange small figure in the vicinity of the above case.

An interesting footnote to this report, is that in September of 1976, near Fence Houses, Durham, a lady and her granddaughter were walking from a friend's home and instead of taking the main footpath, they took a short-cut between the old

pit yard and the fire station, which took them on a path down towards Bournmoor. Across the road was the 'Floaters Mill' pub. She noticed a bus passing, but for some reason could not hear it. Half way along the path the lady observed a very strange translucent object, which was egg-shaped and appeared to be on ski runners (the original investigator has described these as being like the runners of a sledge). The lady approached it, as her terrified granddaughter ran off down the road calling for her grandmother to leave it alone. As the lady put her hand on it she described it as feeling warm. In seconds the translucency began to modify into a semi clear object in which she observed two very small figures, with long white hair and dark costumes and what she described as silvery gloves or hands. She then became aware of the sound of the bus revving its engine up the bank to Fencehouses and her granddaughter crying and shaking with fear. Jenny Randles has documented this case in several of her books and a few years ago I was contacted by the original BUFORA investigator, who sent me a report with details of his interview with the grandmother in the presence of her son. However the granddaughter was not interviewed, on the wishes of her father, who felt that it would be too upsetting for her to resurrect her bad memories of these experiences.

Meanwhile late one night in November of 1994, a man riding his motorcycle home from work after nightshift was travelling on the A688, near Spennymoor in Durham, when observed a strange light in the field to his left, which appeared to become brighter shining over the field and then illuminating the road in front of him and behind him. Upon arriving home he became aware that he was very uncomfortable and upon removing his clothes he realised he was covered from head to toe in a red sunburn-like rash, which surrounded the edge of lips but left the lips white. After one and half hours the rash disappeared. Investigation established that there was no police helicopter in the area at the time and neither were farmers using sodium lamps in the fields. The man concerned was convinced that the rash related to his sighting, but when a colleague and I visited him and the area of the sighting, we were unable to prove whether this was the case particularly as the man had not

sought medical advice regarding the rash, although his wife confirmed his claims.

I hope that this has illustrated some of the curious reports that BUFORA have received for the Durham area.

**NOTE : New venue for
London Lectures and AGM:
see AGM Notice on page 35 and the
back page for details.**

**AUGUST 19TH – 21ST -
CFZ Weird Weekend,
Exeter.**

BUFORA will be hosting a series of lectures and manning a stall in partnership with the Centre for Fortean Zoology.

More details later.

Call CFZ/BUFORA on 01392 424 811
for further information.

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FROM HERE AND THERE

SATURDAY JULY 16TH – BUFORA AGM.
NOTE: 1:30pm start (see notice on page 35)
followed by lecture by Stan and Richard Conway on “The Physics of UFOs: Breakthrough Propulsion”

Worldwide UFO reports still seem to be increasing. In recent weeks George Filer (who publishes the Filer Report) notes of a big increase in reports from Canada. From the data he has collected there seem to be concentrations around the Toronto, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia areas.

Prospects for finding at least primitive forms of life on Mars seem to have increased with the discovery of what appears to be an underground lake.

Paraquest Paranormal Conference 2005

Our first annual all day conference is due to take place on the 16th of April 2005 at the Freemasons Hall, Bridge Street Manchester.

Larry Warren

Larry was a serving US Airman at the American air base at Bentwaters in Suffolk and was an original eye witness to events that happened over the Christmas period of 1980 at Rendlesham Forest. A very unusual story of an actual UFO landing that became known in the press as Britain's Roswell and even led to questions on the subject being asked at the House of Commons.

John Spencer

John is a member of the Ghost Club and along with his wife Anne has published many best selling books on all subjects connected to the paranormal. John has also been an investigator for many years and will recall some of the cases of Ghosts and Poltergeist that he has come across.

Gary Heseltine

Gary is a serving Police Officer and formed PRUFOS (Police reporting UFO's) to record the many sightings that are reported by Police

Officers in the line of their duties. Gary will deliver a talk on some of the local reports that have been submitted by members of the Greater Manchester Police force.

We are also due to have speakers on the hidden chambers of the Great Pyramid, ghost investigation techniques along with equipment demonstrations and a live ESP experiment.

For further details email
paraquest@paraquest.org.uk

or visit our website at paraquest.org.uk

TEMS Travel and Earth Mysteries Society (Founded 1992)

The Travel and Earth Mysteries Society is for people with an enquiring mind and an interest in unexplained phenomena and historical arm of study loosely labelled earth mysteries.

