



# THE CEREALOGIST

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# EDITORIAL NOTES

## The Hidden Magic

Last issue's cover picture of a "crop circle" stereogram provoked a whole variety of reactions from readers, not all favourable (see Letters, page 14). Of course, not everyone was able to see the hidden 3-D image. Seeing the image is not easy at first and 10-15% of the population is never going to get it. Others take up to an hour before the the unmistakable 3-D shape suddenly materialises and their eyes lock on to it, though many take much longer. The amazing popularity of the *Magic Eye* best-selling books has made stereograms very familiar.

The reason that we put a stereogram on the cover is quite simple: here is a close analogy to the crop circles. Many people will fail to see that there is anything remarkable about the circles. "It's flattened corn; that's all it is", were the memorable words of one such uncomprehending detractor, the hoaxer Dave Chorley. And so it will always be for him and many others. However the magic is there for those who can see it.

The magic is often of a very individual nature but, nonetheless, totally unmistakable once one finds it, just like the hidden image in the stereogram. As John Michell writes in our first article, devotees of the circles have discovered spiritual messages, atavistic symbolism, the cry of Mother Earth, musical notation, extraterrestrial script, land art, Hopi and Aboriginal petroglyphs and much else besides. Who are we to say these interpretations are wrong? In fact the question of right or wrong is hardly applicable; the circles, whatever their origin, have touched a chord which has brought forth a variety of truths from the very depths of the human psyche.

In *The Cerealogist* we publish all sorts of views and interpretations and this edition is no exception. The issue contains, among other things, several pieces by German cerealogists and you will find their standpoints range from what some will see as starry-eyed to the mildly sceptical. Our occasional contributor Jürgen Krönig will hopefully return with a piece in the next issue.

## Apologies due

Over the last two years I have written several pieces in this magazine which have contained both explicit and implicit accusations of circlefaking and other skulduggery against certain individuals.

Most of these charges were amply justified and were later confirmed by subsequent "confessions" or claims by these very hoaxers themselves. I also charged in 1992 that a malicious and deceitful campaign against leading crop circle researchers was being waged by these particular hoaxers. This accusation too has proved to be totally justified.

However, there were people implicated in the campaign of circlefaking who, I now accept, were innocent of such a charge and it is only right that the record should be set straight. Peter Rendall of CERES assures me that neither he nor any other members of Dr Meaden's group have ever engaged in hoaxing crop circles and there is indeed no reason to think otherwise. I hope that Peter will accept my apologies.

A shadowy circlefaker known as "the Weasel" was also referred to in Issue #8: "if we are to believe Spiderman and others, his man is a member of CCCS ...", was what appeared in print. The "his" was in fact a typographical error, not of my making, and should have read "this", which alters the sense considerably. Either way, there were people at the time who inferred that the Weasel must be John Martineau.

John has completely denied any charges of circlefaking, both directly to me, and also in an article in *The Circular*. He says that apart from the 1992 West Wycombe Circle Making Competition, he has never engaged in making crop circles in his life. I fully accept what he says and unreservedly apologise for any distress which this inference may have caused.

## The 1994 Season

Once again the crop circles are with us and once more they have been greeted with the usual mixture of doubt, suspicion and, of course by some, ecstatic enthusiasm. During May a variety of simple circles and pictograms appeared in oil-seed rape between East Kennett and West Overton in Wiltshire. Other formations were reported near Avebury and at Furze Knoll near Devizes. There was a long curving formation known as "The Scorpion" near West Kennett Long Barrow. It is hoped that photographs of some of these will be published at a later date.

Besides the circles, the start of the season also saw the appearance, like that of the first cuckoo, of the circlefakers. Some familiar faces, and some less familiar, were spotted in the vicinity of Alton

Barnes, often sporting baseball caps or dark glasses and often smirking to themselves in the presence of eager croppies.

Understandably, attempts at serious research or cropwatching were often in jeopardy as rival groups pursued each others' vehicles around at night trying to find out what was going on. Even more difficult was the task of distinguishing genuine circles from the proliferation of hoaxes that have appeared in the area.

One man who claims this ability is dowser Michael Newark, who has in the past furnished me with lists of what was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Front Cover: *This fine pictogram appeared near Temple Farm on Preshute Down, one mile south of Barbury Castle, on July 17th 1991, the same night that the giant triangle formation appeared there. In this issue Joachim Koch and Hans-Jürgen Kyborg describe how they deciphered the message implicit in the pictogram and how it led them to the conclusion that it was made by intelligences from a star system in Orion, listed as HD 42807, 58 light years away.*



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*Consultant* John Haddington  
*Design & Typeset* George Wingfield  
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# ONLY THE GUESSES HAVE CHANGED

*John Michell*, founder and first editor of *The Cerealogist*, surveys the present crop circle scene of confusion and concludes that nothing has changed except ourselves.

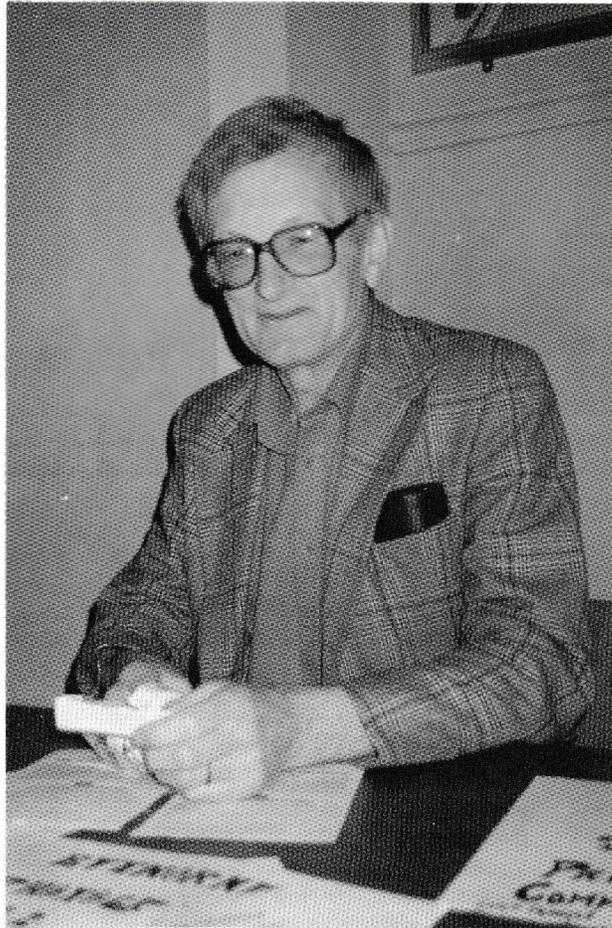
My only contribution to the crop circle debate has been to urge attention to the phenomenon itself, rather than explanation of it. This, of course, has been unheeded. The modern mind is educated in the 'scientific' mode to find ways of explaining all phenomena in terms of the scientific world-view. The ability to do this is valued and rewarded, and people are absurdly proud of whatever theory, opinion or good idea that happens to occur to them. While editing *The Cerealogist*, I received a great many articles, elaborate, detailed and technical, each one claiming to explain the whole crop circle phenomenon according to its author's personal notions. These articles were often so scientifically complicated that I could not understand them. They were unpublishable. Many of the writers who said they knew all about crop circles had never even seen one.

Terence Meaden saw plenty of crop circles, perhaps more than anyone. But he fell victim to theory-making, and thus he twisted the evidence to suit his meteorological thesis, bringing in dowsing, flying saucers and mysterious plane crashes, and ended up creating one of the most ludicrous fiascos in modern science. One of the last acts of Sir Solly Zuckermann was to investigate Meaden's explanation for crop circles and to expose it as a delusion.

The CCCS were equally addicted to theories and explanations. Based originally on a magic ritual group, they focussed on channelled messages, dream interpretations and the decoding of the slowed-down pipings of the grass-hopper warbler. Like all New Age mystics they were overawed by science and they commissioned elaborate reports on grain and soil samples which in the end proved nothing.

Further explanations, inevitably, came from the "goddess" cultists. Circles were goddess symbols, so were the pictograms and so too the insectograms and the snails. In the words of Colin Andrews, "Mother Earth is crying". She might just as well have been laughing for the formations

were also recognized as weather symbols, Assyrian or Korean writing, warnings in the hypothetical Tiffinag language, the marks of Thoth and Robin Goodfellow, theorems of a Pythagorean philosopher, musical notations, extraterrestrial scripts, Hopi Indian petroglyphs, sophisticated land art, the rustic scribbles of Doug &



*John Michell*

Dave, and much, much else. All of human life was there.

The early investigators were united against hoax theory. It was, said one of them, the least likely explanation of all. Confronted with "bent not broken", multi-layered swirling and other effects beyond human creation, no one but ignorant sceptics dared suggest that the crop circles were occasionally man-made. Yet the hoax theorists were rallying, and in an early *Cerealogist* we predicted that they would take over from the meteorologists as

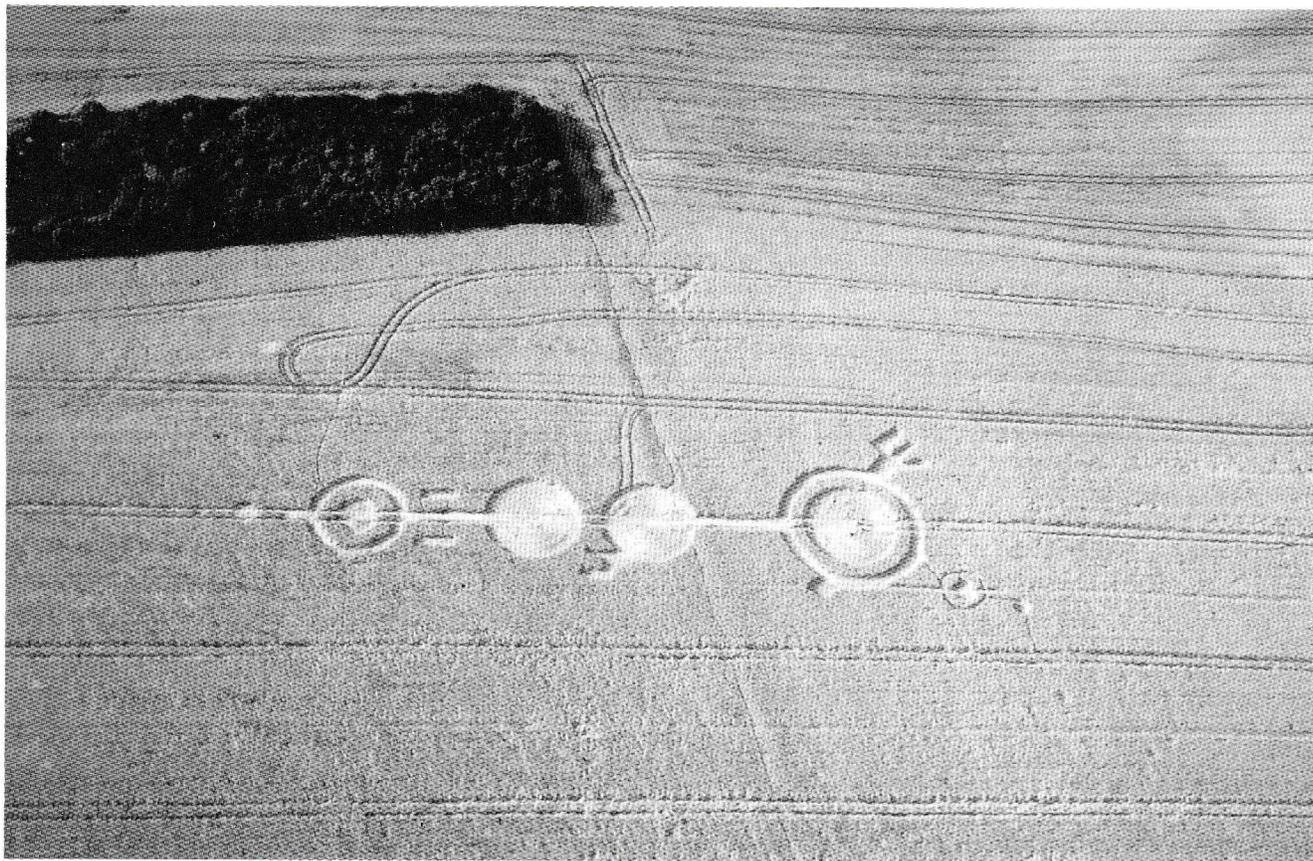
the official explainers. So it has proved. *The Cerealogist's* crop-circle-making competition in 1992 destroyed many of the long-cherished myths and opened the way for the ascendancy of total hoax theory.

No outbreak of mysterious phenomena is complete without the Secret Service. There are spies everywhere, working for every kind of institution, and there are also freelance spies, merging with madmen and mischief-makers. All these types have been attracted to the crop circles, and their involvement in the subject has confused and repelled many of the innocent honest researchers.

This is a familiar pattern, repeated throughout the entire history of psychical research. We are left with a continuing phenomenon, just as mysterious now as in the beginning. Nothing has changed except ourselves, and we have constantly been changing and reacting. Now it seems we have reached a state of explanation-fatigue. We have discovered nothing about crop circles; we do not know what or who has been making them and all our theories have proved inadequate. Seeing no prospect of explaining it, we may turn away from the subject and find it boring. This process is entirely among ourselves. It has nothing to do with the phenomenon which develops in its own way regardless of what we choose to think about it.

## Mystery Solved!

Up to three years ago, almost every press report on crop circles appeared under a "Mystery Solved!" type of headline. The solver at that time was Terence Meaden. His "plasma vortex" theory had resolved not only the crop circle phenomenon but two other mysteries as well, those of UFOs and prehistoric sites. Several books proclaimed these triumphs. Fame, fortune and even a Nobel prize seemed sure to follow. Suddenly it all fell apart. Eyes were opened to the vacuity of the whole thing and refocussed upon a new perspective: that crop circles were entirely man-made. As one certainty vanished, another came to fill its place. "Yet nothing has



*On various occasions during the years 1989 to 1991, Dr Terence Meaden claimed in the press that he had "solved" the mystery of the crop circles. When asymmetric circle sets with rings, boxes and claws appeared --such as this at Stanton St Bernard, which was found in July 1990-- he insisted the development positively aided his generalised vortex theory.*

happened", says Ralph Noyes, "to cause us to rush from one guess to another".

No one's theory is really a certainty; it just looks like that at the time. 1993 was the heyday of hoax theory. Its supporters crowded and triumphed just as loudly as their meteorological predecessors had done. They could at least point to evidence, to circles which they themselves had made and which had even fooled the "experts". It was a cruel joke but a good one, and everyone enjoyed a laugh at the crestfallen cerealogists whose fanciful notions were so abruptly shattered.

