

BUFORA BULLETIN

Journal of the British UFO Research Association



In This Issue :

**Is this pub at the centre of UFO activity?
Will the World end before the next issue of the Bulletin?**

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Officers and Council Members 1999-2000

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CONTENTS

Editorial	3
UFOs & Light Phenomena Steve Gamble	4
The Harston Affair Norman Oliver	5
July 1999 – Alien Invasion? Nabil Shaban	8
Broadcaster Hughie Green & UFOs Nabil Shaban & Steve Gamble	11
Countryfile Brian James	14
Readers Write	16
Teeside UFO Gloria Dixon	19
Skywatching	24
Lectures	28

I am interested in purchasing old UFO books and magazines. Any reasonable offer considered.

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EDITORIAL

Just over a year ago we relaunched the BUFORA Bulletin, with the idea that it would be something that could be produced simply but regularly. I edited the first few editions but in order to spread the load I handed over the editorship to Robert Moore from September 1998. The combined efforts of Robert on the editorial side and Arnold West on the production side have kept the Bulletin on track. Everybody's thanks should be given to them for this effort.

Unexpectedly I am back in the editorial seat. This has happened a little earlier than anticipated, hence the few days delay in producing this edition. I have ideas of my own about the direction the Bulletin should take and these should unfold in the next few issues.

Thank you for the members at the AGM who made comments about the content of the Bulletin, layout and the direction they would like to see things go. I will try to take on-board as many of your comments as possible.

Steve Gamble

As we closed for press we heard of the unfortunate deaths of vice-president Graham Knewstubb and former treasurer Wilf Grunau. Full obituaries will be carried in next couple of issues.

UFOs and LIGHT PHENOMENA

Steve Gamble

If we eliminate reports with insufficient data and reports that concern other paranormal phenomena than UFOs, about 60% of all incoming UFO reports refer to strange lights seen in the sky.

My personal opinion is that unexplained UFO reports break down into two broad categories. The first is the Close Encounter Experiencers, Abductees, Contactees. These only make up a small proportion of the raw UFO reports but seem to get 99% of the media coverage. The other unexplained reports are the unexplained strange light phenomena. I think that these are physical phenomena which can be subjected to scientific investigation.

In around 1990 researcher Hilary Evans started the BOLIDE project - Ball Of Light Information Data Exchange - to collect information about these Ball Of Light (BOL) UFOs. The project was later taken over by Robert Moore on behalf of BUFORA's research section. In August 1997 the BUFORA Research section published a report on the BOL phenomena - The BOLIDE Report.

There are a number of places throughout the world where these light phenomena are seen on repeated occasions. The east midlands of Eng-

land have at least two of these places. It is possible after further investigation that these light phenomena will turn out to be either a rare or a previously unidentified natural phenomenon. It is important to note that not all reports from these areas are unexplainable, they have their share of misidentifications too.

One of these places is the area around Little and Great Houghton in Northamptonshire. This is being followed up with the local group, the Northampton UFO Research Centre (NUFORC). The other place is the area around Harston in South Cambridgeshire. The original investigations were carried out here by Norman Oliver who published his results in the BUFORA Journal (Vol 9, No 1, March 1980, pp21-23). That article is reproduced opposite. There have been a number of reports from the area since. This area is under investigation by BUFORA in association with the local group the Cambridge UFO Group (CUFOG).

This is an on-going study and hopefully fresh results will appear which can be added to the results of the BOLIDE Project. If new information is forthcoming then updates will be published in the Bulletin. I have started a small website where some of the data already gathered is being made available. For those that have access to the web the url is:

[//dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/el82/lights.htm](http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/el82/lights.htm)

The Harston Affair

Norman Oliver

A rather misleading title, perhaps, since there was more than one incident and not all were at Harston! It began one morning last December whilst I was looking at a report form from investigator D Stonard of a two-coach train 'seen at night between Wells and Cromer in Norfolk, by PC Robert Warren in October 1966. The only snags were that there was no railway and no bridge existed where the train had crossed the road.

At this point my phone rang, and by an extraordinary coincidence, the first thing I was told about was a sighting of a two-coach train without railway or bridge! Other incidents were referred to as well, and since I was shortly to be in the general area - Harston, near Cambridge - it was agreed with NIC and RIC that I should check the reports out.

Basically, these centred around an Inn, the Old English Gentleman, (see front cover) at Harston, a village on the A10 some 5 miles from Cambridge, and its landlord, Michael Bradford. In the course of enquiries a large number of reports came to light, but basically, there were the following four incidents:-

Incident A

This took place on an overcast, windy night in December 1978. Mr Brad-

ford had 'put the dog out' at 1.30 am and had noticed a 'star' to the south: this grew brighter, moved to his left, hovered, then went down at 45' behind trees 2 to 3 miles away near the village of Newton. Witness took his car and drove in the direction of the 'star's' descent. Just before Newton was reached he observed an orange glow in a stubble field to his left, and, reversing the car, got out and went through a gap in the hedge. Some 150 yards distant across the field, were two pulsating orange lights: these were 25 to 30 feet apart and about 6 feet above ground level, and as one grew brighter, the other dimmed and vice versa.

After a few moments, witness began to walk towards them, but had only gone one or two paces when a very bright white light, comparable in brightness to a 150w bulb, jumped almost from under his feet. Like a tennis ball in appearance, it reached a height of about 6 feet, then zigzagged towards the orange lights, disappearing between them. It was followed over a period of several minutes by about 10 other white balls from various points in the field and surrounding hedges and trees, all performing similar manoeuvres and disappearing between the orange lights.

After a 'straggler' appeared about 15 feet above the ground, witness drove home and returned with his wife, Gwen. The orange lights now seemed like the front of a mouth organ - an orange round rim with downward di-

visions (no actual shape was discernible around the lights)-and were duller, no longer pulsating. One white ball then came from the top of a tree, disappearing as before. Witnesses then returned home, the lights still there, but revisited the field the next day to estimate distances, etc.

Incident B
(BUFORA Case 197900153)

On 1 October 1979, Mr and Mrs Bradford were driving along the B1368 towards Barley, about 10 miles from Harston at about 8.15 pm. Shortly after crossing the Cambs/Herts border they stopped, and between 1 and 'mile ahead of them at about eye level (the road beyond them dipped), slightly to their right, they saw what appeared to be a two-coach train. This passed in front of them as though crossing a bridge over the road and continued on in a west-east direction for a short while, finally being lost to view behind trees and an embankment, but there was no railway and no bridge!