A programme of speakers, social events and field trips is arranged covering

The Society is non-profit, non-political and non-sectarian. For 2003, the subscription is f,8.00. This goes towards calls and correspondence in connection with producing and posting the programme, and publishing TEMS NEWS.

For a copy of the programme or further information, please contact:

Ann Hopkins: 020-8542 3110
Lionel Beer: 020-8979 3148

Co-ordinator: 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2QY.

Overdue Response to the 'Implant' Investigation by Dr. Blackmore.

The Other Side of the 'Alien Tooth Filling'

by James Basil © 2003

Some of you may have heard about the alleged alien implant from my mouth, others not, but due to recent queries I have decided to write the following. I hope you are one of those who can find it in you to understand. Others, no doubt, will attack me on a purely intellectual, even "scientific" basis, without interest in my emotional experience.

The implant analysis was something that I never really got around to setting the record straight on. Of course, the truth is always a little more complicated than it is at first presented. Let me explain MY side of the story then, and for the first time it seems...

The story was presented by Dr. Blackmore as if "James is 100% sure he has the proof...but oops he hasn't, he was wrong, it was just a tooth filling." Although I DID send a reply to UFO Mag, I heard nothing more back from them (as per usual) and because life got worse for me, not better (contrary to another article Blackmore wrote, I did not sigh a sigh of relief and conclude "I was wrong after all") and because I thought no-one would ever listen to me again because I was "wrong", I gave up trying...

UFO Mag Article:
<http://www.susanblackmore.co.uk/journalism/uf97.html>

UWE Uni Article:
<http://www.uwe.ac.uk/fas/wavelength/wave18/blackmor.html>

And:
<http://www.susanblackmore.co.uk/Chapters/Kurtz.htm>

Understand that leading up before this happened, no-one was already listening to me. And it was this, and other factors, that led to the 'implant' situation in the first place. I had tried various "experts" including Tony Dodd but this was no help whatsoever. He always seemed irritated by my telephone calls and said, "I'd never consider hypnosis for anyone under the age of 18." I had more luck when I came across Maria Ward (on my own) who was very helpful and positive indeed for me, but then she "disappeared" all of a sudden and lived far from me anyway (I live in Bristol, she lived in Dartford). That, in itself, made matters worse - losing my only support. Worse still, at around about the same time, the Andrews family (whom I had been put in contact with, via Maria) also "disappeared" and thus I was left, it seemed, all on my own, isolated. You must understand that apart from them no-one else seemed to believe or understand me, not even my family or friends. :o(I desperately tried to get help again...

I went back to the psychiatrists convinced I must be schizophrenic because of previous tests they had done, tablets they had given, and reports (some I have) which they had written. But they assured me, at twenty years of age, my "schizophrenia" should be getting worse than ever...not "better." And so I was told I was "normal" and to meet other experiencers like me! I went to Jenny Randles for help but she was just as busy and involved in investigation as Tony Dodd had been. After many desperate months and many letters later, as well as many phone-calls only to be told "She is away" (again) ... I received a letter from her saying Moyshee Kalmann, a psychotherapist who had written a book with Peter Hough and who, she

claimed, was "sympathetic" and "open minded," was willing to see me in Manchester at little or no cost. This seemed a God-send, but imagine how upset I was when he simply said that he thought most cases of abduction were "screen memories" or "masks" for ordinary events or child abuse. So I asked him, "How many times, when you have worked with abductees, have you managed to discover what you believe is the truth of their experiences, i.e. child abuse?" He replied, to my utter disbelief, "Well, never." Already I was unsure if I wanted HIM to help me, and so when he said he would send me a list of hypno-analysts I could contact I did little complaining!

I recieved the list and tried one of the hypno-analysts in Bristol, and yet he came across sceptical of my story - thinking there was some "other reason" but he would try anyway - and then he told me that his cost was £50 per session. Dismayed at the difficulties I had had, I slipped further into my depression... More and more so, I became angry at the visitors forever getting me involved, and more and more frustrated at the lack of evidence. In fact I would have given my right eye, so to speak, for evidence to convince people I was "for real" and thus convince them to help me. Understand, this was my mind set at the time. And, of course, I had heard of "alien implants" though I had no knowledge of having one myself... To be honest, though there were many parallels between my experience and other abductees, awareness of an implant being put in me was not one of my memories (note: I have also not been hypnotised, and though I have enough memories to write the book I am writing, I still have many gaps; I would say 50% recall, at an estimate).