The hoax believers had a great party. They enjoyed themselves in the fields, and then they enjoyed the panic that followed. Poor John Macnish dropped everything and ran for cover, and many others ran after him to shelter under the new orthodoxy of total-hoaxism. Like every other crop circle organisation, the CCCS fell apart at the seams. Dichards stood firmly by the Bythorn Wonder formation of 1993 while others acknowledged that it was the work of a certain young land-artist. Friendships were broken over it, ill temper prevailed. There is nothing new about this and it is easy to recognize the hand behind it. It is clearly the work of that old English

spirit, Robin Goodfellow, whose speciality was to break up a party by giving a sly punch to one of the guests, pretending that someone else had done it and setting everyone to fighting.

### The Hangover

After the party comes the hangover. On the morning after the celebrations the hoax theorists find themselves the rulers, no longer challenging orthodoxy but responsible for upholding it. Now it is they who have to justify their position. In previous years they showed off the circles and the pictograms which they themselves had made causing shock and panic, and then stampeded the public into accepting their explanation for crop circles as a whole. Now, in their new position of power, they are required to be reasonable and to explain from the beginning how crop formations, all over Britain and abroad, were secretly created by unknown teams of hoaxers. It may be that, given time, they can more or less do it. At present however there are some very glaring gaps in their explanation. If crop circles everywhere have always been made by hoaxers, who are these mysterious people,

how did they get their ideas, techniques, patterns, why do they do it and why are they never caught?

When you look at it rationally and sceptically, total-hoax theory seems just as weak as the plasma vortex, the extra-terrestrial and other previous explanations. No doubt it will follow the same pattern as these others, the pattern of rise and fall which is the destiny of all theories. It can never be proved nor will it ever finally be disproved, so you can believe what you like. But it seems a dreadful shame to sully and devalue such a wonderful phenomenon as the crop circles by subjecting it to theories and beliefs. It distorts the whole meaning of the phenomenon, which as far as can be seen from its actual effects, has been to destroy theories and to eliminate all certainties. In this way it is informing us truly about the actual nature of the world, ourselves and our reality.

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*John Michell's new book, **At the Centre of the World** -- Polar Symbolism discovered in Celtic, Norse and other Ritualized Landscapes, has now been published by Thames and Hudson Ltd, London, and will be reviewed in the next issue.*

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# THE MESSAGES FROM THE STARS IN THE WHEATFIELDS OF WILTSHIRE

Berlin cerealogists Joachim Koch and Hans-Jürgen Kyborg came to England in 1991 intent on dialogue with the Circlemakers, and made contact with the Phenomenon ...

We are well aware that the main crop circle magazines daily receive letters with new theories about the circles since it is one of the features of the Phenomenon to attract people's minds. Most of the theories about numbers, music, meteorology, chemistry, old sacred symbols, mandalas etc. are known. We tell you the following events --that really happened-- not in order to put ourselves in the foreground with a new theory. We are not so important; we tell you all these things only because *you should know about them*. For more than three years now we have kept our experiences to ourselves and remained reluctant to tell anybody except our closest friends because we weren't sure it was the right time -in fact, we knew that it wasn't the right time. But now it is.

From our investigations of the UFO phenomenon - we are members of MUFON's Central European Section - we know very well how people and organisations can be influenced by special intelligence and secret service agents to maintain cover-up stories or to discredit what they see as "dangerous developments" in the public perception. We must never forget that in the present state of imbalance of power on this planet, the most dangerous thing to those who seek to maintain this imbalance for their own benefit - politically and religiously -is the awakening in the consciousness of people that *humankind is not alone in the universe*.

We think that it is best for the moment to *stay steadfast in believing there is a genuine Phenomenon* and to focus all one's efforts on striking back at the opposition in a positive way -with a smile. *The two pensioners are not important* because they cannot cover up what was not invented by them *but by others* - from far away. John Macnish may produce what videos he likes and may believe (does he really?) that all circles are hoaxed - even if most of them were; we have evidence of *at least one that is genuine*, not known to him, which was given to us, and to you, by the Phenomenon in 1991.

We worked for more than one and a half years to develop an explanation of the meaning of the circles. We analysed them chronologically and, in this way, it became clear that there was a development in it. At the end, in spring 1991, we had elaborated

several universally applicable principles; in fact there were twelve, which we could use to explain parts of the circles and formations. The parts together form the meaning of a whole formation. It is just like learning something new: first something is explained in detail and then repeated several times (sometimes unintentionally by "hoaxers"). Then, when your "teacher" thinks you have got it, a synonymous abbreviation is introduced and used in the following "chapters", while other new things are explained in depth which become synonymous abbreviations later, and so on. It would be possible to evolve parts of the big pictograms into their meaning graphically, but then the formations would become at least double in size, more complicated and unclear for the unaided viewer. The principles we have found in the way the formations developed helped to avoid confusion. A genuine formation seems to be in balance in every respect.

## Questions to the Circlemakers

With the help of these principles we were able to outline a pictogram (of about 30 metres actual length) using no new symbols, just the ones "they" had given to us: circles, rings, rectangles and pathways. Most important was the discovery of a symbol for Planet Earth, the third planet out from the centre in this solar system. It was a small symbol beside the big ones in 1990 and showed a third planet with its single moon. When we say "third" we mean the third orbit because the often seen appendages that resemble numbers (some have exaggeratedly named them "God's fingers"! ) are in fact the abbreviations for orbits. From this day on we used this symbol as our call sign.

In our first experimental formation we emphasized the third orbit by making it a bit wider and longer than the other two and added a small moon to show the Phenomenon that we had understood. All in all, it comprised the following things: "Hello, here we are. Do you come from the star system of Alpha Centauri that is four light-years away? Are there four planets around your sun in this double star system? Which is your planetary orbit?" We chose "four light years" because it was easier for us to express it in binary code. In fact, Alpha

Centauri is a double star system where the components are 4.3 light-years from us. Together with a third component star, Proxima Centauri, they are the nearest suns to ours.

With all this in mind we travelled to Wiltshire in 1991. Before we left Germany, we said several times to ourselves: If there would be just one single circle -- even a tiny one-- in the vicinity of our experimental formation, nothing of importance, just a circle to show "their" attention, and to say " Boys, OK, we see what you are doing", then we would be the happiest souls on Planet Earth.

Of course, it is nearly impossible to describe events in the fields without mentioning one's thoughts and emotions, but then this article could easily become a book were we to include all that happened to us over the years. So let's focus on July 1991

## The experimental formation

After our first night in Windmill House, north of Avebury, a place we love and feel "at home", we went to visit some genuine circles the next morning that had appeared that very night at Maizey Farm. This was July 11th. There was much rumour, told by different people, about strange sightings of lights in the Alton Barnes area around those days. On July 12th, we (and our thoughts) have been on the site the farmer had chosen for our experiment for the very first time. Nothing unusual came to our attention. On July 13th, at 1:00 p.m., we started our experiment. We completed our "question" five hours of hard work later. We were often visited by very low flying air force helicopters. Then, when we lifted our heads after we had finished our "question", we discovered a single circle four hundred metres away which we hadn't seen before... What we hadn't dared to believe in our wildest dreams - had come true! But so easily...?

We immediately drove to the farmhouse to tell the news. They all were astonished since no one had heard of this circle. On the afternoon of the next day, July 14th, we went out with the farmer's family to look at the small circle and then our experimental formation. In the evening of the same day we stayed in the field until 3:00 am at night. We tried to catch a

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glimpse of this cosmic vibration as so many others did before, at that time and later too. Nobody else was out there, only us and our thoughts. Of course, we saw many lights, some bright, some coloured, some dim, but, as experienced amateur astronomers and investigators of unidentified aerial phenomena, we could identify them all as aeroplanes, cars, satellites, trains, signals, etc..

On July 15, we had the idea of comparing a video we'd taken before we started our experiment with the one we took after we had completed the formation. On this we could see that the circle was already there before we started! Then the farmer's wife found a farm worker who had to work on top of Woodborough Hill in the early evening of July 12th. He was absolutely sure that there was no circle in the very field as long as he was out there. So it is clear that this circle must have appeared in the night of July 12 / 13.

## Examining the circle

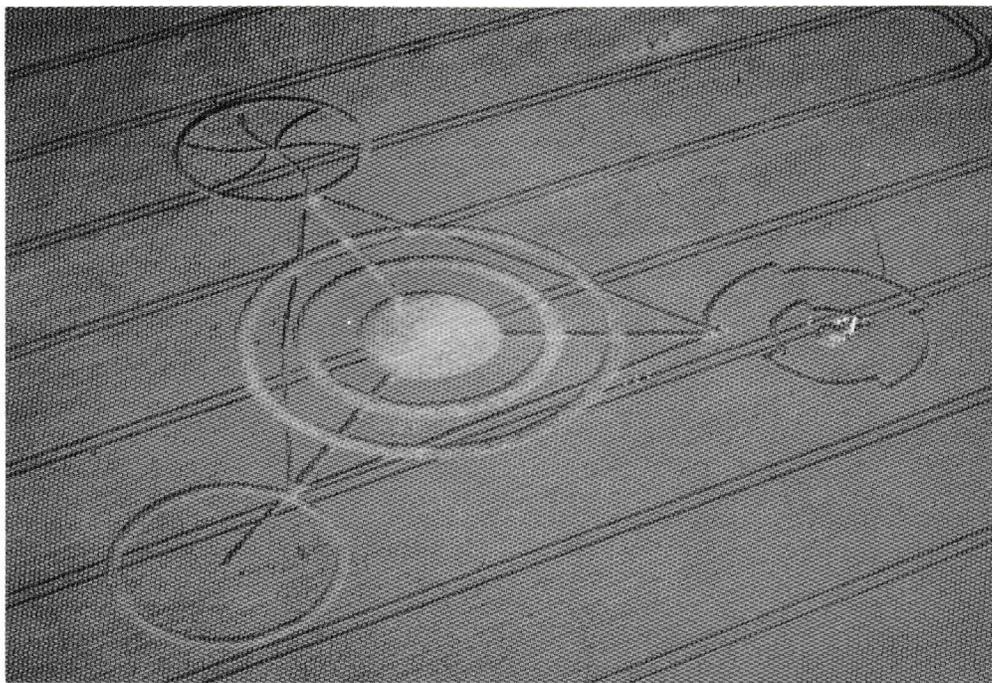
The next day, July 16, was the day the small circle above our experimental formation was to be investigated early in the morning by a team of important persons on the crop circle scene: two ladies and a

gentlemen, a professional pilot. The farmer's wife attended the investigation with us. Later a young man, also well known, joined the group. Very soon the circle was identified as a genuine one. It really looked beautiful because of its strange inner pattern: spiralled at the edge, then with "rays" coming out of the middle where, in the centre, the stems were laid in a straight bunch. And, most extraordinary, the central lay of stems pointed in the direction of an energy line that was found by the pilot with his rods. And the direction was ... just down the valley towards our experimental formation. We had no knowledge of this line until that moment. After a bit, he looked at us with a mixture of scepticism and astonishment.

And we stood there like little children not knowing whether we should laugh or cry.

## An extraordinary flash of light

The farmer's wife reminded us of her timetable and so we had to drive back. We arrived at the farmhouse at 9.30 am, looked at some pictures the pilot had taken, and then we were invited for a cup of coffee by the farmer's wife. A few minutes later we sat around the table in the kitchen: on the left of the table Joachim, on the other side in front of him one of the ladies. Left of Joachim was Hans, left of Hans the farmer's wife at the coffee machine on the stove. To the right of her stood the pilot with his back against the stove, a small window behind him. We all were talking. Joachim remembers that



*The great pictogram near Barbury Castle found early on July 17th 1991*

during the conversation one moment he was looking down at some photos on the table in front of him with a picture of the circle of August 12, 1989, the "Swastika", uppermost, when he got a push on his arm from Hans who cried: "What's this??" Just a second before the whole room was filled with a bright white light so that no one could see each other!! All had seen this flashlight-like light - except Joachim. We looked to the left and saw the farmer's wife who had put her arms around her little daughter protectively. For a moment there was silence and, in everyone's face, astonishment. Then the farmer's wife rushed outside the house to see if there was something. But, nothing. The other lady investigator was still outside the house

loading things into her car when the light appeared inside the house and she confirmed that nothing unusual was to be seen outside, no flashlights, no reflections of sunlight, no car that drove by, no aeroplane that had flown by. Outside everything was quiet and peaceful.

For all of us it was hard to maintain our composure. Later the pilot said that he had had a similar experience in 1985 when he started his crop circle investigations. He said that he had a feeling as if one was being photographed, scanned or examined.

## The Barbury Castle pictogram

On the following night the pictograms of Temple Farm and Barbury Castle appeared. These were the first ones in this area since the ones at Maizey Farm on

July 11th - except for the small one above our "question". And they were the *first ones in line in this area after we had put down our "question"* in the remote field near Alton Barnes. We arrived at Temple Farm about noon on July 17th. What we saw there quite made us lose our composure.

One half of this huge beautiful pictogram was more than clear to us: an exact

and detailed confirmation that the circles showed what we had elaborated - stars and planets - and that the principles we used were almost correct. There was the inverted symbol for a star with a big orbital plane. Within the orbital plane there was a planet travelling in orbit three, a planet that has one moon. So "they" gave us back our solar system with all graphic extensions that are possible, just to show our considerations were right. The other half was an answer to our question about "their" star system: *no double star system but a single star* with two planets, one of them important. The star is a bit smaller than our Sun but of the same type. Not directly answered was the part of our question as to *where* this star and planetary

system could be found but indirectly it was shown that it was not the one we had proposed, Alpha Centauri.

On July 18 we went inside the Barbury Castle formation. The pilot was already at work with his pole and camera. What we saw in Farmer White's field made us very excited. The first thing we recognised was this spiral at the bottom right of the formation. From the first moment it reminded us of a *spiral galaxy* --again an astronomical symbol! We jumped around and danced and cried. The pilot said: "Slow down - just keep your feet on the ground!" It was wise advice which we accepted.

## Interpreting Barbury's message

It took us until October (still at home) to find out what the meaning of Barbury Castle was. We could apply our twelve principles to explain parts of the pictogram but there remained some hard nuts to crack - and, to top it all, everything in the pictogram was connected with everything else which was the complicated part about it. This time of working on the theory of the Barbury Castle pictogram was one of the most wonderful times we ever had.

The pictogram itself is just like a guide or a map. With the help of each single component of this pictogram we found a star, located at a very special place in the sky. This star, a member of the constellation Orion, is to be found nowhere else but just at the centre of a *celestial circle*, the "*Winter Circle*" (or "*Winter Hexagon*") that comprises the *six constellations and stars* as follows: Canis Major and Sirius, Canis Minor and Procyon, Gemini and Pollux, Auriga and Capella, Taurus and Aldebaran and Orion and Rigel. When Sirius is above the horizon then this huge alignment covers a major part of the sky. Many of these constellations and stars are mentioned in the earliest myths of mankind, are engraved in the old stones and were the reason for building stone circles and wheels to measure their positions.