They heard no sound (Mr Bradford was outside the car, his wife inside). The 'train' moved at about 30 mph and had an estimated length of 100feet. 'Windows' were comparatively large, taking up most of the height of the side of the 'carriages': these 'windows' were regularly spaced, but no definite outline of the 'train' could be made out. The object was in view for about a minute altogether, and three cars passed by the

witnesses at speed during this time, but none stopped.

Incident C
(BUFORA Case 197900154)

About half-a-dozen people outside the Old English Gentleman at app 8.15pm on 29 November 1979 'observed a' steady shape 'an near on a course that

was thought to be a plane, but as it flew over, it was completely silent and moving very slowly-possibly as little as 25-30 mph. The craft had 'a sort of boomerang shape'-no fuselage or tail. It was 'very low down' and had the bulk of a large plane. Steady green and red lights were near the wingtips as also was a very bright white light which did not, however, seem to emit a beam: these lights appeared to cover the complete 'depth' of the craft's leading edge. Duration of the sighting was 11 to 2 minutes, during which time the object moved from south to north. Other groups of people were watching lower down the road and the craft was also reported above Cambridge.

Incident D
(BUFORA Case 17900155)

This took place roughly three quarters of an hour after the 'boomerang' object had been seen. A phone call was made to Mr Bradford by a Foxton resident (Foxton is about 4 miles away)to say another object was heading in their direction, so a number of people went to the rear of the Old

English Gentleman to watch. As it came into view, it appeared like a 'railway carriage' or a 'double-decker bus,' with illuminated windows: these were oblong, narrower at the top than the bottom and had thin 'struts' between them. Witnesses also believed a further set of lights continued around underneath, but again the object was very low down and most witnesses had more or less a side view. An estimated 100 feet in length, this object, too, was noiseless. Also slow-moving, it had a very bright white light at the front and a white light a little higher, at the rear. The police were called but arrived too late to see anything.

With the kind co-operation of Paul Markillie, science correspondent of the Cambridge Independent, it was established that:

Cambridge police had reported no local flying over the area that night—there were no flights in or out of Marshall's Airport, Cambridge. Mildenhall USAF said that units from Lakenheath and Alconbury were on a night exercise and it was possible they could have been over the area between 6 pm to 9pm, but no lights other than navigation lights would have been used. The aircraft would have been flying low, but not so low as the objects reported: nor would they have been noiseless.

RAF Honington, Met Office said that it was a clear night. The evening had been one of considerable atmospheric interference due to temperature inver-

sion and this had caused radio and TV interference. However, it was unlikely that this would account for any visual phenomenon.

Dr David Dewhirst of the Cambridge University Institute of Astronomy took the reports seriously, adding that astronomers were probably less likely to see things in the sky since they would be concentrating on particular distant objects.

Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory stated that so far as UFO reports are concerned, they pick up radio spectra from the outer fringes of the universe, and with a focus at this distance, they are unlikely ever to pick up anything of this nature.

A review of the Harston cases in the Cambridge Evening News in March 1998 brought forward some new witnesses to strange light phenomena in the area from the 1979 and 1980 period. Unfortunately the new reports which were from different locations did not match any of the reports quoted in Norman's article. Still they provided useful additional data.

John Ryder of CUFOG has been working on these reports has come up with a suggestion that under certain conditions the Harston area can be prone to mirages caused by trapped pockets of air. This needs to be followed up further.

July 1999 - Alien Invasion? Or a Giant Meteor? Or just another empty Prophecy?

Nabil Shaban

(Many UFO Close Encounter Experiencers have deep interest in other mysteries. A number of them have expressed interest in the works of Nostradamus, feeling in some way these to be connected to their experiences. Nabil Shaban explores one of these prophecies)

Nostradamus, rarely for him, is very specific about the date July 1999, where he warns of the Great King of Terror coming from the skies. One reading of this quatrain is that this Terror is the King of the Mongols – but another interpretation is that in his vision, Nostradamus, is seeing a "Grey", the oriental looking Alien, which he mistakes for a Mongolian....

The Fatima Prophecies, however, predict a huge meteor striking the earth sometime between June 30 and the first week of July 1999. So which is it - a massive UFO invasion or meteor? Did Nostradamus see a meteor but misinterpret it? Or did the Fatima prophecy mistake a giant alien spacecraft for a meteor? Anyone seeing the Hollywood movie "Independence Day" (which incidentally is

set in July) could understand how the two awesome sky-borne images, UFO and meteor, could be confused to the uninitiated.

I first became interested in the month of July when I read this particular Nostradamus prediction. Then I learned that the ancient Egyptians venerated July because of it being the month when the star Sirius rose with the sun, heralding the flooding of the Nile. Sirius was also worshipped because of its association with Isis, and with the idea of healing, resurrection, renewal and transformation. Sirius was the symbol of change through knowledge and enlightenment. Amongst many ancient peoples around the world, Sirius was said to be the home of Teachers and Pathfinders. Man is said to have been instructed in the arts, science and maths by aliens from Sirius. The symbol of Sirius is the 5 pointed star, a pentacle - the sign of Occult knowledge and divinatory arts. Sirius is known as the Morning Star, which as a 5 pointed has become the symbol of Revolution.

So, do the Prophecies tell us that July 1999 will be a time of cataclysmic change - either brought on by worldwide Extraterrestrial contact or a meteor catastrophe? Since July seems to be the month of Sirius, and Sirius is where UFO folklore places the origins of our visiting/interventionist aliens, I wondered whether July had more than its fair share of UFO sightings. It may be significant that the alleged "Roswell Crash" occurred in July.

Consequently, I looked at some statistics. As expected, I found that data from the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC), from the CIA "flying saucer" statistics and my own survey of air pilots' stories of UFOs, showed that the month of July had consistently above average number of UFO reports.

CIA Statistics
(I've only obtained 1947 and 1964 so far)

	1947	1964
Jan	02	17
Feb	02	23
Mar	02	19
April	03	42
May	03	81
June	20	23
July	40	109
Aug	10	83
Sept	08	35
Oct	09	23
Nov	06	44
Dec	10	12
	----	----
	115	511

(data taken from the CIA UFO Website)

In the CIA data, July has the most number of reports e.g. in 1947 (the year it all began) with 40 reports - a hundred percent more than that year's second leading month - and 1964 with 109 reports - 25 percent ahead of the 2nd leading month.