Thus, when one of my sisters proclaimed, quite seriously, that she had found a "strange metal thing" in the ROOF of her mouth, and which she had removed, I of course wondered if this might be the evidence I was looking for? I was nowhere near sure, but i thought it (and this is important) "JUST MIGHT BE."

Moreover, the "what if?" factor was too much to bear. I decided that, even if this wasn't an implant, what use was it thrown away...in other words, what if it WAS? I COULD be sitting on hard evidence and to do nothing about it would be anethema.

So, then, I was under little illusion that I had "definite proof." I went, firstly, to a UFO researcher - Harry Harris - who was also a solicitor, and he said that it was the property of my sister and that "really it should be down to her". But I said that she wanted nothing more to do with it and that she had allowed me to take it for analysis "In case it might be an implant." Well, he asked me to send it by recorded delivery and of course I declined, and that was as far as it went, really. Another time some "researcher" had written a letter to me and brought round his "microscope"... you know, one of those toy thingies which wasn't really much cop! He, and then a more professional researcher John Hansen (a policeman), did some enquiries at Universities, but nothing was readily forthcoming.

Then, during my Media course, I decided to do an interview with Dr. Susan Blackmore. I wondered if she might take up the offer if I told her I was an abductee and that I had removed an alien implant...not from my sister's mouth but my own. Why the change in story? Because I was by now SO desperate for help that the implant seemed the only hope (the "ticket," so to speak) that I had. And, I theorised, that after what Harry Harris had said to me, as well as some others, about whether my sister had been abducted and if not well why did she have an implant and not me (in other words they expressed scepticism), I thus decided to tell a 'white lie' so that hopefully someone would TAKE NOTICE! And Dr. Blackmore did.

But as you know the "implant" turned out to be nothing more than dental amalgam, tin and silver. Before I end this story, for there is little more to say, remember the following things:

a). I had the implant tested out of desperation to get evidence (the motive being help of some kind) Sad and Ironic that, seeing as nothing transpired but articles saying I thought I had an alien implant but it was just a filling! I also had it tested "just in case it MIGHT be an implant..." in the service of science and humanity

b). Most of all, I was a confused, desperate, and very young abductee who also experienced a whole host of other problems in relation to my abduction experiences (including maltreatment by psychiatrists, poor response from UFOlogy, bullying at school, "ADHD," depression, and, I believe, "institutionalisation" in the sense that I had spent so much time with psychiatrists being told, effectively, that I was abnormal and thus was wary of the everyday world. I had developed some kind of dependency because of the constant visits).

c). This is an example of what can happen when abductees are not being helped properly.

All I wanted was for other people to swallow their pride about what was "right" or "real" - open their minds - and help me with unconditional positive regard, to cope with my experiences "as real." Denial was never an option although I tried it many times, and although the "experts" tried to force this via various methods, from the close-minded to the almost criminal, i.e. telling me "It's just not real" to giving me anti-psychotics which led to further depression and even fits.

The outcome was not the one I wanted, and I spent many more years confused and depressed (indeed it is an understatement to say I went through the "dark night of my soul") but at least today, by working through the experiences myself and finding people who believe and accept, I can now say I am happy to be alive.

I fully apologise to all those I unintentionally misled over the years. I hope you can

understand it was unintentional and that I can be forgiven.

Shalom,

James

THANKS due to Dr. Blackmore for investigating the 'implant' and also to David Patton for allowing use of the equipment at the University of the West of England. This kind of co-operation between science and UFOlogy is of course essential if we are ever to progress further in our knowledge of unusual phenomena like alien abduction. The positive side of this so-called "negative" result for the world of abductology is that we know the means is there for us to test similar implants in future. All we have to do now is locate and acquire them.

NOTE: When the scientist placed the implant in the machine he told me, "There's a little contamination on these tweasers because I was using them on a sample of tin earlier, but I doubt it will make much difference." Of course I didn't argue with him at this, I considered him to be the expert, but looking back is that really the way you treat a possible alien artifact? What if you DID (as unlikely as it is) make a mistake? Moreover, if this was the other way around, if it was an alien researcher allowing some oversight like this, the sceptics would later POINT IT OUT scathingly. Note I am NOT saying this "explains away" their "dental amalgam" results.

<http://groups.msn.com/indigosuk>

<http://groups.msn.com/fretsa4witnesses>

VISIT TO RENDLESHAM FOREST

DOREEN JENKINSON

(An alternative account of the recent
BUFORA trip to Rendlesham...ED)

On 14th August 2004, I joined a group on a journey through time to Rendlesham Forest in Ipswich where, 24 years ago, there had been multiple UFO sightings. We were privileged to have Larry Warren, an ex-US military personnel who was actually called to investigate at that time, to be our speaker and leader on a "guided tour" of the forest along the famous UFO route.