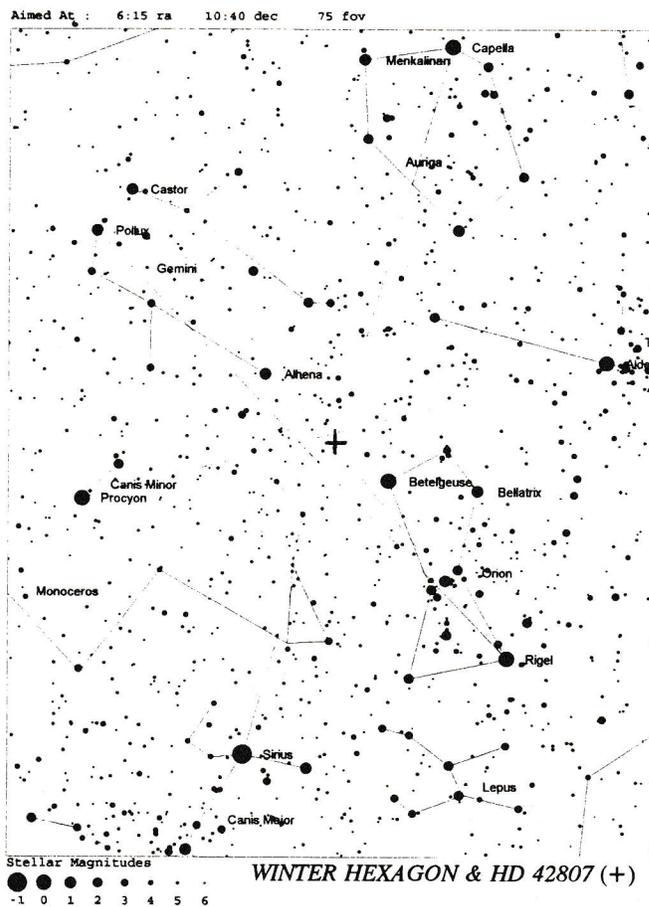
The star in question is *a bit smaller than our Sun but of the same type (Type G)*, just as was hinted at in the *Temple Farm pictogram*, which means it can support life on its planets of which there must be at least two, as was shown at Temple Farm *and in the Barbury Castle pictogram itself*, by two orbits around the central star. This beautiful yellow sun travels through space 57 light-years away from Earth which means *it is a close neighbour* to our sun and it has rank 97 of the closest G-type stars. Its visible magnitude is 6.54 and you can easily see the star with binoculars. In the past, when the atmosphere was not so polluted with dust, chemical particles and light from our cities, our

ancestors might have seen this dim point of light with the naked eye. Its coordinates are: R.A. 6hr 13m 12.6s and Decl. +10deg 37' 39". Close by 75 Orionis, it is not named by humans but has catalogue number **HD 42807**.

To make our amazement complete, we found another thing that is special about this star. As if it was not enough that the Barbury Castle pictogram had led us to the centre of the Winter Hexagon to find not just any star but a most promising candidate for extraterrestrial life, we detected to our surprise that our star is the top star of a small star pattern which resembles immediately the triangle of Barbury Castle. Now we had no more doubt that all this could not have been mere coincidence. Like a mirror, the pictogram has its counterpart in the stars in the sky.

All who went inside this pictogram remember that not all the lines were straight. If you take the line as base line that connects the spiral with the circle that had nothing inside (other than a straight line to the centre), then you can see that this line is really straight. The other two lines that connect the circle on the left of the base line and the spiral on the right side with the top circle were slightly bent. This bending was necessary to maintain the aspect of "connection" because, without it, the left and the right lines would run through the outer ring of the central part of the pictogram. This would put the whole pictogram out of balance and would lead to wrong explanations. As it was before: in a genuine formation nothing is created by chance, everything is fully intended.

The two kinks in the two lines are at different places on both sides. The whole pictogram seems to be a bit crooked. In reality, in our cosmic neighbourhood, in the celestial triangle there are stars just at the place where the kinks are in the pictogram. And this triangle, unknown to us at that time, was high above us but invisible in daylight while we were creating our experimental formation. In fact, it guides the whole circle season by day, and then shows its splendour to us on the cold winter nights. One thing at least: *the celestial triangle is tilted from the north*



*by a special angle: - about 19.5 deg.*

With the help of the circles we had found a special star, a wonderful yellow sun that spreads its warm light in the environment where at least two planets travel in their orbits. After another two years of work with the Phenomenon in the cornfields of Wiltshire we today know that *we all had to find this star*, even if it was only a test of how far we would come. It is on top of the pictogram and on top of the triangle in the sky; perhaps it was at the top of all the circles. From various sources there are rumours that more than one civilisation is interested in Planet Earth. When you take the beauty of the genuine circles as a mirror of their creators, then *the civilisation that formed them must be positive*. So we aren't sure if the star we found really is their "home", or a base in our vicinity, but one thing is clear --*it is important*.

## Key pictograms and "dolphins"

Something happened in July 1991. When we left England, there appeared two shortened replicas of our "answer" pictogram at Temple Farm in that area we visited so often in the weeks before, one at Alton Priors (July 19) and one at West Kennett (July 26). Then, for the very first time (as far as we know) those pictograms appeared that you called "dolphins". (By the way, we always avoided naming pictograms, because one runs the risk of being lead too

soon in a wrong, though sometimes personally welcome, direction of interpretation.) Applying our principles to these pictograms (and it doesn't matter if one or other among these was hoaxed, because, if so, then the hoaxers kept in line with the general pattern), they show highly emphasised the principle of "strong connection" between two suns, planetary systems, or beings : yes, contact has been achieved.

When we are talking about communication with the Phenomenon, we must stress that we don't think the Phenomenon *needs* the circles to communicate with humans. "They" surely could use other tools than circles in wheatfields if it were their only intention to talk with us. The circles are here to help us in a gentle way to reorientate ourselves with our natural environment on this planet, and in space, and to open our eyes so that we look around and see who and where we are. They are a challenge to our spirit, a reminder that there is a larger reality than the one we are accustomed to living in. And if we can accept this, we help the Phenomenon to reach us. This is the way we can all bring things back into balance and to help to evolve Planet Earth towards a better future.

## DECIPHERING THE TEMPLE FARM PICTOGRAM

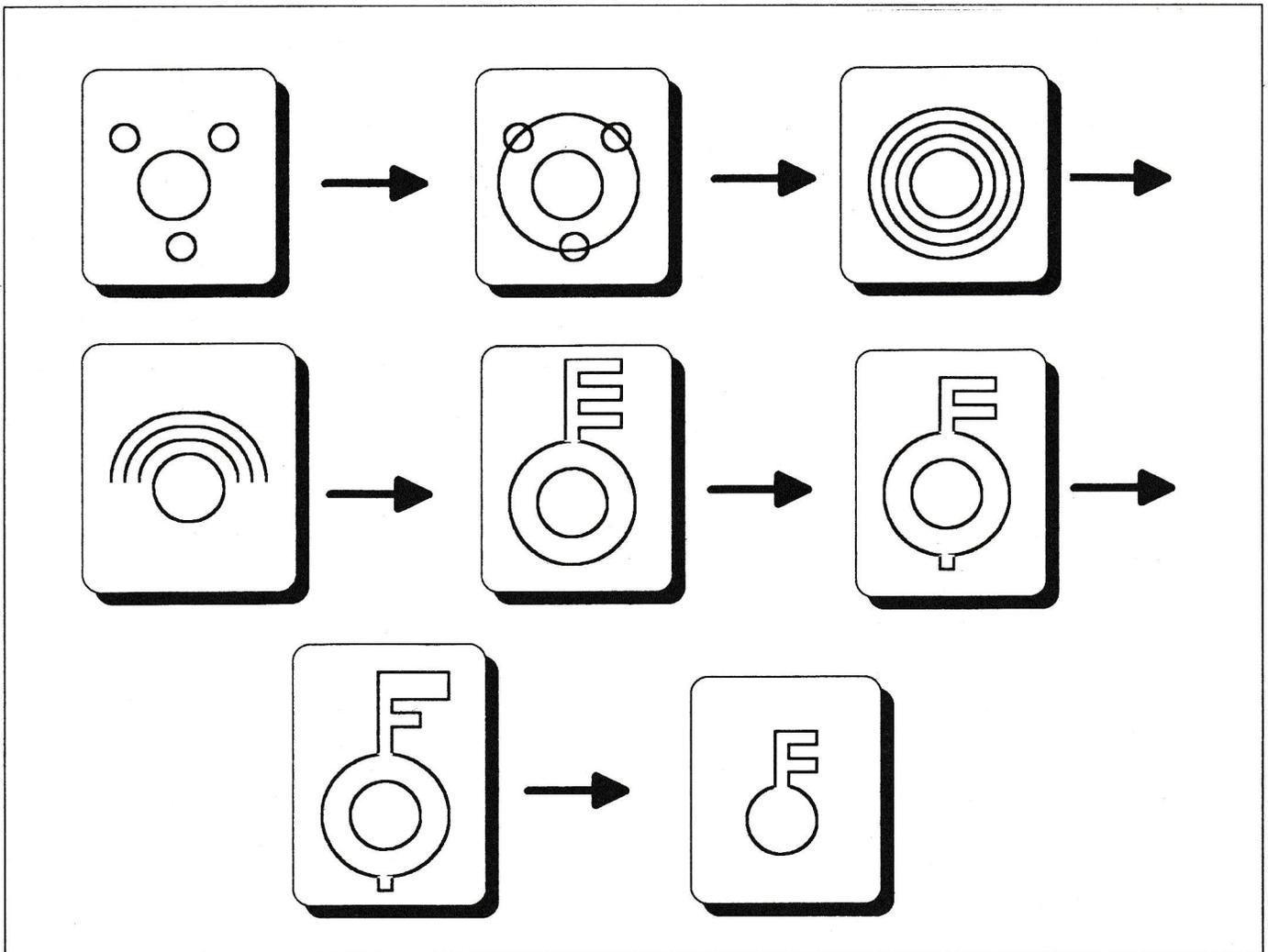
*Joachim Koch & Hans-Jürgen Kyborg* interpret the pictogram which they saw as a reply to their own experimental formation

We started our analysis of the material that was available in 1989 by drawing all the shapes of the circles and then formations that had appeared up to this time and then putting them one beneath the other in a table in a *chronological order*. Perhaps this was the key for success because while we were looking at this long row of drawings one thing immediately came clear: there was an evolution of the shapes of the circles. Everything started with relatively "simple" circles and there weren't many of them in the beginning. We (humans) should get used to this new phenomenon, slowly, softly and logically. The circles weren't just "flattened corn" but showed various internal patterns and complex lays of the stems. This might indicate that there is an intelligence behind the circles and that we should look closely

at the appearance of them.

Up to 1989, many circles had appeared, first single ones, then groups of circles, circles with one ring, circles with several rings, narrow and wide ones, finally circles placed on rings around a bigger circle. We should get used to the importance of special arrangements, we should look and think about and find the principle meaning: a circle, to circle, to orbit. In our known world, everything is in movement, flowing, nothing remains still; in the microcosm as in the macrocosm, everywhere something circles around something. It is an universal fact - and a wonderful item between two intelligent but different beings to start communication, to show similarity, to calibrate the two levels of knowledge on a common level if there is - understanding.

So throughout the years, by the circles

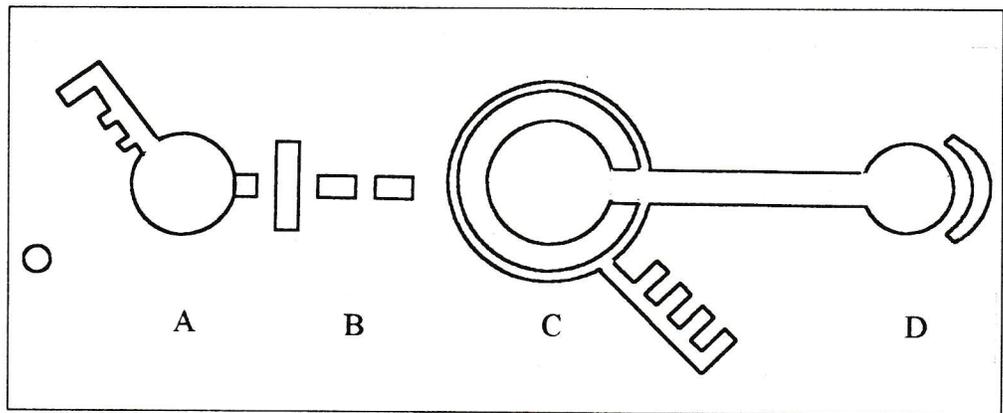


we all were prepared - cali-brated - for things to come. And they came in 1990 as the so-called pictograms, huge formations consisting of known parts, as circles and rings, combined with new features like rectangular appendixes and connected by pathways. In other places the grape-shots were found, large or smaller areas scattered with small single circles. Obviously, there must have been a meaning behind all this and we took it as a challenge to find what kind of principle was behind it.

We found several of these principles. The principle of circling round something or orbiting was verified when the circles got rings and smaller circles were placed on these rings. From this time on there existed two types of circles: the ringed one and the not ringed one. Smaller not ringed ones always were arranged around another bigger not ringed or ringed circle, never vice versa. A very important principle is abbreviation or substitution. Something is shown in detail and for a while in several fields, for example satellites around a big circle. Then this feature decreased but another one came up: the rectangles as numbers and the broader rings as symbols for orbits in general. When new features were introduced they were often seen in the same or next field together with the "old feature", for example the ringed circle and the big not ringed circle with its satellites at Cheesefoot Head, Punch Bowl in 1987.

The breakthrough came while watching a TV program in autumn 1990 about the events of the summer months in the British cornfields. While flying over a big wheat field the camera showed a large amount of small single circles scattered all over the field - the so-called grapeshot. We got excited. This reminded us of something, this was something we have already seen - but what? We stopped the tape and copied the circles as dots directly from the TV screen - black dots on white paper. Then we saw of what this reminded us - star maps. It looked like the star maps we were used to from our other passion: astronomy. These circles represent stars; our communication partner has chosen stars as a basic common item, easy to symbolise, known to everyone on earth, untouched by humans but with a profound relationship: they represent the past, present and future of mankind and all living beings in the universe.

Choosing star symbols is a wonderful way of gently forcing mankind to lift the heads to look up, to get into awareness that there is more, to become used to that out there is another intelligence beside the one we were supposed to think to be the only



*The experimental "question" pictogram made by K & K near Picked Hill, Alton Barnes*

and most superior - our own. The circles as star symbols should encourage us to do this important step in our development that so many are afraid of - to terminate the era of anthropocentricism. They are an invitation to the cosmic community.