Number of times a Month has highest

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number of NUFORC Reportings in a year

Jan	00
Feb	00
Mar	01
April	01
May	01
June	17
July	15
Aug	05
Sept	01
Oct	03
Nov	00
Dec	02

The NUFORC data covering the years from 1965 to 1998 shows July in the 2nd lead with November with the most.

NUFORC (1965 to 1998)

	Total
Jan	118
Feb	130
March	235
April	188
May	197
June	283
July	343
Aug	241
Sept	302
Oct	323
Nov	344
Dec	277

	2678

The CIA specialist examining the UFO monthly pattern for 1949 wondered whether

any midsummer madness was involved? Or whether asteroids were prominent in that season. Also, it occurs to me that what July and November have in common, in Britain and USA, they are times of a greater number of firework displays e.g. Britain's November 5th - Guy Fawkes' Night, and Yanks' July 4th - Independence Day, and November's Thanksgiving Day. Could the excess in UFO reports for those two outstanding months be mis-identified firework rockets?

However, in my own data base, July does not feature so prominently, it only comes 5th in the league table, behind August, September, October with November again in front. In fact, in my survey of pilots' "encounters", there is more of an even spread, which could be a factor of pilots being better trained observers and therefore

Pilots' UFO Project Monthly Numbers
(113 entries)

		Rank
Jan	6	7
Feb	8	5
Mar	6	7
April	0	9
May	7	6
June	9	4
July	8	5
Aug	10	3
Sept	10	3
Oct	13	2
Nov	16	1
Dec	4	8

less likely to be confused by seasonal meteor showers or fireworks.

I must add, though, that my sample is much smaller, of course, than the CIA's or NUFORC's, so any seasonal or monthly variation may not become significantly apparent until my data base contains over a thousand reports.

Anyway, why on earth should July be a better month for the passage of Flying Saucers? Can Sirius Rising be seriously considered a reason? Certainly, in astrological terms, celestial objects on the horizon are said to have the greater influence, and there is an increased cosmic interference with radio waves when the Sun is just rising and setting. Are there rhythms in electro-magnetic or geo-aura forces which have a seasonal periodicity that render some months to be more conducive for UFO appearances/flights than others? Lets face it, boats and planes try to avoid adverse weather conditions - may be there are more subtle conditions we are not aware of but which UFOs are sensitive to. Of course, this is all pure speculation based on half-baked ideas, incomplete data and New Age Folklore. However, the question of whether July 1999 will be a globally significant time of Doom and/or Bloom, we've barely three months to know the answer. If July passes without Nostradamus-type incident, then I will forever turn my back on his so-called prognostications.

Broadcaster Hughie Green & Alleged UFO Crashes

Nabil Shaban (with additional notes by Steve Gamble)

Introduction - Steve Gamble

The following pages describe part of a project carried out on behalf of the Research Section of BUFORA by Nabil Shaban. Nabil is a key member of BUFORA's Research Committee and has worked on a number of different projects. The current study was initiated during my period of officer as Director of Research.

Many researchers are interested in physical evidence of UFO phenomena, and potential the most interesting data could be extracted from the very small number of reports that describe the recovery of crashed craft. Probably the most famous of these crash retrieval reports is the Roswell Incident. Allegedly material was recovered by the US Air Force from a crash near the town of Roswell in New Mexico. The alleged crash is thought to have occurred on or about 2nd July 1947.

In their book "The Roswell Incident" (Granada Publishing Ltd, St Albans, Herts., 1980 [ISBN: 0 246 11384 7], Pages 48-49), Charles Berlitz and William Moore reproduce a report from broadcaster Hughie Green

that whilst travelling across the United States in 1947 he heard reports on the car radio that the US Army (in 1947 the US Air Force was a branch of the Army) were moving in to recover material from a crashed flying saucer. When he arrived at his destination Hughie says that the story had disappeared from the radio broadcasts and he could find out nothing more about it. Berlitz and Moore believe that what Hughie heard was a report of the Roswell Incident.

Over recent years a great deal of interest had been generated in the reports of crashed flying saucers and the BUFORA research committee set up a team in late 1994 to investigate these reports. One aspect of the work involved tracking down UK based witnesses to alleged saucer crashes and this was undertaken by a member of the committee, Nabil Shaban.

During 1995 a video producer called Ray Santilli presented to the world video material which he said was taken from 16mm film produced by the US military of the 1947 Roswell recovery. In addition to the video material he presented a written interview with the cameraman. In the interview the cameraman stated that he had traveled to New Mexico in June 1947 to film the wreckage. This was at odds with the July date the Roswell investigators believed.

Shortly after, I acquired a copy of the article about Hughie Green in the first

issue of the Flying Saucer Review. This quoted that Hughie heard the radio broadcast in June 1947, so was the cameraman right and Berlitz and Moore wrong? Contacting Hughie now became a higher priority.

From Nabil's correspondence with Hughie it seems that the June 1947 date is correct for what Hughie heard on the radio. However, Hughie states that he was back in Europe at the time of the Roswell incident (which was widely reported at the time in newspapers worldwide). He believes that the report he heard concerns an incident Tucumcari which is in north-east New Mexico probably over 100 miles away from Corona (one alleged crash site) or Roswell.

From Berlitz and Moore's book, it can be seen that there were reports from the Tucumcari area at the end of June 1947 so that fits with what Hughie told Nabil. There was also at the end of June 1947 a famous alleged UFO crash report from Tacoma in Washington State. So there is an outside chance that Hughie heard a report of this. In either case, it is clear that it is wrong to associate Hughie (as some authors have) with the Roswell incident. Nabil has gone back to the best possible source, Hughie Green himself.

Unfortunately when Nabil contacted Hughie Green his health was failing and Hughie died at the beginning of May 1997. The correspondence that Hughie exchanged with Nabil is

probably the final, definitive word on his alleged involvement with the Roswell Incident.

Thanks are extended to Arnold West who provided the original report from Flying Saucer Review.