From what I recall from Larry's talk, it was just over 24 years ago, that "Top Secret" nuclear weapons, unknown to our own government, were being housed at US military bases at Woodbridge and Bentwater, close to Rendlesham Forest. Subsequent to an event on 27th December 1980, this area became dubbed England's "Roswell" following UFO sightings by 40 witnesses including civilians living around the area and military officers. An alert went out as military personnel were ordered to investigate "unusual lights" in the forest. A UFO had crashed taking off part of a tall pine tree. The officers described the atmosphere as being electric, which they felt on their skin and clothing and sightings of three "creatures" were seen leaving a craft. For 3 nights UFO lights were observed in the forest and on one occasion appeared over a military area where the nuclear weapons were stored. Larry described a "laser beam" being directed from the UFO into the storeroom which later revealed 10 nuclear missiles were disabled.

Since that day, many UFO skywatchers visit the area, spending nights in the forest. There have been umpteen reports of orbs of light, fairies and nature spirits seen by watchers over the last 24 years and the feeling of "being watched" – a feeling which I, too, shared.

I, like many others, took my camera to try to capture something of the event. On my camera I had a special interference photography filter fitted to a daylight filter. This filter was developed by the physicist inventor of Polycontrast Interference Photography, used to interfere with light patterns to look at the human energy field, basically as a diagnostic tool to detect disease. It was during one of his diagnostic sessions that something else appeared in the energy field of his client, that of a "ghost". As an experiment, he attached a similar filter to an old-fashioned box camera and went along to the Tower of London where the film picked up numerous ghost-like images and scenes (which were no longer there). It was with this same filter attached to my SLR camera on a manual setting, in fading daylight as night was drawing near, that I took an image of the group as they gathered around Larry Warren at the site of the tall pine tree that had been struck by the UFO 24 years earlier. Through the viewfinder I could see coloured energies gathering around the group. I had no idea what I was capturing until I had the film developed. I felt this film may be of significance bearing in mind the filter I used was not a "normal" filter. I do not think it is lens flare as I had seen these energies developing around the group before I released the shutter. I would therefore wish to share this image with you which I believe shows a beautiful spirit form – the "watcher" of Rendlesham Forest! Or is this just my imagination!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BUFORA LTD.

The Thirty-First Annual General Meeting of BUFORA Ltd. will be held at 1:30pm at the THE CITY TAVERN : 29-30 Lawrence Lane, Trump Street, London, EC2V 8DF on SATURDAY 16th July 2005 to receive the Chairman's Report, the Report of the Council of Management, the Accounts of the Treasurer, and to appoint the Auditor according to the Articles of the Association.

Signed on behalf of the Council of Management

Judith Jaafar, Chairman, 1st December 2004

NOTE:

Please note that a Member entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy who need not be a member of the Company to attend and vote in his or her stead. Instruments of proxy must be lodged at the Company's registered address, Bufora Ltd., 15 Holne Court, Exwick, Exeter, Devon, EX4 2NA not less than forty-eight hours before the time appointed for the meeting. Members wishing to nominate persons for election to the Council of Management shall give to the Secretary such nominations in writing at the registered address, signed by the person proposed, stating their willingness to be elected, not less than four, nor more than twenty-eight clear days before the time appointed for the meeting in accordance with Section 52 of the Articles of Association. Nominations must show clearly the name of both the proposer and seconder .

Whilst visitors are welcome to attend the following lecture, only members of the Association in good standing and accredited proxies may attend and vote at the AGM. Only members in good standing may nominate or be nominated as members of the Council of Management or propose resolutions. Please bring membership cards as this will speed checking against the current membership list.

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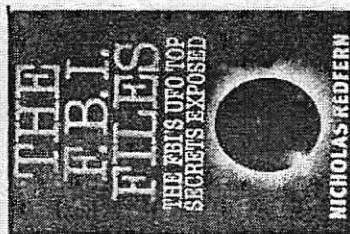
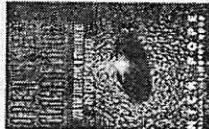
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About BUFORA

BUFORA was founded in 1962, as a federation of regional UFO groups throughout the UK. Many of these groups were formed in the 1950s. These included the British Flying Saucer Bureau, founded in 1952 (which is believed to be the UK's oldest UFO group), and the London UFO Research Organisation formed in 1959 and the largest UK organisation at the time. In 1962 the group was known as the British UFO Association, changing its name in 1964 to the present British UFO Research Association. BUFORA became a company limited by guarantee in 1975. This means that in the event of BUFORA being wound up each members undertaking to cover any outstanding debts is limited to £1. It was intended to be a prelude to seeking charity status. BUFORA is registered under the U.K. Data Protection Act, and amongst other things membership records are held on a computer database. (It is the policy of BUFORA NOT to release membership records to third parties.)