With the new pictures of the circles and pictograms of 1990 and the realisation of the circles to be star symbols our investigations developed like an avalanche. Now we understood why there were the two types of circles. Smaller circles were grouped around one big circle, sometimes placed on a small ring like an orbital line, small bodies circle around a bigger one like moons circle around their mother planet or - planets around suns. Now we understood the need of introducing abbreviations because to show a whole planetary system would cause too huge and too complex formations with the risk that nobody would understand them anymore. By abbreviating, it is possible to show in detail what is important for the moment and to hint, with an appendix to the circle, that there is more inside this system which is not needed to show in this special case.

The summer of 1990 was like a real examination and if we had learned our lessons - the various circles of previous years - well we might be able to understand some of the pictograms. It was a huge challenge and before we started applying our principles to the new patterns we asked ourselves if this was not a bit too much and if we must fail. But with the first positive results we knew that we could continue and that we could succeed.

In our diagram you can see an example of development and abbreviation. First there is a circle with three smaller satellites. Then a circle line appears and shows satellites in orbit. In the next picture the smaller circles are dropped and only the orbits are shown. Complete orbits often were shown either as narrow circle lines or broader rings or segments of rings. Then the orbits are shortened to segments of rings. The introduction to this latter new

feature was the formation of Longwood Estate, Hampshire, in June, 1990. In the next picture all rings and segments are summarized in one ring, now broader again with an appendix: there are three orbits within the orbital zone. The next one shows two appendixes, a pointer to number two and a numberless stump on the opposite side. This means two orbits or the second orbit are emphasized and so shown to be important, and there are more things (e.g. orbits) within (indicated by the the stump) but not important for the moment, so they are not shown. The next example shows clearly that orbit number two (planet number two) among others (the stump) is really meant and the last picture shows the second planet itself.

Another abbreviation were the rectangles beside the main pathways. They appeared while round satellites decreased and often there were two or four of them, just as two or four round satellites were shown before. The introducing pictogram for that feature was Chilcomb Farm, May 23rd, 1990. All the pictograms that followed that summer were preparations for the climax of what happened next: the big pictograms of Alton Barnes and Allington Down.

With the help of our principles, we could show that the two components of both Alton Barnes formations, nearly identical, shows the same: our planet Earth as a part of our solar system and the importance of a planet number two. (To explain this would need some additional pages!) The three big formations represent wonderful examples of the variability of the circle system by expressing the same with different combinations. Up to the end of 1990 single, double and triple star systems have been shown. After all this, we thought it was logical to ask: *where?*

So we decided to construct an experimental pictogram by using parts of the circles and pictograms in the same way as we were shown in the last few years. This pictogram is shown at the top of this page.

Component A represents the Earth. It is

the same as the genuine circle at Alton Barnes in 1990, our key for understanding and our "call sign" (hello, here we are!) which we used every year since 1991. It is a simple spiralled circle, the symbol for a planet, with the pointer for three orbits, the third orbit is emphasized because it is important. In connection with a circle this means: the third planet. This third planet has a moon that is shown here by the small circle. The small stump to the right of the earth is a pointer that means: away from earth in this direction.

Component B is the binary code "four". It means four light years away that should represent the distance to Alpha Centauri. We chose "four" which comes very roughly to the truth because we didn't know how to write 4.4 ly in binary code.

Component C and D represent the double star system Alpha Centauri A and B. This sun symbol is a circle with a ring and standing corn between them. Later a real inverse sun symbol was often used by the Phenomenon that is in fact another abbreviation: a broader ring around standing corn. What is connected is the same or is in relationship to each other. So the suns must be connected by the pathway across the ring of standing corn. If the pathway would stop at the orbital ring of the left sun this would mean that the D-component is no sun, belongs either to the orbital ring or is in loose connection by similar meaning. One principle was: what is big is important. The left sun is bigger so this is the important one as it is in reality where Alpha Centauri A is of spectral type G and Alpha Centauri B is K-type. Alpha Centauri A can have at least four planets with possibly stable orbits according to the distance to Alpha Centauri B at closest approach. These four orbits are shown by the appendix. No orbit is emphasized because this was part of our question: do you come from Alpha

Centauri A, are there four planets, which is your orbit? We would leave it to the Phenomenon to emphasize its own orbit.

Component D represents Alpha Centauri B. It is a cool Sun that probably is beyond the capability of supporting life on one of its planets if there are any. So here the sun is shown smaller, the orbital plane is hinted at by only a segment without appendix because it is unimportant here in this question.

We chose Alpha Centauri to make a start with something somewhere, it was our proposal to start the "conversation". It is the nearest and the simplest. It is the nearest known star system and it has one sunlike star. It is possible that at least one component has stable orbits for some planets and it is not unlikely that one of them travels in the biosphere - the zone where earthlike life could evolve - around that sun. Even if the circlemakers do not originate from Alpha Centauri they could have founded colonies there or have space stations as a jumping-off place to the next solar system - ours. We know from the UFO phenomenon that beside all the fantastic abilities extraterrestrials might have some of them have to use craft. So if there are space faring species they surely must know what is to find in a special space sector like ours. There are some in the scientific community who say that there is no intelligent life close to us. We don't think so and therefore we started our "conversation" with the solar system closest to ours and with this we followed the example that was given to us with the circles - evolution, step by step. These were our thoughts as we worked in that remote field at Alton Barnes on July 13 1991.

The very next pictogram (at Temple Farm) that appeared in our vicinity three days later made us quite lose our composure. We will never forget this moment when we stopped our car beside the road and looked down into the valley to see this

pictogram with all the features that we had found out and used in our "question-pictogram" given back here so clearly. This was a real answer!

Component D represents a sun symbol (inverse type). The orbital zone is unusually wide, so it must be of importance, something of importance is in it (planets). Component C is a planetary symbol, in comparison with the sun remarkably big, so it must be important, too. Component B shows the number of the orbit of this planet: it is three. And to make it unmistakable clear, one of the three rectangles is double in size and shows a slightly different direction, and most wonderful, what is in orbit number three of this sun is additionally shown beneath this emphasized rectangle: two planetary circles, one big one small, a planet that has one moon (A). This is our Sun, with planet no. 3, that has one moon - it is Earth and the Moon!

While we used the most abbreviated form to show Planet Earth that is possible, a planetary circle with a numeral appendix, the Phenomenon used the complete unabbreviated form for the same - just to show: yes, that's it. As we could roughly measure the phenomenon had used nearly the same angles in component B as we did. We had learned to say: "Hello! Here we are..."

In those moments of wonderful high emotions when we saw this pictogram for the first time, we interpreted the components E - G as a realistic reflection of the Alpha Centauri star system: Alpha Centauri A in the middle (F), smaller Alpha Centauri B to the left (E) and tiny Proxima Centauri (G) to the right. You can see and hear this in the first excited statement we took with the video camera. But at home, when everything slowed down a bit, it looked quite different. When we applied our principles to the formation, it came clear that there no double star system is shown because no two suns are

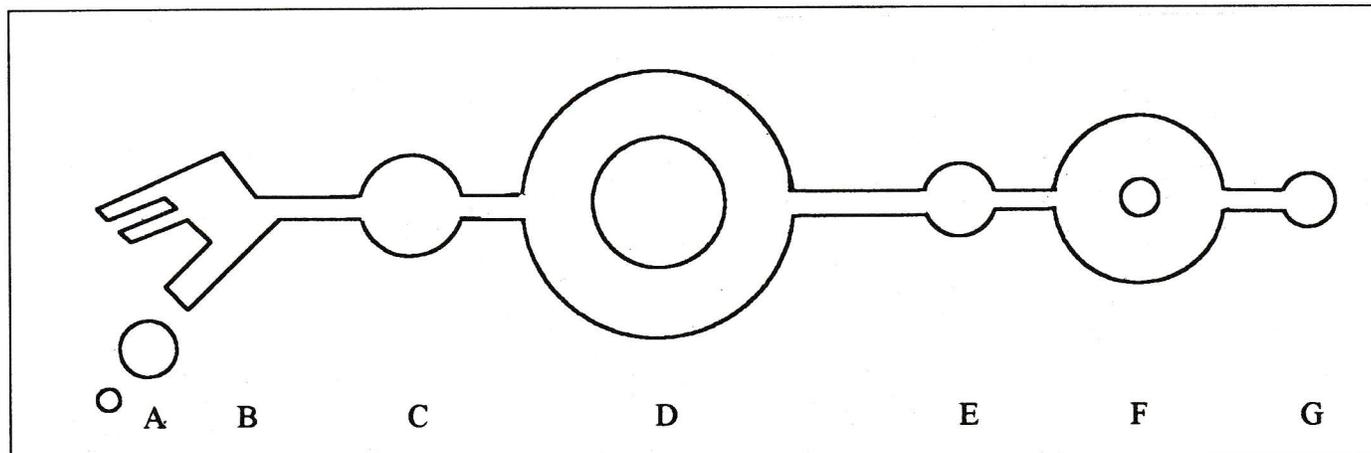


Diagram of the Temple Farm (Preshute Down) pictogram of 17/7/91 (see also cover photo)

directly connected with each other. The circle (E) to the right of D is a planetary symbol that is linked only to the planetary orbit of D and not with the central circle (the solar body). On the other side E is linked again only with the orbital plane of this solar symbol (F) and not with the central solar body. It cannot be the star Alpha Centauri B, it must be a planet.

From analysing the long pictograms of 1990, we had learned that components on or beside straight pathways do belong to the bigger component they are nearer to. So E and G clearly belong to F. The connecting pathway between D and E is not a physical one but symbolises a connection in meaning: "as it is shown on the left it is the same principle to the right". Component E is both connected with the broad orbital zone of D and of F. In the orbital zone of D there is something very important within: a special planet. The orbital zone of F is very broad so it must be very important, too. The planetary symbol E is connected with two very important things, so it must be important, too. To emphasize this a second planetary symbol (G) is shown that is smaller than E, E is more important than G. The complex E - G represents a star with an orbital plane where two planets are shown, one of them is more important. The sun F is similar to D (same type of inverse sun symbol) but definitely smaller. The whole complex is linked by meaning to the A - D complex. The sun F is of the same type as D, has an important orbital zone as D has, has planets as D has and one of its planets is important as planet number three of sun D.

Our question was: "Are you from Alpha Centauri A? Are there four planet (orbits)? Which is your orbit?" There is no double star system in the pictogram so it is not Alpha Centauri A. The complex E - G is a single star system where the star is of the same spectral type like our sun that is of yellow-white G2 but smaller, for example G4 or G5. Two planets are shown out of an important orbital zone. This could mean there are at least two planets and one of them or the second is important - according to our question, this planet could have something to do with the Circlemakers.

Our question was answered, nothing more and nothing less. We had not asked for other things in case of we might be wrong so we could say nothing against the fact that the Phenomenon on one hand introduced a single star with two planets but on the other hand gave no hints where we should search for this star.

It was less than 2 km away that the Phenomenon smashed a wonderful pictogram into a field. It became famous as the Barbury Castle pictogram, giving us the answer we didn't know where to look for.

When we saw this pictogram for the first time we forgot to breathe for a moment because there were two things that could have a relation to our communication efforts. One was the big circle with two broad rings in the centre of the formation, the other one was the spiral to the bottom right that reminded us immediately of a spiral galaxy. Again an astronomical sign! Should this have been another answer to our questions? Because of the large dimensions and the importance that was obviously present within this pictogram we were a little bit afraid that this could have something to do with us.

Two days later we had to leave. On the afternoon of July 18th, Polly Carson stood on her farmland talking to Malcom, a farmworker, about recent events. Suddenly she shouted up to the sky: "Phenomenon, we need another pictogram!" In the following night appeared the pictogram of Alton Priors, a replication of the Temple Farm pictogram. With the C component of Preshute Down dropped it had a slight abbreviation and the numerical appendix had a shape like we used it in our experimental formation but the rest and the whole meaning was the same. The way to abbreviate what was shown in detail in other formation was always funny to us and reminded us of the telescope aerial of a car. The more you pull, the more segments you see and when at full length one comprehends it best. On the other hand, the more you push it back the less segments you can see, and comprehension lessens. But the whole remains an aerial.

Six days after our return to Germany another replica of Preshute Down and Alton Priors appeared, and if this was no hoax it seemed to us just like an echo of happy days that have gone. All these important pictograms appeared beside roads that we had travelled so often, not anywhere else but just there. Should all this have been mere coincidence - or...?

Back in Germany we first managed and analysed other things because we felt that Barbury Castle was something important and we would like to have our mind completely free for this important pictogram. So it took us nearly three months before we started to analyse this wonderful and enigmatic formation. It is not possible to describe here everything to do with the discovery of HD 42807, because this letter would become a book but we try to summarize the main findings and implications.

We looked again at the pictogram and chose a second working hypothesis: look for a bright star that is close to a dimmer one right on the centre line of the galactic plane of the Milky Way. According to the Temple Farm pictogram, the brighter star must be of spectral type G (similar to the

sun). We found some of those alignments in our star map but we were disappointed. There were too many and no one was really special in size, by name or number or its history. It would be too arbitrary to choose one as the very Barbury Castle star. Was there something in the pictogram that we had not considered carefully enough? Did we oversee something? Again we had to go back to the pictogram.

This time we recognized the unusual presence of a number - six. There were six curved lines within the circle on the top. There were six steps in the spiral on the bottom right. There were three outer pathways; three towards the center - together six again and the inner pathways divided the two rings in three segments each that make six in the whole. Always six. Only the circle on the bottom left didn't fit that scheme, it was blank of numbers. The circle above represented a star, the spiral on the bottom right the galactic plane - and the circle on the bottom left? We had to reassess our primary assumption of the this circle being a star.

Then we re-examined the circle at the top of the formation. According to our principles and contrary to our first assumption it could not be a bright star because the circle in the middle of the ring was really tiny. But it must be of some importance because it was shown in the context of this beautiful circle. Moreover, it was shown in the center of the rays, in the center of the - six. Could this be a hint to its location? In the center of six lightwaves, emitted by stars and there must be six stars, too. What do we know about six stars in an alignment, is there anything in astronomy containing six stars in a circle-like alignment? Yes, there is the "Winter Hexagon" or "Winter Circle"!

The "Winter Hexagon" comprises the six constellations and stars as follows: Canis Major and Sirius, Canis Minor and Procyon, Gemini and Pollux, Auriga and Capella, Taurus and Aldebaran and Orion with Rigel. Betelgeuse originally is not part of the "Hexagon's" stars. When Sirius is above the horizon then this huge alignment covers a major part of the sky. It is beautiful to watch this very important region of the starry sky especially when it culminates about midnight around the changing of the year from above the cliff with the East Field, Alton Barnes and Woodborough Hill in the foreground.