The Investigation - Nabil Shaban

In 1995, as a member of the research committee of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), I was asked to track down Hughie Green, a TV personality, famous for his 1950s and 1960s shows - "DOUBLE YOUR MONEY" and "OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS". It seems that he was on record as claiming that he knew something about the alleged "saucer crash" in New Mexico (Roswell?) in the 1940s. Because of my connections with the world of Show-Biz, BUFORA thought I was best placed to pursue this investigation.... After a few red herrings I was able to track down Hughie Green and wrote to him

I wrote another letter to Mr. Hughie Green, hoping to arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss what he wrote about the 1957 Tucumcari landing, and what he had been told when he'd visited the Wright Patterson AFB. But he never responded.

Meanwhile I reported back to the then Director of Research, Steve Gamble, the correspondence so far and he was astonished that Green mentioned a "1957 crash" when the Flying Saucer Review has an interview with him in a 1955 edition - two years previous! And

in that article, Green definitely talks about a June 1947 New Mexico crash. Steve kindly sent me copies of that 1955 FSR interview with Hughie Green and I send a copy to Mr. Green asking for an explanation.

I find it interesting that Green's reply was short and sharp and seemingly quick to pick up my suggestion of a typing error - i.e. in his first letter to me he had intended to type 1947 and not 1957. The letter was brief and acquiescent because I think he wanted to get me off his back. He didn't want to discuss his experience of the "Crashed Saucer" any further.

It seemed in the beginning that he wanted to distance himself from the Roswell Incident and so referred to 1957 crash but when I showed him that I had on record evidence of him claiming to have heard on the radio in 1947 of the New Mexico story, then he allowed a small confirmation of what BUFORA had originally heard about him.

As I had Mr. Hughie Green's home address in London, my next plan was to personally call on him, probably on a Sunday afternoon, as that was likely to be a good time to catch him....

Unfortunately, he died soon after, before I had a chance.

Congratulations to Nabil on recently being awarded a doctorate by Surrey University.

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The Country Files

Brian P James

Another episode in the popular series, in which our intrepid investigators go in search of the unknown...

No, not *The X Files*. In this case, the almost annual effort by the BBC to convince their viewers that the entire crop circle phenomenon is the result of an 'artistic' senior citizen, and his younger disciples. We might wonder why the BBC, in its infinite wisdom, chooses to waste our licence money each year on precisely the same story? Perhaps you might like to take that up with the BBC yourself?

For those of you who didn't see the *Countryfile* programme on 3rd January 1999, the basic premise was simple. Recruit veteran hoaxer Doug Bower, team him up with reporter Rupert Segar, and film them 'man-making' crop circles. Much the same as they'd done in 1997 really, so don't believe Rupert Segar's comment that the 1998 Milk Hill formation was the first he'd done! Perhaps the only surprise was that the BBC decided to devote an entire *Countryfile* programme to the 'man-made' aspect of the phenomenon.

Bower recounted his claimed history of hoaxing alongside the late Dave Chorley. Though, curiously his memoir is either getting better, or worse, as his claims now extend back a few more years than he has claimed previ-

ously – perhaps it's just convenient to muddy the waters some more? Once more, Bower claimed that the change to the 'pictogram' was simply to confound researcher Terence Meaden's plasma vortex theory. Also curious is Bower forgetting to mention that Chorley claimed to have been influenced by the Tully 'saucer nests', that he'd seen while in Australia during the late 1960s. Perhaps soon Bower will claim to be a Timelord, like Dr Who, as this will be the only way he can explain the documented crop formations going back to the early 1900s, and beyond. Not to mention the formations seen on every continent (Antarctica excepted), over the past 50 years or so - I'm not surprised his car clocked up a lot of miles over the course of a year!

In the programme, we were then treated to pathetic sequence where the reporter – Segar, made his way into the Hampshire night in search of Bower. Of course he had his nice 4x4, with lights ablaze, and then went striding off into the field, with film crew in tow, only to be admonished by Bower for being stupid – no arguments from me on that one! Our elusive duo then agreed to rendezvous in Wiltshire, in order to create their circle at Milk Hill, adjacent to the famous village of Alton Barnes.

The next few minutes were taken up with some admittedly amusing footage of carloads of 'croppies', all armed with night-vision gear, racing up and down the roads around Alton

Barnes, desperately trying to find their arch-enemies – the hoaxers. If nothing else, this demonstrated the poor performance of image-intensifier technology owned by most of the general public, which can be bought now from high street stores. Although the croppies were only a few dozen yards from the hoaxers and film crew, they were blissfully unaware of them. Remember, these are the same people who can use their night-vision gear to regularly see details of black helicopters, even when they are several miles away at night! It was left to 'researchers' (The term is used advisedly) Matthew Williams and Paul Damon, to finally 'discover' (If they really did) the team of mischief-makers lurking in the darkness. Yes, these are the same researchers who claimed to have made crop circles themselves – ironic that they were the ones to appear on screen criticising the hoaxers - or was this just another part of the stage management by the BBC?

The 'BBC team' of Bower and Segar, plus film crew, eventually made it to their chosen field in the early hours of the morning, where another 'team' of hoaxers (I won't name them here and give them more undeserved publicity) were hard at work on a separate formation. Bower and Segar had planned a simple circle, but alas, Bower's trusty baseball cap sighting ring failed him, as he marked out a circle four times its intended size. Even when trying to mark out a simple circle with a rope, he seems to

have forgotten the somewhat basic difference between the radius, and diameter, of a circle. How comforting to know that he's marked out hundred's of complex pictogram formations over the past two decades – yet with this vast experience, he gets a simple circle wrong! In the fast disappearing period of darkness, our dynamic duo were running out of time, and had to enlist the help of 'the other three' to complete their circle.

Once done, the exhausted hoaxer's sat back to wait for the hordes of researchers to arrive to proclaim their formations as genuine – who didn't oblige. Segar seemed put out that by late morning, none of the expected researchers had turned up – did he really think that the credible researchers would bother to humour him? It should be noted that the film crew avoided footage of the poor lay of the crop, and the obvious signs of rollers and boards having been used. The item ended with some general chit-chat by the hoaxers, congratulating each other's efforts. It was then that Bower came up with his so-called revelation – that he thought that he'd been programmed to make the circles by a higher force (No jokes about money, please). While the BBC dedicated over 20 minutes to the phenomenon, they carefully omitted many of the features, and associated anomalies that we know exist within the real phenomenon. We had no mention of precise floor lays, magic bends, blown nodes, EM anomalies, strange lights, human and animal ef-

fects etc. etc. Then again, they just might point at a real and unexplained enigma, and that would never do...