BUFORA is run entirely by volunteers, relying solely on its members to fund and carry out its investigation, research and educational activities. The day to day running of BUFORA is in the hands of a Council of Management drawn from the members.

Membership of BUFORA is open to all who support the aims of the association, and whose application is approved by the Council of Management.

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AIMS OF BUFORA

The three aims of BUFORA are:-

- To encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena throughout the United Kingdom
- To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to unidentified flying objects
- To co-ordinate UFO research throughout the United Kingdom and to co-operate with others engaged in such research throughout the world.

ACTIVITIES OF BUFORA

BUFORA organises a regular programme of lectures on a variety of UFO related topics. As dates, times and locations can vary it is best to enquire about the current programme.

Members receive free of charge, six issues per year, of its regular publication 'New Bufora Journal', which carries details of investigated reports and results of research projects.

BUFORA operates the 'UFOCALL' information service which carries information about reports and updates on events (phone: 09068 121 886; Charge, currently 60p per minute.) These pre-recorded messages are updated regularly.

PUBLICATIONS OF BUFORA

Details of publications currently available (including back issues of Journals) can be obtained from the registered office (enclose S.A.E. please).

Some BUFORA publications are also available through Spacelink Books, 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, TW12 2QY England



**BUFORA
LONDON
LECTURES
2005**

The British UFO Research Association is pleased to present a new series of bi-monthly lectures for 2005.

As of Saturday 14th May 2005, the BUFORA London lectures will be held at a new venue:

THE CITY TAVERN : 29-30 Lawrence Lane, Trump Street, London, EC2V 8DF. Tel: 020 7606 2373.

The City Tavern is located on Trump Street, off King Street, Cheapside. The nearest Tubes are St.Paul's and Bank at either end of Cheapside, and are both only a few minutes' walk. Cannon St. overground rail station is nearby. Parking on local streets is free after 1.30pm Saturdays.

Tickets, which can be purchased at the door and include a mid-lecture buffet, are £5 for members, and £7 for all others. Meetings will start at the new time of 2.30pm, and finish by 5.30pm. The bar and kitchen will be open throughout, and meals may be had in the evening after the lecture.

SAT MAY 14TH – Dr. Gail-Nina Anderson, “Vampires”

Gail-Nina Anderson is an art historian, specialising in the late Victorian period

"Despite a fairly academic outlook on life, I'm drawn to those fields of awareness that we cover by words such as folklore and superstition - the areas where unlikely imagery seeps into the mind by unofficial routes and takes root there, developing its own logic and history. Being attracted to shadowy men in black cloaks rather than shiny-suited aliens, I've ended up a vampirologist and not a UFO researcher, but in a way I'm dealing with the same basic concept of examining the construction of an idea.. Like the UFO, the vampire as it appears in popular culture is a construct that may have little to do with the reality of the subject. I don't promise to uncover the truth, but I can guarantee the fun of examining its wrappings."

JULY 16TH - AGM. NOTE: 1:30pm start (see notice on page 35) followed by
Stan and Richard Conway, “The Physics of UFOs: Breakthrough Propulsion”

SEPT 10TH – Andy Roberts, “British Saucer Cults and Contactees of the 1950s”

NOV 12TH – Philip Gardiner and Gary Osborn, “The Serpent Grail”

The above is a provisional listing at the moment and may be subject to change. Please check the website and Journal for updates, or use the contact information below.

AUGUST 19TH – 21ST - CFZ Weird Weekend, Exeter. See p 29.

For more, or updated information on any of these London lectures, call Judy Jaafar on 020 8998 4936, email: judy@gaia66.freeserve.co.uk or email John Wickham on jwufos@aol.com

BUFORA cannot be held responsible for a speaker cancelling, but should this occur, we will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative lecturer. Views expressed by any speaker are his/hers alone, and do not necessarily reflect the views of BUFORA, nor any individual director of BUFORA Ltd.

Enquiries to BUFORA, including membership enquiries and sighting reports should be directed to BM BUFORA, London WC1N 3XX or email: enquiries@bufora.org.uk Web address: www.bufora.org.uk