It is nearly impossible to describe with words how we felt when we wrote down what we'd found as a message in the Barbury Castle pictogram: "Look for a star (according to Temple Farm pictogram: sunlike G-type but smaller than the sun) in the centre of the Winter Hexagon. The star

# EARLY CIRCLES AT PEPPERBOX HILL

*Suzanne Padfield*, who was engaged in parapsychology research at Downton, Wilts, from 1965 to 1974 recalls early crop circles near there. Here is more evidence that shows up the mendacious claim of Doug & Dave to have “invented” the phenomenon.

From 1965 Suzanne Padfield worked with parapsysics researcher Benson Herbert at his laboratory in Privett House near Downton, a few miles from Salisbury. The house is about a mile from Pepperbox Hill which has for years been a well known crop circle site. During the early 1970s there was intense interest in psychokinesis (PK), telepathy and other paranormal happenings due mainly to the highly publicised performances of Uri Geller.

In a 1974 issue of the *International Journal of Parapsysics*, Benson Herbert reported on his research into Suzanne's apparent psychic abilities. Through a series of ingenious experiments he was able to demonstrate that she could directly influence a beam of polarised light by “bending” the beam or rotating the plane of polarisation as it passed through a cylinder. She was able to produce the effect repeatedly, even when provided with several different light-projecting devices. This phenomenon has become known as the “Padfield Effect” since few other psychics have shown this ability as consistently. Suzanne could also produce more conventional PK phenomena, such as making a pendulum swing backward and forward in a sealed container.<sup>1</sup>

In the years 1965 to 1970 Suzanne, and other members of Herbert's group, first came across circles in the cropfields near Pepperbox Hill. These circles were uncommon with no more than one or two found in those years when they did appear. They were usually in wheat, and she remembers them as being clockwise and from 20 to 30 yards across though they could have been smaller. Most other circles of that era, such as those reported near Warminster in Arthur Shuttlewood's writings were about thirty feet in diameter. These circles were neatly laid with a sharp cut-off between the flattened corn and the containing wall of standing crop; they were not “bowled” or rough and all were just simple circles. They pre-date the earliest claims of Doug & Dave, who started their circlefaking activity in 1978 --or 1976, if

you prefer to believe Ken Brown's revised version of events.

## Varied perceptions of the circles

The circles were viewed with much curiosity at the time although there was no

with the research which was going on in the labs nearby, since it was then concentrated on rotating minute beams by using PK. No one suggested these circles were connected with UFOs and no firm conclusion as to their origin was ever made. If Benson Herbert thought the circles were of paranormal origin, he was more concerned with the study of parapsychological phenomena in the lab rather than out in the fields where no control was possible. To him control was absolutely vital.

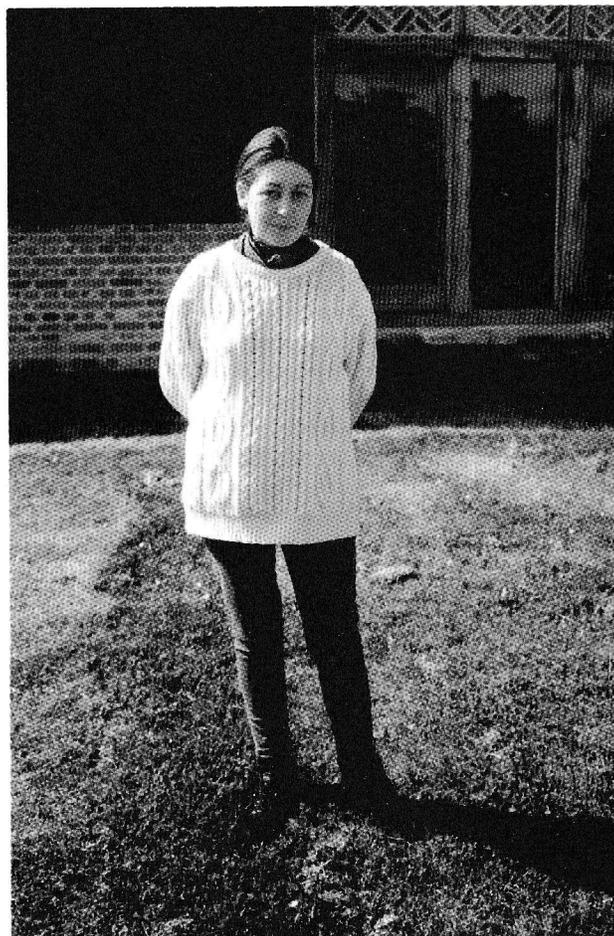
Gordon Sparkes farmed the land around Pepperbox Hill since the late 1950s and, during the course of 30 years or so, he often found circular markings in his cornfields. Although there was absolutely no suggestion of hoaxing as explanation for crop circles at that time, he believed that these were man-made, despite accounts of circles in the Pepperbox area which go back to the 1940s and earlier.<sup>2</sup>

## A “window” in the sky

One winter we did observe in the same field below Pepperbox Hill a circular depression in the earth of about the same diameter as the crop circles, says Suzanne. This was during one February in the late sixties. A party of people going up the track to Privett House saw up above this field a strange oblong shape in the sky --stationary and much paler than the surrounding sky like a gap or window. They were most struck by their sighting of this unusual object which they watched for 5 minutes.

This description of a “window” in the sky sounds to Suzanne very similar to that of a “window opening” in Stack Rocks in Dyfed, reported by Ted Holiday in *The Dyfed Enigma*<sup>3</sup> in 1977. Witnesses had seen a small silvery disk zip across the sky and disappear into what looked like a “door or window opening” in Stack Rocks. Other reports spoke of “figures” coming or going through this window in the rocks, which some people claimed could occasionally be seen to open there.

Stack Rocks are in the sea off the Dyfed coast between St Brides and Little Haven



*Suzanne Padfield*

obsessive public interest in them as occurred much later in the late 1980s. The group at the labs were vaguely interested but were more preoccupied with their research programme. Suzanne thinks that there was a picture and a report on a crop circle in the Salisbury evening paper during the late 1960s. She remembers no strange effects, physiological or otherwise, in those early circles. Naturally the group from Privett House speculated on the circles' origin and there was even a suggestion that this might be connected

in an area where much paranormal and UFO activity was reported in the 1970s -- the subject of the previously mentioned book. A friend of Suzanne's, Jean Churchman, who went to Dyfed in 1990 saw nothing unusual on the Stack out to sea but found near the coast a large circle of flat-tish stones embedded in the ground with a straight panhandle pointing directly toward Stack Rocks. Although the origin of this circle of stones is unclear, it bore a strong resemblance to a shape sometimes found in crop circles, such as that with a panhandle found at Pepperbox Hill in 1987, which is illustrated in *Circular Evidence*<sup>2</sup>.

Suzanne left work at the labs in 1974 and now lives near Cambridge. Benson Herbert who was a great pioneer in parapsychics, and who saw the Pepperbox circles too, is now sadly dead. Unfortunately we have been unable to locate any photographs of these early crop circles near Pepperbox Hill but there is no doubt at all that they were occurring in that vicinity long before D & D claimed to have embarked on their hoaxing saga. In the video documentary *Cropcircle Communiqué*<sup>4</sup> Dave Chorley, standing with Doug Bower, says: "We are the two people that have created the crop circles in 1978 ... through to today". It is remarkable how people, who are unaware of the early circles in the 1960s and early 1970s, have naively accepted these two men's claims.

## References:

1. D. Scott Rogo, *Miracles - A Scientific Exploration of Wondrous Phenomena*, Aquarian Press, London, 1991.
2. Pat Delgado & Colin Andrews, *Circular Evidence*, Bloomsbury, London, 1989.
3. Randall Jones Pugh and F.W. Holiday, *The Dyfed Enigma*, Faber and Faber, 1979.
4. *Cropcircle Communiqué*, Video documentary by Circlevision, Ludlow, 1991.

## PERSONAL ADS

**Gypsy Caravan Holidays** (Horse-drawn option available) in the heart of Crop Circle country. Contact Polly Carson at Old Manor Farm, Alton Barnes, Marlborough, Wilts. SN8 4LB. Tel : 0672 - 851413.

**Pre-1978 Crop Circles** Photographs or records of early crop circles are sought by Stanley Morcom, 56 Ranelagh Rd, London W5 5RP. Tel : 081 - 567 9135.

**The Mystery of the Crop Circles** by Michael Hesemann. The most complete documentary on the circles phenomenon on video (124 min). Order from: Gloria Wingfield, Hearne House, North Wootton, Shepton Mallet BA4 4HW. Price £21.15 incl.

# A WEIRD STORY

"Spirit tracks and Mysterious Rings at the Scene of an Old Tragedy." This account, first printed in the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette, is taken from the Winnipeg Daily Free Press of September 10th 1886. (Credit : William La Parl of Hopkinton, Mass.)

Helena, a pleasant little village of Northern Ohio, is situated on the Pennsylvania railroad about 30 miles from Toledo, and has been, during the week, a Mecca for the curious-loving persons of Northwestern Ohio, of whom I was one, and of what I saw and heard I propose to give a true account.

Arriving in town I was at once asked if I wished to see the haunted house and the mysterious ring, and upon answering in the affirmative was conducted to a lumbering vehicle, on which for a small consideration I was to be taken to see the sights. A drive of nearly two miles brought me to the edge of a forest, where I was asked to alight. I did so, and followed my guide into the woods, and was surprised to find nearly 200 persons standing in a circle around something which seemed to cause them great bewilderment. In a moment I had joined the group and was looking at a ring of fresh-tramped earth 44 feet in diameter, with the line of the circumference about two feet wide.

This, then, was all that had drawn hundreds of people daily from far and wide -- a ring of earth. But how did it come there? What caused it? Men looked wise and said horses tramped it. Others said spirits and the majority gave it up. But there was the ring as round as a dollar, and measuring 22 feet in every direction from the centre. Not a track could be found inside or outside the circle; it was as true as a die.

I asked one of the most intelligent-looking men standing by me to tell me the story of the mysterious ring, and in a solemn tone of voice he told me this: "Just twenty-eight years ago there came into this vicinity a very rich young man from Schellsburg, Pennsylvania.

"He had plenty of money, which he carried in a buckskin belt, and which he exhibited on all occasions. His object, he said, was to buy an entire section of land. He remained around here for some time, and at last mysteriously disappeared. Nothing was ever heard of him, but in the centre of the circle you see here his blood-stained belt was found empty. Then, twenty-eight years ago, a ring like this was formed in the same place, the same size.

The affair caused a great deal of excitement at the time, and his friends came on from the east. Detectives were placed at work, but neither man nor his body could be found. Three men were suspected of the crime of murdering him, but the evidence was not sufficient to warrant their arrest.

"Well, fourteen years rolled around; the man and the crime were forgotten. Then one of the suspected men died and for the second time the mystic ring appeared. Excitement grew intense and the thing was talked over the entire county. Now another fourteen years has passed and August 11 another of the suspected men died, and that morning the third ring was discovered, the one you see here today, and the people are more excited than ever. Do you wonder at it that three perfect circles have been formed around the place where the bloody belt was found, formed by the horses' feet, and on the morning of the death of the victim and two of his suspected assailants! I tell you, nothing like it has ever been heard of before anywhere. I am a good member of the church and all that, but I can't explain these rings. Can you?"

I confessed that I could not explain the rings. I found on careful examination that the story was true in every respect, and is vouched for by the editor of the *Belleville Enterprise*, who has made a careful study of the subject in all its aspects. He says in his paper: "These are strange occurrences, but they are the veritable truth, as we took great pains to find out the correctness of the reports."

The story has spread, and has grown in proportion to its flight, yet I only give what the best informed and most conservative men in the vicinity say on the subject.

The people in the neighborhood have commenced an excavation of all the spots inside the circumference of the circle, and hope to unearth the skeleton, or some other tangible evidence of the crime. They are in earnest and think the time has come for action.

Near the ring stands a deserted house, said to be haunted; but the story of the house I may give at another time, for it is a story full of interest, though not as weird as the story of the three rings.

# LETTERS

## Scientific Evidence is Positive

From Mr John Burke

Dr W C Levensgood's research into the crop circles is continuing and positive evidence is still accumulating. What his work continues to show is that there are two changes in the crop which no one has ever duplicated by manual flattening of the plants. The electrical conductivity of the thin bract tissue, surrounding the seed, changes. Also the growth rate of the seeds changes. In 1993 we manually flattened wheat using both boots and wooden board and sampled the crop just as we would have a circle. There were no changes in the bract or seed growth rate.

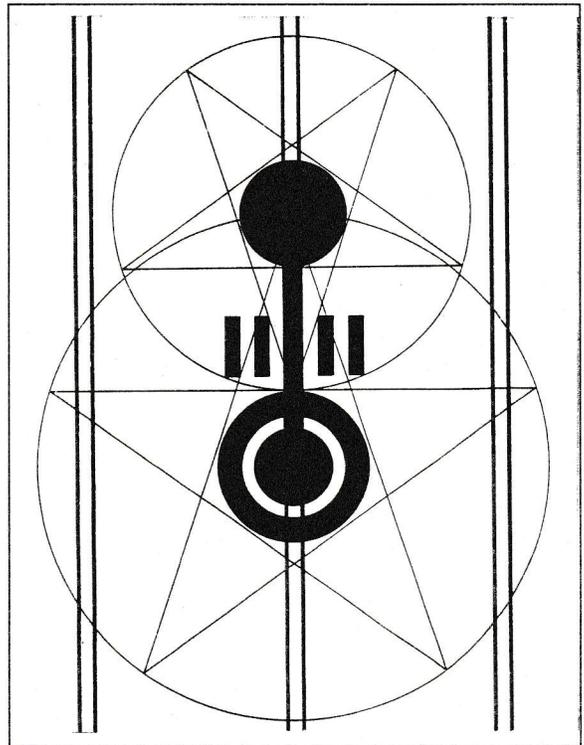
Some people, especially Monty Keen and John Macnish have been harping on the fact that Levensgood has said this of formation which have been "proved" hoaxes. Yet I have read Macnish's book carefully and he does not document the hoaxing of any formation which Levensgood has analysed. Schnabel did claim to have made the "Silbury Necklace" in 1992 which Levensgood did test with positive results. But if one man's claim constitutes proof over there, then I would hate ever to go on trial in your country. Argus did sample some formations claimed by Macnish as hoaxes but Michael Chorost mixed up the labelling and so Levensgood never did analyse them. Please note that when Argus sent Levensgood samples as a "blind test", not telling him they were from the circle making competition, he found no differences in growth (this was before the alpha test had been invented).