As you might imagine, most of the crop circle research community were well aware of what the BBC was planning. Efforts were made by many researchers to persuade *Countryfile* to allow airtime to put across the balanced viewpoint, if not a right-of-reply. Needless to say, even as I write this in February, no offer has been forthcoming from the BBC for researchers to put across their viewpoints. Viewpoints that have been reached after many, many years of painstaking work, and not a couple of nights skulking in fields in the dark. When critically questioned about their 'agenda' for the programme, the BBC claimed that entertainment had been their intention, not factual reporting, and that this had been made obvious in the introduction. Those of us who cringe at other BBC productions into UFOs, and other 'paranormal' subjects, would not argue with those claims.

The moral of this tale is simple, don't let the BBC, or any other popular media source, deflect you from the facts about the whole crop circle enigma. Hoaxers contribute little to a season's total formations, and merely seek their fifteen minutes of fame, to boost their frail egos. Even allowing for natural crop events, at the very heart of the crop circle phenomena (Indeed as with Ufology), there is a real enigma just waiting to be solved!

Readers Write

The article in Bulletin 8 concerning Elsie Oakensen's UFO incident near Daventry has driven a fellow witness to their wordprocessor

Well I have just read the article called the Daventry event, about Elsie Oken- sen in issue 8 of BUFORA BULLE- TIN. God bless the way she stands up to the crowd of experts, or should that be spelt **expurts**? EX-standing for a has been as in ex-singer, ex-pilot. X-standing for an unknown quantity and SPURT- that's what happens to a small drip [of water] under a lot of pressure. Hence we have a load of unknown has-been's under a lot of pressure. For that is the way it seems after reading this article. Theory's abound as to what she saw that day from our **expurts**, for the theorists certainly seem to be under a great deal of pressure to tell us what it was she saw,- according to them.

First we have some one saying that "approached such a mirage" – mirage (?) ! Elsie stated that she drove **un- der** what ever it was. Now it is a well known fact that as you approach a mirage it disappears! Many people have attested to this, and what is more it can be proven. This reflec- tion of light changes as a person changes the angle that they look at it, I suggest this guy goes and digs for the crock of gold that can be found at the end of the rainbow. He must re- member that as you move toward the

rainbows end it vanishes, **but** if his theory is correct he should find it. As Elsie explained, she passed **under** her mirage, hence finding a crock of gold to one of our theorists would be no problem.

Strewth, after reading that Elsie was high on monosodium glutamate I went straight out and procured myself a tin hat, and I strongly recommend that every one else does so as well!!! Having had a look at the world wide web page about all the pilots [both civil and military] that have reported seeing UFO's it becomes a statistical fact that all of these pilots are high MG-mate. Come to that it seems that getting high monosodium glutamate must be a prerequisite to become a pilot as well as being menopausal! With all of these guys flying around up there in billions of pounds worth of aircraft as high as the sky itself makes the mind boggle. Go get a tin hat quick. If BUFORA wants to study the UFO phenomenon just go to your nearest Chinese restaurant, end of story.

Now there is still another theory that has not been mention here and that is EMF or the electromagnetic field effect. This theory states that all the short wave radio signals given off by taxi radios, and electromagnetic fields given off by faults in the earth's crust, along with microwaves etc; effect us. Could Elsie have been nobbled by this strange phenomenon, she was close to the ground, after all she said that she got out of the car, so she must have

had both feet on the ground, literally. Now she was sitting in a car made of metal and insulated from the ground by the tyres, and indeed, sitting in a car when there is lightning about has been shown to be a safe place. The car acts as a faraday cage, a shield to radio waves. In fact you need an aerial through the car or built into a window [separate from the metal body work] to get outside, to pick up the outside signals. Again those pilots seeing these (?) things are as fare away from all this sort of electromagnetic fields as you can get, and they are also covered by a virtual Faraday cage All electromagnetic fields from below being shielded by the fuselage. Composite materials have a metal mesh built in, in case of a lightning strike, it gives the structure something for the strike to flow around - the same sort of thing as a Faraday cage!

We now have three of the main theories put forth as to what could be causing the phenomenon, but as we can see none of them fit all of the criteria all of the time. The only thing that fits all of the sightings is the one that no one wants to accept yet it is so simple, and that is people are seeing UFO's. Some of the witnesses may be allergic to monosodium glutamate. Some may indeed be seeing a mirage, and again some may be susceptible to electromagnetic fields. It is **not** reasonable to assume that all people are affected all the time by one or all of these theories. If we do these theorists will make an ass out of u and

me.

We hear of government cover ups, and diss-information, but when people read some of the theories put forth by people that have some form a podium of respectability, people that can't think for themselves believe them hook line and sinker and they in turn join in to clobber the witnesses. Just which one of these theorists is correct, perhaps we should just let them fight it out, then ignore the winner. The government has no need of cover ups, it leaves it to the pseudo experts to keep the witness down.

I have seen people driving lorries down the motorways in a protest about the cost of diesel. They have directed their grievance at those that caused the problem -those in power. Because people seem unable to do the same over the subject of UFO's they transfer all their pent up queries and frustrations towards the witnesses, who after all are taking all of the flack from the people they are trying to educate. God bless Elsie for standing firm against these people. The statement made by one individual. - - "I would suggest in Elsie's case that the most obvious explanation is due to the combination; perhaps menopause complicated by the "Chinese Restaurant Syndrome"" --- Thank you Doctor Fryed [you should be, in oil] please crawl back under your stone. What organisation do you work for on the side by the way? You obviously are out to slag the witnesses to stop them from coming forwards

are you not? Your record speaks for you! BUFORA, ask yourselves why people don't come forward and I think you will find you are the answer.

The above situation is similar to building a house. The brick layer lays a brick and immediately the demolition guy picks it up. You get nowhere fast. At least build the house first! If you don't like it, then demolish it. At least this way you can see what the edifice looks like and you can inspect it, touch it, and understand what the architect was trying to achieve. The way witnesses are flattened before anything concrete comes from the study of them, means that you will never get a full picture of the situation they are trying to get over to you!

In the mean time perhaps I'm the big, butch, menopausal, strung out on monosodium glutamate, prone to mirages and EMF zapped ex- pilot in a tin hat looking for you lot! - I' be back!

Yours
a CE. 4 witness!

[P S. My name and address are known to BUFORA, but guess why it has been withheld,--- and I wonder if **all** of my letter gets printed without being edited?!

In response to your postscript. I confirm that I know your name and address. However, I did remove two sentences from your letter in their entirety as inappropriate. - Ed.

TEESIDE UFO

Gloria Dixon

This is a case that I investigated back in 1994. I am still in touch with Steve (pseudonym) on occasion and he is an extremely interesting and intelligent person, but has explored his experiences in an open minded way that has made him comfortable with these extraordinary things that have happened to him

In June 1981, Steve Robbins was working as plant operator for Phillips Petroleum Plant on Teeside. He was on night shift and at ten minutes to midnight he was returning to the control room when he looked up into the sky and saw an enormous flying object which he describes as about one hundred foot in length and twenty to twenty five feet wide. It was flying between two towers and he was able to estimate the height of the object to be between one hundred and one hundred and twenty feet. Travelling on a downward trajectory, he thought it was going to hit something.. It was not travelling at any great speed and eventually Steve says it was right overhead. From this angle he describes it as cigar shaped and a dull bluish steel colour with a luminescence, like a neon light. It shone particularly around the perimeter and pulsating a bright white/yellow light. There was no sound. Eighty yards away from where he was standing there were four enormous crude oil receiving spheres and by this time it

was so low he felt it was going to hit the spheres. It didn't, it cleared them with what seemed like feet above. With great trepidation Steve jumped on his bike and pedalled like mad round the roadway to behind the receiving spheres. There was absolute nothing there!!...

He rushed into the control room where his colleagues were having a meal, whereupon they all enquired as to what was wrong as he was so white he looked as though he seen a ghost. He explained what had happened to both his colleagues and supervisor, who all immediately went outside to investigate, but there was nothing there. His supervisor contacted Teeside Airport to find out about aircraft activity. However, there had been no aircraft either landing or taking off within the last hour. Fylingdales was then contacted, and Steve was asked questions pertaining to a UFO report. Steve felt there must have been someone else who had seen this object, and therefore proceeded to call various departments across the plant. He received a call from a security guard at the tank farm which was situated one and half miles away, who had also seen this object and described it in a similar way to Steve as well as heading in the direction that Steve had observed it. The supervisor was in fact already concerned about security at the plant due to the fact that four weeks prior to these sightings another employee had report an object trying to 'land' on the main road at the plant.

A few days after these events Steve experienced some electrical problems within his home starting with his television bursting into flames, while he and his wife were watching it. They had to throw it through the window. The television was three years old. During a three day period and always when Steve was there many other electrical appliances failed. A vacuum cleaner, toaster, hairdryer, iron and mains alarm clock all failed and even a battery powered portable radio and electric drill failed. The electricity board were contacted and installed a mains voltage recorder, but they reported there was nothing wrong. Neighbours had not experienced any electrical problems. I talked with two electrical engineers independently about these electrical problems, and they were puzzled about the electrical events.

These problems continued for Steve when he was at work, and when he was there computer terminals would 'go out of sync' as his colleagues referred to the malfunctions that occurred whenever Steve was around. He went to work offshore in 1983 and the problems with all electrical equipment continued to occur until 1988, when this subsided

Approximately two weeks after these events, Steve began to experience some inexplicable events in his bedroom. The first time this happened, He was lying in bed asleep when he was awakened by a high pitched hum-

ming in his ears. His first realisation was that he was flat on his back and the he was unable to move a muscle. He felt strongly that this was not a dream, that he was awake and could move his eyes. He was aware of the room about him and the darkness. He tried to move, but couldn't. When his eyes adjusted to the darkness he realised that there was somebody in the room...three or four figures dressed in black...barely discernible in the darkness apart from dull cloak like habits. He wanted to scream but couldn't. He remembers a slight gurgling from his throat that is when he say they communicated with him, not in voices as he remembers, but like a thought transference. He was told that they would not harm him or his wife, who was in bed next to him, and family, two sons. He tried to awaken himself, still believing that must be a dream, but it was not. Still terrified, He tried with all his will to move a muscle, but couldn't. He could feel sweat trickling down his forehead into his eyes and hoped to God his wife would not awaken. 'They' communicated, not to worry, and that she would not know anything about this, and He remembers thinking, 'what the hell do you want'....'just you, for a little while' was the reply.

Some time later Steve felt able to move again and he got out of bed and went downstairs, where he consumed several cups of coffee....it was dawn. He felt grimy and dirty, as though he had been on a long journey.

He had several more of these experiences over the next two years, although he never actually saw the hooded figures again, only sensed their presence.

Since these events occurred Steve has experienced several precognitive dreams, which he describes as totally different from other dreams, disturbingly powerful and compelling, with a real quality to them that is quite impossible to ignore. Significant points resurface at any time throughout the day for months, years afterwards and they just will not go away. Among these 'vision' type dreams are the Chernobyl and Lockerbie disasters. These dreams which occurred, six months prior to the events themselves were so specific and had such clarity that when he saw the news about the Lockerbie disaster he was in total shock. In fact when I interviewed him and talked specifically about this dream with him it was so emotive for him that a respite was taken from the interview.

Another change that has occurred in Steve since his sighting is his ability to tune into people upon first meeting them in an intimate way. This he finds extremely disturbing and intrusive.

It appears that Steve was receptive to other unusual phenomena from being very young, six to seven years old, ranging from out of body experiences to being aware of other 'beings communicating with him. His grand-

mother on his maternal side also experienced paranormal phenomena.

Those are the facts Steve told me. Some of you probably already have theories as to what happened to Steve. For example

Hallucinations caused by gas or oil. This would have had to have been a joint experience as a witness 1½ miles away also saw a similar object.

ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS particularly as described by Albert Budden. This is a possible avenue of investigation particularly in the area of Teeside where there are many chemical and power facilities conducive to this.

SLEEP PARALYSIS when in his bedroom, this is a possibility and although not entirely dismissed by Steve himself, he finds it hard to accept this was in any way a contributing factor.