Please also note that Montague Keen and Colin Andrews have been the source of false information as regards Levensgood's tests. This has occurred despite the fact

that I had already advised Monty of his errors, documenting my points using sources as basic as the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. I leave it to you to figure out Monty's angle in particular when he knows that either he or the *Britannica* is wrong and continues speaking erroneously without checking into the matter even enough to consult the most basic layman's sources. You guys are abdicating a leading role in crop formation research by such behaviour and leaving a void for others to fill. The rest of us do not have time to speculate on the motives for such, continued distortions of the truth as we are busy with WORK such as INVESTIGATING physical evidence. I hope that you are truly interested in such evidence, as clearly Monty is not. He has continued to seize every public occasion to spread false information regarding the physical evidence.

I will be happy to elaborate if you are interested. Otherwise I am taking you at your word and providing a brief, layman's summary of the scientific research to date:-

- 1) Something changes the electrical conductivity of the bract tissue surrounding the seed in formations.
- 2) Something changes the growth rate of seeds in formations (sometimes increasing and sometimes decreasing growth).
- 3) Something leaves anomalous electric charges in and around formations which persists only for several hours (I measured this last year; details to come in our BLT'93 report out soon).

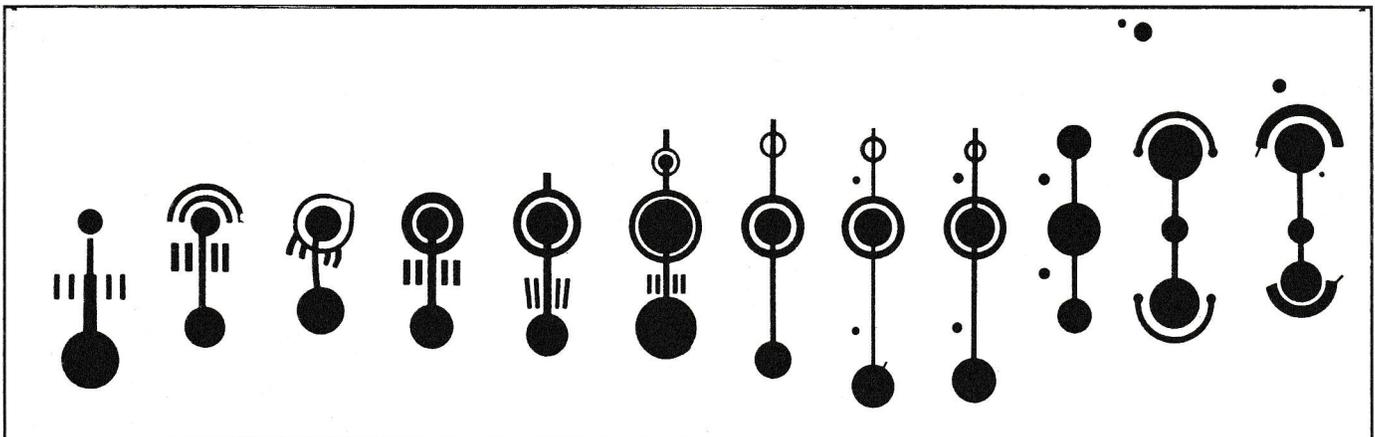


4) FLATTENING WHEAT BY FOOT AND BY BOARD DOES NOT PRODUCE ANY OF THESE CHANGES. WE TESTED THIS IN 1993. IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE US, TRY IT YOURSELF. BARRY REYNOLDS CAN SHOW YOU HOW.

5) The areas with the most crop circle activity often have anomalous magnetic changes. These changes cannot be explained by normal terrestrial magnetic processes. This does not mean that the changes must be extraterrestrial but that they must at least be something new. Manual flattening of the crop has nothing to do with this.

A LOT OF GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING! I hope we will continue to do more. Let's work together - you have a publication and there is fascinating NEW information coming your way.

JOHN BURKE



## Schindler's List

From Mr Wolfgang Schindler

I received *The Cerealogist* No. 11 some days ago and I cannot see anything on its cover but a black and white mess. I seem to be unable to see things out of focus, that makes me quite sad sometimes.

I thought it about time to send you some of my drawings for your pleasure, to put into your archive or to print in *The Cerealogist* instead of disgusting photos of Michael Hesemann. [Among the drawings are those shown here:]

(1) Pentagrammatic abstract frame of Dumbbell No 3 (Chilcomb, 1990). [at left]

(2) My suggestion for a church window in Wiltshire's next church building (based on 1992 Milk Hill Pictogram) [at top right]

(3) This last drawing is the message! Check it out for yourself. I have strange reasons for believing that this "means" something (be the figures man-made or not), but I don't like to write them down in this letter. Equally it might mean nothing.

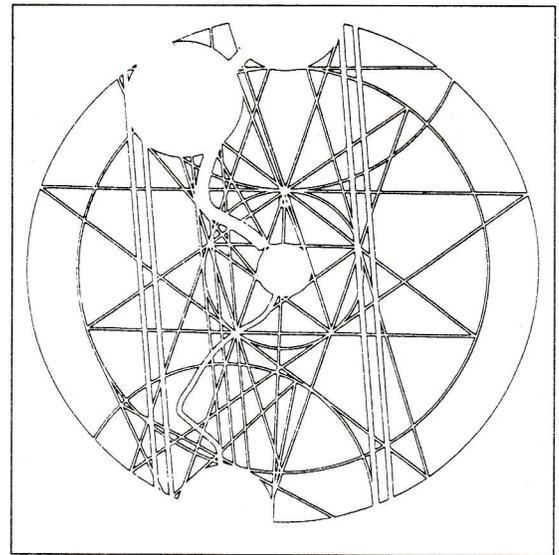
[Wolfgang Schindler's list of pictograms, as shown in the diagrams at the foot of these two pages, are as follows, from the left : (a) Chilcomb (23/5/90) (b) Litchfield (23/6/90) (c) Hazeley Farm (2/6/90) (d) Chilcomb Down (6/6/90) (e) Longwood (28/6/90) (f) Crawley Down (13/7/90) (g) Lockeridge (6/6/91) (h) Rockley (=Maisey Farm) (11/7/91) (i) Alton Barnes (2/7/91) (j) Avebury Trusloe (9/6/91) (k) Froxfield (18/8/91) (l) Hackpen Hill (12/7/91) (m) Alton Priors (18/7/91) (n) East Kennett (27/7/91) (o) Preshute Down (=Temple Farm) (17/7/91) (p) East Kennett (27/7/90) (q) Milk Hill (12/7/90) (r) Alton Barnes (12/7/90)]

*The Cerealogist* has become a bit boring during the last year, because still everybody is so concerned with the question of whether crop circles are man-made or not

(and they surely are nowadays; it seems to me that the phenomenon petered out in 1992). This is not the point! An artefact does not lose its relevance if you know who made it. It is more or less the question if you are able to recognise a meaning in it, like somebody remembered that dean of that church in Oxford or was able to read Arabic to find "Al'lah" in his fruit (and what does it mean : the one ?). Maybe the smoke of my cigarette writes "take me home" in the air, but unfortunately in some lost Polynesian language. To find meaning is to recognise something; therefore meaning is something you give to the so-called things. The mechanism of how "things" come into existence will be explained as a side effect of the explanation of consciousness and that is still to come (but you might check Julian Jaynes).

Terry Wilson's article was cool though he missed the point that plants might "just" be mirroring our thoughts. And it is not clear that crop circles don't hold any decodeable language (why the hell not? Just go and find "things" that fit!).

But since you brought so many people up against you by playing "Mr Know-all-them-hoaxers" maybe the magazine gets back its relaxed English bite. It is a questionable honour if everyone agrees with you, so you might become a real cool editor. But please print more photos of crop circles, drawings of them, diagrams, surveys and sketches, be they man-made or not, and not so many uninteresting (don't get me wrong; I mean in terms of "cropness") faces. *The Cerealogist* is their only serious distributor and where would I be without it ? It should not get lost over



silly questions of belief !

Thank you, take care and have fun !

WOLFGANG SCHINDLER

Bilser Str. 32d, 22297 Hamburg, Germany

## Who instigates the debunking?

From Ms Margaret Buckingham

I have just sent a cheque to S.K.S. as a renewal of my subscription to *The Cerealogist*. I read it avidly from cover to cover and thank all (well nearly all) the contributors for their fascinating articles. I also thank Robert Schafer for his truly amazing SIRDS on the front cover. I have been able to see two different patterns but have not managed the third, try as I may. I am having it framed and hung.

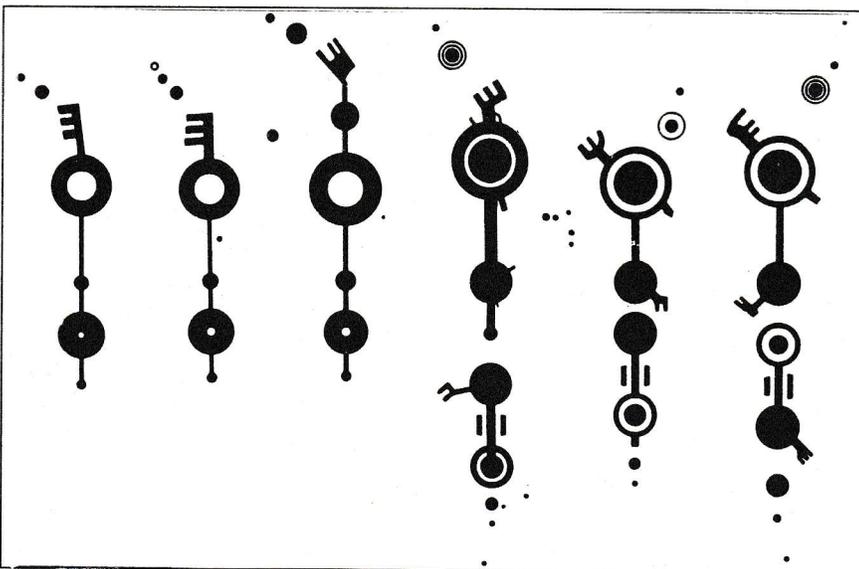
I shall never understand why some people are spoilers or meddlers or debunkers and Chris Kenworthy certainly doesn't explain his motives in his article 'The Best Intentions'. Do they think that they are getting a piece of the action or do they think that their copies prove that the originals are thereby counterfeit? The same situation occurs in Ufology with fake photos and with stage magicians producing the same effects as genuine psychics.

Of course there are professional debunkers who see to it that the majority of humanity is dissuaded from believing in such phenomena and hoaxers like Chris Kenworthy all add their two-pennyworth with the result that the truth is for ever obscured.

The question is, who instigates the spoiling and the meddling and the debunking? Are they human or are the humans merely pawns in a giant cosmic game designed to keep us ignorant so that they may continue to exploit us without our defending ourselves ?

MARGARET BUCKINGHAM

7 Craven Court, 8 Knyveton Road,  
Bournemouth BH1 3QN



## Will look elsewhere for Truth

From Miss S J Trousdale

I am very disappointed at the way *The Cerealogist* is developing -- a surfeit of hoaxes, daft pictures on the front and really very little about the genuine formations-- and one really has to hunt for them.

Whether this alignment with the negative forces abroad on the planet is deliberate policy or mere stupidity, it is to be deplored.

Our earth is a very beautiful planet and deserves and needs all the help it can get -- especially in these critical years of the countdown. You really should do all you can to help, not aid her enemies.

I will not be subscribing in future and shall look elsewhere for the truth.

S J TROUSDALE

6 Manor Court, Gravel Lane, Ringwood,  
Hants BH24 1LW

## Proving circles aren't faked

From Mr Erik Beckjord

Lucy Pringle's article on Schnabel's failure to replicate the Charm Bracelet (Issue #10) was excellent. In Nessie, UFO and Bigfoot research, we have found that there are many people who claim to have special photos, tracks, hairs, blood, metal, and other evidence, but when they are asked to produce it for examination, they balk, offer substitutes (like Schnabel), or hide behind non-existent attorneys or agents who 'forbid' them to show the alleged evidence they have in "secret bank vaults", to avoid spoiling a book that is then never published. Schnabel has simply, in many cases of his claims, ridden the coattails of one famous formation or another, like Doug & Dave, by "admitting" he did them, and trusting the sceptics to back him on faith.

How can one prove formations are not faked? There is a device that is used in rescue helicopters that zeros in on heat, and impressions left by heat sources, such as footprints. A hand print on a wall leaves a heat impression signature that lasts for hours. The device costs \$50,000 or so, but might be loaned by some manufacturer who wants publicity. Such a heat-reading device, could be taken at once to a new formation, and if footprints are found, the formation is likely to be a hoax. If not, then it might, I say might, be genuine. Personally I have found another method -- "frozen waves" -- these I found in the Silbury "Wheelchair" and Upton Scudamore "Serpent", where rings joined circles. The frozen, raised, wave effect is similar to what happens when two boat wakes overlap. I doubt any hoaxer can make one, and I defy Schnabel, Irving, et al. to try.

ERIK BECKJORD

Box 2534, Malibu CA 90265, U.S.A.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

is important. The location of the star is related to the crossing point of the galactic equator with the plane of the ecliptic. This star is important and has two important orbits (or second orbit/planet is important)."

At this time we had no explanation why this pictogram at Barbury Castle in its inner structure was so crooked, the triangle seemed to be slipped a bit in relation to the inner circle and rings, all three angles of the triangle were different, the circumference of the spiral on the bottom right was clearly bigger than those of the other appendixes and there were these kinks in the pathways that connected the bottom appendixes with the top one, every kink on each side at a different place, to the left near the middle, to the right in the upper part. We knew that the Phenomenon is able to produce fine pictograms with straight lines and accurate circles and that in a formation nothing has been done just by chance. Obviously the Barbury Castle pictogram should have these irregularities, it was fully intended to give a somehow crooked outfit to the formation. But why?

With really trembling fingers we switched on our computer (in November 1991) to verify our findings. At this time we used an AMIGA 500 and a desktop planetarium program called "Distant Suns". The display limit of the stars was about 6.5m. We chose the part of the sky with the Winter Hexagon and loaded it as a file in a graphics program. Then we connected all the six stars with lines: Capella with Sirius, Rigel with Pollux and Procyon with Aldebaran. In the centre of the Winter Hexagon, in the constellation of Orion, all the three lines formed a triangle where two stars were enclosed: one was 75 Orionis, an A2-type star of 5.39m that is about 94.5 ly away. Spectral type A2 means a blue to white star with a surface temperature of 7,500 to 11,000 °K, too hot to support life on one of its possible planets. The other star was HD 42807, a G6 type main sequence star of 6.45m that is about 58 ly away. We were like electrified: there was really a sunlike star in the centre of the Winter Hexagon and it was smaller than our Sun! And when we connected the twin of Pollux, Castor, with Rigel, then a smaller triangle was formed within the first one where HD 42807 remained as the only star in the midst of all. By the way, this line passes by the middle star of the Orion belt, Epsilon Orionis. Then we looked for the features that were shown in the other appendixes of the pictogram, the galactic plane and the ecliptic plane. To our amazement we found that HD 42807 was very close to the band of the Milky Way and - to its crossing

point with the ecliptic! So everything we had suggested from the pictogram's appendixes had come true, had realistic counterparts in the sky. And there was more.