All of these are very interesting and could be valid, but what they mainly show is that if we are not careful, we may force conclusions on the case of Steve without fully understanding it. I am not here to give you the definitive explanation, what I do wish to emphasize is that SOMETHING happened to this man of such feeling as to cause changes in his whole way of life, dramatic changes that occurred in Steve after these unusual events, which were possibly triggered by his initial sighting of a 'UFO'.

I would now like to explain the changes in Steve as a person after these experiences. Prior to these events, Steve was a man whose main concerns in life involved his family, wife and two sons. He worked hard and enjoyed a few pints at his local pub. He was sceptical, but still open minded about UFOs and related subjects, and basically did not particularly look beyond the parameters of his own life to anything on the periphery.. He paid the mortgage and made sure that all was well within 'his world'

After his UFO sighting at Philips Petroleum Plant in 1981, Steve changed quite dramatically, and feels that these events have altered his life, beliefs and the way he views the world, he explained these feelings in a letter to me and I quote from parts of it....

'These experiences have changed my life, but it wasn't one blinding flash type overnight wonder, indeed it has been much more subtle, a slow realisation process. My life is lived now to the full, I watch little TV or read newspapers. There just doesn't seem to be enough hours in the day for what I need to do' My attitude towards people and confrontational situations has changed. I believe for the better. I will go out of my way to help people, I follow my intuition totally...as long as it feels right it will be right and this is something in which I now have complete faith. I personally have no fear of death and having lost that fear, I can now live

my life. To be free of the fear of death means that I can now appreciate life, as just a current phase of eternity.

With regard to having intimate access to people he has just met, he says....

'This is something I can do with such ease that it still astounds me to this day, but I try to leave it switched off to overcome feelings of guilt and intrusion.

To sum up his feelings on his sighting and the subsequent events he says...

'I keep my sanity by believing in myself...I believe in what happened, I will never be able to explain it, but at least I can now accept it.'

I have met Steve several times now and there is no doubt in my mind that he has described some strange and compelling events, and a continued sequence of unusual occurrences which affected him in a very personal way. My gut feeling is that he has undergone some bewildering changes. These changes are indeed significant, as many researchers are well aware. They have become of great importance and relevance, when following up a close encounter experience, which so often then encompasses other activity, very often of a paranormal nature, and which one would think should be locked within the paranormal field of study,but it is not. The gateways between a close encounter experience and subsequent

paranormal events are linked in a way that we have yet to understand.

What is of enormous relevance here is the fact that the changes that have occurred to Steve, are changes that occur in many of those who undergo a close encounter experience. I feel that these maybe more important than the incident itself, these experiences are about PEOPLE, so whatever these experiences are is possibly irrelevant, as they are perceived in a very personal way. What is of real relevance surely must be the changes in people both spiritually, psychically and creatively. Interestingly Steve started to write poetry after these events, something he had never thought about prior to this. His interest in environmental issues increased in an overwhelming way. The additional factors of having access to people's thoughts and precognitive dreams are indeed impressive when researching this case. The changes are startling, but as I said before they do not stand alone. They have happened to many close encounter witnesses and it is essential that we look at this area very closely in order to gain an insight into whether indeed there is a pattern emerging from those who undergo extraordinary experiences like this

This is where The Anamnesis project, which the late Ken Phillips initiated comes in. I believe that this should become a priority when investigating these inexplicable events, as it appears that these experiences may be prevalent in a certain type of person,

often people, who have a life history of inexplicable or paranormal type events. We possibly need to begin at the beginninga good place to start!, which is to look principally at the people themselves, *then* at the incidents they report. We must remember that an investigation of the close encounter experience can be in very muddied waters, and we are all amateurs where these unusual events are concerned. What we must never forget is that these events are about people and not just about the incidents report

Finally, is the area relevant? There have also been other observations of strange objects appearing and disappearing into the Teesmouth during this time, one report which involved witnesses from the A19 Service station. Also, one year later, in Redcar, Cleveland and reasonably close to Teeside, a couple experienced some bizarre events at their home during the night, where they describe observing an unknown object that appeared to be in their garden. They also observed entities both outside and in their home. The wife claims that her husband actually physically disappeared. Philip Mantle has documented this case in his book 'Without Consent' giving major details of this event. I only mention this as it occurred a year after Steve's sighting and is in the vicinity of Teeside.

SKYWATCHING

Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) are one of the great mysteries of the late twentieth century.

Researchers usually have to rely on reports of random observations made by members of the general public. Whilst this data in itself is very important much more detailed information can be obtained by groups of trained observers working in a structured way. For over fifty years people have investigated UFO reports to try to find an explanation. There has been little success, partly because in most cases detailed information and confirmatory reports do not exist. The kind of proactive research opportunity that skywatching presents is an attempt to address this problem.

Apart from the possibility of seeing your own UFO (which might be very rare on a watch) the skywatch gives people the chance to learn and see for themselves all the strange things which normally go on in our skies. There is also the fun element to the skywatch, the chance to meet and discuss things with like minded people and that chance that you might just see something unusual.

The watches normally take place starting early Saturday evening and continue through to Sunday morning. People may take part in as many watches as they wish. It is not neces-

sary for everybody to be there for the whole period of the watch. Indeed in event of poor weather conditions it may be necessary to cancel or cut short a particular watch.

It is best for people just starting out to join one of the existing groups who will be going out rather than try to organise a group of their own. National skywatches are planned for the following dates in the next few months:

19th to 20th June 1999
18th to 19th Sept 1999
18th to 19th Dec 1999
18th to 19th March 2000
17th to 18th June 2000

Please contact the skywatch co-ordinator, Philip Walton, at least two weeks before the date you wish to take part. Philip will be able to inform you of the nearest groups to you who will be going out on any particular watch and will be able to give you advice. His contact details are:

Email: Skywatch@assap.org
Phone: 0181 313 1556

If you contact Philip please remember to include your full postal address and phone number and if you have one your email address. Apart from the National watches local groups may also be arranging additional watches in your area.

All watches are organised by local groups and individuals as a voluntary

7th Northampton UFO Conference

"Into the unknown - Or is it?"

The 7th Annual Northampton UFO Conference will be held on Saturday 14th August 1999 at The Friends Meeting House, Wellington Street, Northampton, starting at 10:00am and lasting until approximately 5:30pm. The cost will be £5. Light refreshments and a range of publications will be available for purchase during the day. (Wellington Street is just off the main shopping street which has several places where lunch may be purchased.)