When we looked for the coordinates of HD 42807, we found number six again: right ascension: 6h13m12.6s and in declination we had number ten: +10° 37' 39". Six and ten reminded us of the sexagesimal system of numbers in the times of Sumer, Babylonia and Assyria which we find is an amazing coincidence. The crossing point of the galactic plane with the ecliptic plane has another remarkable six: its right ascension is nearly exactly 6h0m. As in the pictogram the number six was represented in the sky more than one time.

Then we looked for more detailed star maps. We found the two volumes of "Uranometria 2000.0" and when we opened the chart and found 75 Orionis and HD 42807 we first wouldn't believe our eyes. Both stars are parts of a triangle formed by several stars that resembled nearly identically the shape of the Barbury Castle triangle. 75 Orionis is on the bottom left corner but HD 42807 is on top of the triangle. So the star that was to be found was shown in the pictogram on top of a triangle and in reality it is on top of an triangle formed by stars. What a wonderful correspondence! The pathway that formed the left side of the triangle in the pictogram had a kink near its middle. Nearly at the same place is a star on the left side of the triangle in the sky. On the right side of the terrestrial triangle the kink was in the upper part of the pathway. Just there is a small and pretty triplet of stars in the celestial triangle. And where the spiral is in the pictogram there in reality are two stars similar to visual binary stars.

The triangle in the sky looks a little bit crooked; it is not a finely constructed equilateral triangle. It is the same with the Barbury Castle pictogram which obviously is a realistic copy of the triangle in the sky. There is something else special with this triangle. Just as if to emphasize its peculiarity, this star on this special place on top of the triangle, HD 42807, is the only star of all which form that triangle that is near to our solar system, the rest is far and farther away. G-Type stars are best candidates to support life on one of their planets and we have found one with the help of the pictograms in the vicinity of our solar system at this special place in the sky. Only from a place like Earth this star can be seen where it is now. For beings on the second planet of HD 42807 no Winter Hexagon and no triangle in its centre exist. So the Phenomenon knew what we are able to see in the sky from our planet before they created Barbury Castle pictogram. They know about us!

# THE BYTHORN WONDER: AN INQUIRY

Following much anguished disagreement over the origins of the Bythorn formation, CCCS commissioned *Montague Keen* to hold an objective inquiry. His subsequent report has been ignored by CCCS's *Circular*. An abbreviated version follows.

This monograph was originally to have comprised simply an objective report of an inquiry held on January 29, 1994 into a claim that the crop formation known as the Bythorn Yantra, Mandala or, less symbolically, Wonder had been made by Julian Richardson, alias Bill Bailey. The absence at the inquiry of what was generally considered to be conclusive evidence, together with the need to collect and assess further material and witness evidence and the fact that not all relevant material emerged during the enquiry itself, have prompted me to expand this to include an assessment which comments on some of the wider issues - of belief systems, credibility and starting assumptions - to which the inquiry has given rise.

The issue was simple; the circumstances odd. The formation appeared in the first weekend of September 1993 near Bythorn, a small village on the A604 road in Northamptonshire. The formation was easily visible and was a major talking point in the area. Had it been made over two successive nights by a 19 year-old self-styled landscape artist burdened by an obsessive urge to adorn cornfields with ever more complex pictograms and with an acknowledged, if morally reprehensible, track record of impressive accomplishments in the previous two years? Or did it owe nothing to the deliberate artistry of man? Not merely were reputations at stake. Entire belief systems were pledged on the outcome. If this was indeed a fake, hats would be eaten, face would be lost -- and the entire credibility of the crop circles as a phenomenon might be further weakened. "No formation has moved and excited the crop circle world more than this one", wrote Barbara Davies, editor of the CCCS's *Circular*. "Bythorn is prodigious", said Michael Glickman, at the end of the inquiry into its origin.

The inquiry was odd because the young man was not protesting his innocence of an accusation against him, but proclaiming his guilt in the face of those who mostly believed him innocent of having made the pictogram. The case against him basically boiled down to three accusations: (a) the method and sequence of construction he claimed was inconsistent with the visual evidence and with geometrical rules; (b) it was seen by local people on the morning of Saturday Sept 4 whereas Richardson

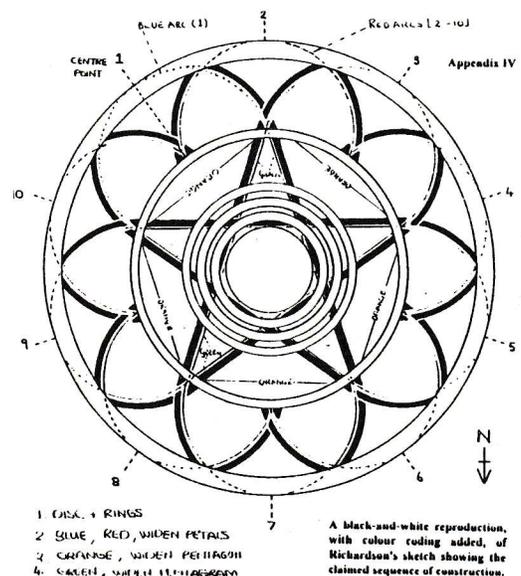
insisted he'd not started making it until that night; (c) when it was seen it was complete, whereas Richardson said he'd left it incomplete after the first night and finished it the following night (Sunday).

At the Conference organised in October 1993 by *The Cerealologist*, George Wingfield had insisted that the formation was the work of Bill Bailey, the pseudonym used by Richardson to reduce the risk of legal action for trespass and damage. Wingfield had not examined it himself, but from lengthy conversations with Richardson, the wife of the farmer Mr Nichols, as well as Richardson's confidant Michael Inns, he declared himself entirely satisfied that it was man-made, and said so in no uncertain terms. This had provoked a strong attack by Glickman, as well general hostility to Wingfield's views. Having spent a great deal of time examining the formation and measuring it with the expertise of an architect, a geometer and a designer, Glickman was certain that he had unchallengeable proof that the formation could not have been created by Richardson in the sequence and manner described. Glickman had concluded that Richardson, eager to claim credit for a remarkable genuine phenomenon, and disappointed that his earlier work had not attracted the attention and plaudits he felt it merited, had bolstered his false claim by basing his drawing on one of the formation made by Green; but now it was acknowledged that Green's hastily prepared plans contained an error. This was a construction of events which Green shared too, albeit less immovably. Glickman had therefore been confident in predicting to me that Richardson, even if he did turn up for the inquiry at Beth Davis' house - which Glickman doubted - would alter his story. In the event, Richardson did turn up and he stuck to his story, but signally failed to convince Glickman, and others, that he had made the formation at all, let alone in two stages over two successive nights.

A report of the Conference clash appeared in the Nov 1993 issue of the Sussex CCCS's newsletter. The report poured

undiluted scorn on Wingfield's views. Among other matters it declared that Wingfield had not received and never would receive photographs Richardson claimed to have taken purporting to show the formation only partly complete after the first night: because they did not exist. When Wingfield telephoned me about other matters on Nov 11 after returning from the USA, I mentioned the Sussex report, listened to Wingfield's protestations, and concluded that the matter was of sufficient importance to warrant an inquiry. On the basis of several challenges to his claim, I sought Richardson's co-operation. He agreed to be present, provided the investigation was held at the home of Beth Davis, a CCCS Council member who knew him well, and that he received a written assurance from the farmer on whose land he had trespassed that no proceedings would be taken against him. By Christmas both conditions had been satisfied.

In a letter to all CCCS Council members dated Nov 18, and which he intended should be circulated at a council meeting which he could not attend on Nov 20, Wingfield had reaffirmed his conviction that Richardson was responsible and offered to present "any or all of this material" to whomsoever was interested. This historical background is relevant to the subsequent charge made by Michael Green that the withholding of "crucial



evidence" for the authentication of the formation "has done the CCCS a grave disservice". This was at best a misunderstanding. Inns has confirmed that the photographs had been available to anyone who wanted them and that he had sent a complete set to Colin Andrews.

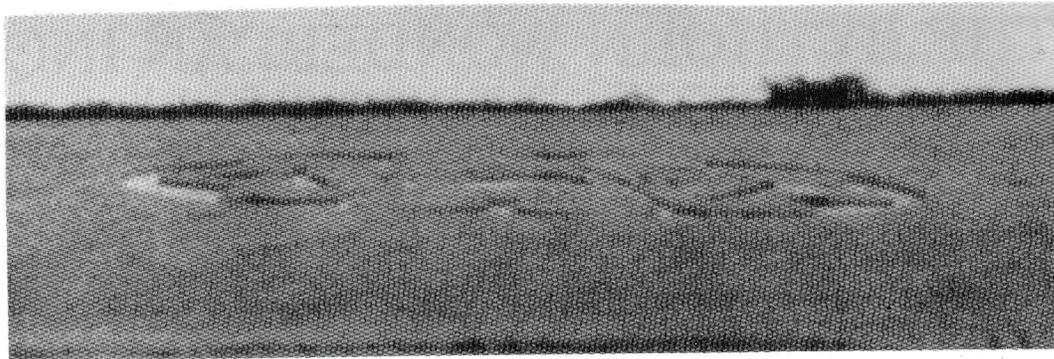
Inns had sent Wingfield photocopies of two frames, nos 18 & 19. These purported to show the formation respectively part made and complete. Wingfield detected a difference.

Others did not. He then asked Inns for the prints and negatives of these frames which he had enlarged. Under strong light and with the aid of a magnifying glass Wingfield thought that he could see the difference but neither Haddington nor Richard Beaumont, Editor of *Kindred Spirit*, agreed with him.

On Jan 16 Richardson sent me two 100X150mm prints from the 35mm film strip along with the requested elaboration of his construction methods. These were frames 17 & 23. I was unable to distinguish between the two save that they were taken from different spots, but since the area occupied by the formation on the print was small, and they had been taken from several hundred yards distance without a telephoto lens, this was unsurprising. I then asked Richardson to send the negatives, which arrived on Jan 24, and had maximum possible enlargements made of the formation areas on frames 17 & 23. The processing proved (I was told) lengthy and delicate, resulting in a fortyfold magnification (see accompanying photos).

Meantime I had been receiving by telephone the contradictory views of Glickman, Inns (who emphatically supported Richardson's claim) and Wingfield. The invitation to attend the meeting was extended to a number of persons with a special interest in or knowledge of the event. At the last minute domestic circumstances prevented Mr and Mrs Nichols from attending, while a break-in at his studio the previous night regrettably kept Inns out of the scene. So the meeting comprised Peter Chapman, Anthony Cheke, Barbara Davies, Beth Davis, Michael Glickman, Michael Green, Keith Paull, Lucy Pringle, Julian Richardson, Christine Saltmarsh, George Wingfield and myself. It lasted about six hours and tapes were made of at least half of it (retained by me).

At the inquiry Richardson explained that when he had contacted Inns, he told him that he had earmarked a late field (of winter wheat) which he considered



*Enlargements of photographs of the Bythorn formation taken by Richardson on Sept 5th and 6th. Frame 17 (left), from about 375 m, shows only circular features & petals. Frame 23 (right), from about 625 m, shows lines of the added pentagram. Quality of both photographs is poor due to fortyfold enlargement and differences may be hard to distinguish on reprinting.*

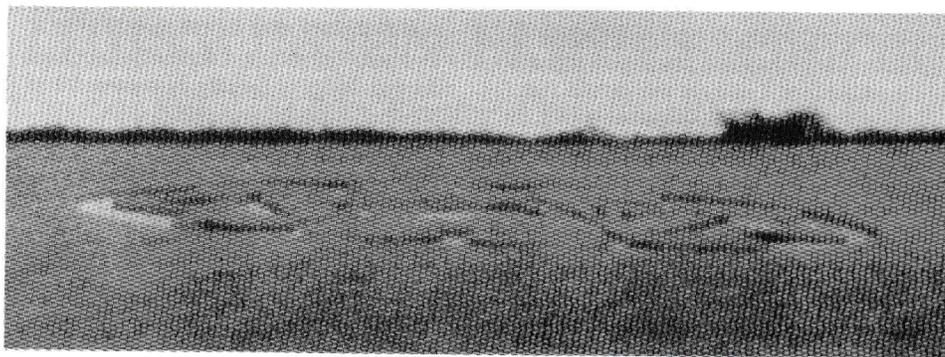
unlikely to be ready to be cut until early September since, unlike other cornfields it was still green in mid-August. I should add here that my own winter wheat on a farm some 50 miles SE was harvested on Aug 17, and that virtually all the wheat in East Anglia had been combined by the end of the month. Nichols confirmed to me that this was an exceptionally late-sown batch of Mercia winter wheat.

Michael Inns had confirmed to me in December that Richardson had spoken to him two weeks before the formation appeared confirming that he planned to do something in the only remaining uncut field. Inns had told him he did not want to know exactly where this would be. On about Sept 6 Richardson rang Inns asking if he could arrange a flight but was vague about the location he wanted to film. Then Colin Andrews faxed Inns about a new formation "near Peterborough" which is 16 miles from Bythorn. Inns phoned Richardson immediately to say he thought someone had made a formation near Peterborough. When he described this, Richardson laughed and said it was his; he had tried to tell Inns but the latter didn't appear to want to know. He confirmed that it was a combination of features that had been seen in pictures of Barbury Castle; Craanford St Andrew, which Richardson made in 1992; and Woodford, which he made in 1991. The idea for the petals had come from a photo of a circle at Chilcomb Down.

The first issue at the inquiry related to the date on which the formation was made. Here the evidence conflicted. Richardson remained adamant that he had worked alone on the night of Saturday/Sunday, Sept 4 / 5, from 9 pm to 2 am, completing all circular parts of the formation. At that stage he had no intention of doing anything further with it. The drawing from which he worked was crumpled and he threw it away after reaching home. He returned on Sunday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm with two friends and from a lay-by on the

A14 took two photos of the formation, which by then only comprised circular elements, from a range of about 1640 ft. Only on the way home did he decide to introduce a pentagram into the formation. He accordingly returned at about 9.30 pm that night and created the pentagram in about two hours. He took a further photo (No. 19) on Monday, Sept 6, and the remaining frames in the set on Sept 18 from the forecourt of Bythorn Motors about 2400 ft away.