The theme for the conference this year will be a wide ranging review of many aspects of the last 50 years of UFO research covering both historical and up-to-date material. The provisional list of speakers includes Elsie Oakensen, Gary H. and Kate Taylor. A full list will be issued as soon as possible.

Further details can be obtained from :

NUFORC, 38 Portland Road, Rushden, Northamptonshire, NN10 0DJ

Visit our website :

<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/el82/nuforc.htm>

effort. Watches are generally held in open areas with good views of the sky. This means that shelter and other facilities are often minimal or non-existent and may involve standing or walking across muddy or rough ground in the dark. Local organisers will be able to advise you of the conditions at their site. BUFORA, its officers and local organisers cannot be held responsible for any loss or injury to any party taking part in these events. The right is reserved to cancel, alter the length or change the date or venue of any watch either nationally or at a local site. Whilst it is hoped this will not be necessary, ef-

forts will be made to inform people who have pre-registered their interest as far in advance as possible. In certain circumstances, especially adverse weather, it may not be possible to make a decision until the day.



The BUFORA website can
be accessed at :
www.bufora.org.uk

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Amazing Book Bargains - MAY 1999

It is no doubt a sign of the times that I was recently offered some new books which were at very reasonable prices. As usual prices include the cost of postage. - Lionel Beer

Paperbacks:

List: MayBB/99

- UFO ABDUCTIONS in Gulf Breeze** by Ed and Frances Walters. 1987 was not the first contact for Ed. Hypnosis revelations. 16 plates. 300 pages. £2.50
- The UFO ENCYCLOPEDIA** compiled by **John Spencer**. 1993-USA. Interesting and useful source book. Larger paperback. 8 col.plates.32 b/w. plates. 350 pages. £2.95
- WITNESSED** by **Budd Hopkins**. 1997. Lynda Cortile. 8 plates.408 pages. **£3.00**
- DEMON DEATHS** by **Brad Steiger**. 1991. Bedtime reading! 202 pgs. **£2.40**
- The INCREDIBLE DISCOVERY OF NOAH'S ARK** by Charles Sellier and David Balsiger. 1995. Well-explored;actual locations. 8 plates. Index. 360 pages. **£2.75**
- The SECRET PROPHECIES OF NOSTRADAMUS** ed.by Cynthia Sternau & Martin Greenberg. 1995. 12 visionary tales of the next millennium. 312 pages. **£2.50**

Softcovers or larger paperbacks

- ARKTOS-The Polar Myth**-Joscelyn Godwin. 1993. Illus.Index. 260 pages. **£4.75**
- FACES of the VISITORS**-Kevin Randle. 1997. Illus.Refs.Index. 314 pages. **£4.50**
- FORBIDDEN SCIENCE**-Jacques Vallee. 1996. Wow! 8 plates. Index. 475pg. **£5.00**
- MIND MONSTERS** by Jenny Randles. 1990. Shop-soiled. Index. 224 pages. **£5.00**
- MYSTERIES of the MERSEY VALLEY** - Jenny Randles.1993.168 pgs. **£6.75**
- UFO RETRIEVALS** by Jenny Randles. 1995. Crashes. Illus.Index. 192 pages. **£4.75**

Hardbacks

- ALIEN AGENDA** by **Jim Marrs**. 1997. **Story of E-Ts among us.** Their intentions? 8 plates. Index. 480 pages. (cover price: £16.99) Bargain price: £7.50
- FIRE IN THE SKY** by **Travis Walton**. 1996. (Name of the film) Walton's abduction of 5.5.75. in Arizona. 8 col.plates+16 b/w.plts. 374 pages. (was \$25)(post £2.55) £7.00
- STONEHENGE DECODED** by **Gerald Hawkins**. 1993 edn. 1965 classic at dawn of interest in *earth mysteries*. History of the site. Illus. Index. 220 pages. £5.95
- STAR CHILDREN** Jenny Randles. 1994. Aliens among us? Index. 220 pages. **£7.75**
- TIME TRAVEL** by Jenny Randles. 1994. Wide speculation. 16 plates. Index. **£7.50**
- WITNESSED** by **Budd Hopkins**. UK edition of Linda Cortile, Brooklyn Bridge abduction case. 16 plates. 408 pages. (slightly shopsolled) (cover price £16.99) £7.50

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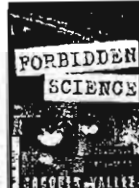
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801094 **FIRE IN THE SKY** The Walton Experience, by Travis Walton. (How Azo) b/w illus. & color illus. 370 pp. (1996) hb. (Falcon & Company) ISBN: 1-56924-044-4 £14.50/4.95



801045 **FORBIDDEN SCIENCE** Journals 1957-1979, by Jacques Vallee. (Science) b/w illus. 472 pp. (1983) pb. (Falcon & Company) ISBN: 1-56924-204-7 £14.95

BUFORA LECTURES

Meetings are held at the University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5LS starting at 2pm and lasting until approximately 5pm. (We are currently looking at alternative venues, but if nothing suitable can be found it may be necessary to raise admission to £2-50 (members); £4-50 (non-members) from the new season).

Saturday 4th September, 1999.

Lynn Picknett & Clive Prince. **"THE STARGATE CONSPIRACY".**

Author Lynn Picknett and fellow researcher Clive Prince will present a lecture entitled, "THE STARGATE CONSPIRACY". This talk will be based on Lynn's forthcoming book (of the same name). Lynn and Clive will be asking, "What really lies behind the major cults that claim to channel extraterrestrial?" Is there another more "terrestrial", but equally disturbing explanation for such apparent contacts??.

Saturday 2nd October 1999.

Jon Downes. **"THE RISING OF THE MOON".**

Author and TV documentary star Jonathan Downes will be presenting his talk entitled "THE RISING OF THE MOON; the Devonshire UFO Triangle". Jon will be detailing cases from his forthcoming book (of the same name) which concerns - amongst other things - supposed animal mutilations", sightings of big cats, ghost and poltergeist effects, and a number of other peculiar events that have occurred in East Devon.

Please note : There are no London Lectures during July and August. The new lecture season will start on Saturday 5th September. Whilst it is not anticipated that meetings will have to be changed or cancelled without prior notice, the Association reserves the right to do so. The views expressed by lecturers are their own views, unless otherwise stated they do not reflect the views of BUFORA, its Council or officers.

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