Mr and Mrs Nichols, who farm the land, have stated that the formation had been seen by Nichols and two employees early on Saturday, Sept 4, and that it was complete. There was support for this from a gamekeeper, not employed by Nichols, who had been patrolling the area that weekend. Clearly if this recollection was accurate, Richardson's account could not be correct, neither as to the date of construction nor the division of his work over two successive nights, Saturday and Sunday. Wingfield had discussed this at length with Mrs Nichols, who had previously told Haddington that she first saw the formation on the day she had visited the Burghley Horse Trials. Wingfield then asked Mrs Nichols what event they had watched at Burghley that day, and was told "the show jumping". He pointed out that Burghley is a three-day event with Dressage on Friday, Cross Country on Saturday and Show Jumping on Sunday; therefore, the formation must have first appeared on the Sunday, and she must be mistaken over the date. However Mrs Nichols then told him that the formation must have appeared the previous day when they had intended going to Burghley. Green, who later discussed the date question with Mrs Nichols, said that she had told him she had been at the cross country trials at Burghley and she did not go to the show jumping the next day. Mrs Nichols had pinpointed the day to Lucy Pringle by linking it to her children's



connecting up these five points. This is what Richardson did. Nevertheless the Golden Mean will be implicit in such a figure.]

Cheke had pointed out that if a pentagram were drawn first, then there would be no difficulty about constructing a circle inside it, such that lines of the pentagram were tangential to the circle. However if a circle were drawn first, and then another wider circle derived from the same centre, and only then was it decided to construct a

pentagram whose sides were tangential to the inner circle, then the points at which the pentagram met would only coincide with the outer circle if a certain ratio were observed. This was the Golden Mean, approximately 0.618, (or its ratio to one, which is its reciprocal, 1.618). But far from being an "astonishing coincidence" that Richardson had hit on precisely the right dimensions argued Wingfield, it was implicit in Richardson's construction method. He had made the inner circle (or disc) with a radius of five metres and decided that to make the outlines of ten identical petals at an arbitrarily chosen but convenient distance of ten metres. To do this he would have to make the circumference a fraction over 100 metres long, so as to enable him to stretch a ten metre tape between ten equally spaced points on it; this circumference would provide the base for the ten petals of the design. To make such a ring capable of division into ten equal arcs by use of a ten-metre chord, calculation shows it would have to have a radius of 16.18 metres, which when compared to the 10 metre diameter of the inner disc produces the Golden Mean ratio. (A measurement taken from Richardson's drawing, produced at the inquiry, shows the diameter of the central disc to be 10 metres and the outer radius of the metre wide fourth ring to be 16 metres. Both the drawing and the aerial photograph show the inner points of the pentagram piercing the fourth ring slightly.) Wingfield later circulated a detailed account with drawings elaborating this demonstration.

A further criticism was that photographic evidence appeared to show the wheat in the inner rings to lie over the pentagram shafts proving the circles could not have been laid down first. While Richardson could offer no explanation, Cheke said that his examination did not endorse this impression. Glickman had not apparently looked under the laid crop in the avenues. Cheke's own drawing showed there to have been only a partial covering. This puzzled him. He did not see how it could have been done. No one

homework.

It was agreed at the inquiry that a further attempt should be made to discuss the matter with Mr & Mrs Nichols and any other relevant persons, since it was apparent that the uncertainty surrounding local witnesses' evidence left the issue in suspense. On Jan 31, Green again spoke to Mrs Nichols who remained adamant that her husband had found the formation on Saturday and that farmworkers would corroborate this. As I recount below, I later visited Bythorn and found that the evidence was by no means unambiguous to support this claim.

The inquiry then considered whether the formation had been made in two separate stages on successive nights, whichever nights they were. Green agreed that the dates were crucial, and that "the whole thing hangs on this". Glickman asked Richardson why he did not record the event properly: "You must understand", he said, "that photographic evidence in September would have precluded all doubt". I asked Glickman what would have precluded all doubt and he said "the incomplete circle".

There followed examination of the two enlarged prints (17 & 23) which had only been collected the previous afternoon. Attention was drawn to the clear straight line on one side of the pictogram, visible in the later (frame 23) but not visible in the earlier photo (frame 17). Anthony Cheke thought this evidence absolutely indisputable and drew attention to part of another line of the pentagram not visible on the earlier picture. Beth Davis also considered the evidence convincing. However Barbara Davies and Lucy Pringle argued that the absence of straight lines in the earlier picture might simply be the result of the lower position from which that film was taken. Wingfield thought the evidence "definitive" and maintained that the angular difference was marginal, no more than half a degree. Cheke said the differences between the two pictures were too great to be accounted for by differences in angles. Not all agreed however. Glickman conceded this evidence was "not

unimpressive" but insufficient to overwhelm or undermine more fundamental things about the construction.

Richardson then described in detail the sequence and methods used in constructing the formation and was closely questioned. He said he'd left the central "disc" with stems only slightly bent, but on his return on that (Sunday) night he found that someone had traversed the formation from the centre to the first ring and that the stems in the centre had now become completely flattened.

The essence of the case against his claim was put by Michael Glickman and was based mainly on geometrical considerations. Glickman's first and perhaps most impressive point related to the Golden Ratio measurements which he said had to be observed before it was possible to construct a pentagram in a circle. Richardson had never heard of it. Glickman thought it an astonishing coincidence that Richardson had chanced on dimensions any departure from which would have made the construction impossible especially as he had had no intention of making a pentagram originally. Why had he chosen these dimensions? Richardson said he had simply followed the construction he had used in the Cranford St Andrew formation which he had made in 1992. (This design features on the cover of John Macnish's new book and is similar to Bythorn without the petals. Richardson's authorship has never been questioned.) This defence was curious since he could have employed a far more persuasive explanation was later forthcoming from George Wingfield. And although Wingfield's explanation was assailed by Glickman on the grounds that Wingfield was desperate to prove Richardson right, it was not criticised on the ground his reasoning was incorrect. [Editor's note: Although one would employ the Golden Ratio to construct a pentagram (or pentagon) by the classical method with straight edge and compasses only, it is far easier to calculate the circle's circumference, divide it into five (or ten) equal arcs using a measure, then make the pentagram by

else could offer an explanation although I volunteered the view that I had seen weaving effects in formations which were known to have been hoaxed and could not explain it.

While it was clear that more weight had to be given to Richardson's photographic evidence, it seemed perfectly proper to take into account Richardson's earlier accomplishments. These appeared to show he was well capable of making the Bythorn formation. Inns had circulated to Green and others enlargements of some of these impressive designs, including that at Woodford in 1991 and one at Cranford St Andrew in 1992 which embodied a large pentagram within a ring. Without other features this would have been a virtually identical tangential pattern minus the petals. Inns has also provided me with at least one very intricate computer-designed plan of a complexity far exceeding Bythorn. A similar design of Richardson's which Inns sent Wingfield in 1992 had ten petals but these were not formed like the Bythorn ones.

Following the inquiry, I attempted to arrange a meeting between Green and myself and Mr and Mrs Nichols, but they were in the process of selling the farmhouse and were too busy. However I was able to confirm, during a brief unscheduled discussion on Feb 16, that he remained confident of having seen the formation on the Saturday. When later checking locations from which Richardson took the photos, I chanced on the owner of Bythorn Motors, Mr H L Lumbers. His bungalow is on the north side of the A604 road, about 730 metres (2400 ft) to the north of the formation site. The Lumbers' front room, and the entire open working area in front of the extensive garage shed commands a view directly opposite the formation.

Mr Lumbers was emphatic that the pictogram could not have appeared without his noticing it. Mrs Lumbers was equally certain. On the Saturday they and their five employees were working in and around the garage or having a cup of tea in the reception room which overlooks the rising hill to the south, and saw nothing. It was a busy day. None of their customers referred to it. The field rising immediately behind their premises was being ploughed from around midday Saturday until well into the night. Had the ploughman seen it, Mr Lumbers would soon have known, he assured me. On Saturday evening when filling his wife's car at a petrol station, Jim Nichols had discovered that the filler cap was missing. He telephoned Lumbers for help and was advised to stuff a rag in it temporarily. Nichols was not happy about this. He turned up at Bythorn Motors in

the evening to go through a catalogue of spares, but eventually decided to tape over the filler top. Lumbers was certain that Nichols would have mentioned the formation had it existed on Saturday. He was equally certain about his men "who could see a fox run across the field". Not until he stepped out of his car on returning with his wife the following afternoon from a visit to Felixstowe did Lumbers see the formation. When later that week they were discussing the matter with his employees, they were all insistent that it had not been there on the Saturday. It was a huge and impressive design (Glickman estimated it to cover 23,000 sq ft) difficult to miss. [Since then Mr and Mrs Lumbers and five of their employees have signed a statement that the formation did not exist on the Saturday.]

The Nichols' house in the small village is twice as far from the formation site as the Lumbers' location, about 1.5 km, and the access route to the field is much longer. There is therefore a direct conflict of evidence about the formation date. Lumbers has said he examined the formation through binoculars from his home and told me he was satisfied that it was complete on the Sunday. This aspect clearly conflicts with Richardson's account and raises the question, which I had discussed briefly with Nichols, of the difficulty, when viewing a complex pictogram at ground level, of being certain that it is exactly the same as when examined a few days or weeks later, *unless one is expecting additions or changes*. [Without a map of the pictogram, made when first seen, such certainty would be most ill-advised! -Ed.] Nichols later gave a signed statement to Peter Chapman, supported by two of his employees and the gamekeeper, testifying to having seen the formation on the Saturday. Chapman declined to send me a copy. It seems improbable that either Chapman or Nichols was aware of the existence of a contrary account from Mr and Mrs Lumbers and his employees.

Whether or not the formation was first seen on Saturday or Sunday, however, I concur with the view that the photos provide decisive evidence that the formation was made in two stages. At one point during the inquiry Wingfield asked rhetorically whether it was suggested that the photographs had been faked. No one responded but later this was put to me by Chapman as a hypothetical possibility. I was later handed a copy of *Scientific American*, and a report by Paul Vigay, showing how it is possible with expertise in computer simulation to fake photographs.

All these techniques depend on alteration to prints, not to the developed negative. I was reluctant to pursue this

line of inquiry until it became clear that a number of people had seriously suggested the possibility of forgery. I regarded it as fanciful. I would only add that Michael Inns who does possess expertise in this field, had no opportunity to exercise it, even given the preposterous notion that he would have tried to do so.

If the photographic evidence stood alone before a unanimous testimony that the entire formation or even a major part of it had appeared on the morning of the day when Richardson said he began work on it, one might have toyed seriously with the idea that the earlier photo was no more than an unexplained anomaly; but it is apparent that accounts from local witnesses conflict. Human recollection is notoriously fallible. No one locally had any motive to lie or mislead. Mrs Nichols has clearly been confused about the timing details at one stage.

Then there is Michael Inns' evidence that Richardson had notified him in advance. True it was not specific as to date, time, place or design. Inns had reasons for not wanting to inquire too closely. But the combination of circumstantial evidence cannot fail to impress: an advance identification of a field near his home and still green in late mid-August; a known capacity to make elaborate formations and an obsession with doing so; the production the previous year of a pictogram with a ring, touching, or appearing to touch tangentially, a central spiral of rings, as evidence of earlier accomplishments and the promise of forthcoming ones; the inherent unlikelihood that an unknown intelligence would copy and elaborate on the handiwork of a confessed circle-maker....

Richardson's motive in claiming credit was to satisfy his vanity and earn admiration, even though at that stage he was anxious to cling to his pseudonym. He was not to know, and could hardly have anticipated, the controversy it would arouse or the fervour with which belief in its authenticity would be promoted. If his claim was false, he would have been more prudent to have declined an invitation to be subjected to a searching and fairly hostile examination, and said, as Schnabel commented last July in his presence, that if people wanted to believe something strongly enough, why should he over-exert himself in a vain effort to dissuade them? In fact Richardson's conduct had none of the characteristics of either a braggart or a liar. He stood up well to cross-examination. There were several matters to which he could give no satisfactory explanation or was uncertain; but he did not change his story

# THE GOLDEN FLEECE OF GRASDORF

Christian Kaese and Sven Bradler of FGK (Forschungsgesellschaft Kornkreise) take a closer look at events surrounding the alleged discovery in Grasdorf's 1991 crop circles of 3 metal disks, each cast with the pictogram, and find strong indications of trickery.

The crop circle formation at Grasdorf in Niedersachsen, Germany, was first found on the 23rd of July, 1991. This amazing set of circles is still the most beautiful pictogram ever found in Germany. In the days that followed many interested people visited the location, and the farmer, Werner Harenberg, certainly made much money from the entry fees charged. But a week later two German hoaxers claimed they had faked several other crop circles in Schleswig-Holstein. Due to this news the number of visitors to Grasdorf declined.

On Friday, the 2nd of August, a strange thing occurred: a young man, who was obviously a painter, searched the formation at Grasdorf with a metal detector. Then he started digging and unearthed three very dirty objects. Some people witnessed the event and an employee of the farmer took several photos. The anonymous excavator then left the field with the objects which he had dug up.

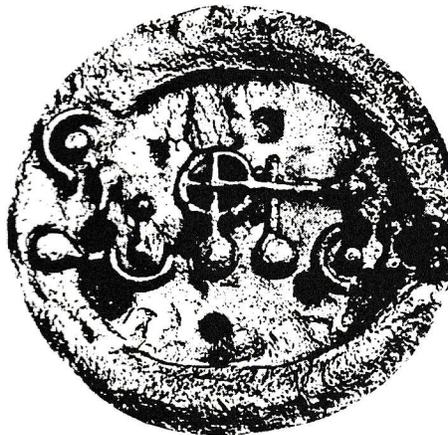
The next morning articles about this were published, together with photographs, in some German newspapers. Farmer Harenberg had taken care to see these photos reached the press. Here is one of the most important clues indicating that Harenberg invented the whole story to gain publicity. Many of the visitors did strange things while examining the crop circle, but why was Harenberg interested in this special case? Why did he get his farmworker to take photos on that particular day?

At the beginning of the following week (Monday, the 5th of August) Herr Harenberg called the press and claimed that he had been phoned by the anonymous excavator. He claimed the conversation went as follows: The excavator said he had found three golden plates and that he was afraid of the police. Then he said that he would sell the plates illegally. But before doing so, he would send some photos and he would have the plates examined.

The same day Herr Harenberg claimed to have found the photos in the mail. Without hesitation he informed the press. The next day photos of the supposed golden disks (at least one of them – the bronze one – as we found later) were published in the papers. These facts are rather astonishing since the anonymous finder would hardly have had time to clean

the disks, take photographs of them (excellent photos!), develop them, and mail them to the farmer in one weekend! Besides, his behaviour seems most illogical, since, under German law, as the finder, he would be legally entitled to a half share of the treasure. This way he would have made more money than by selling the disks illegally and would not be liable to prosecution.

In the next few months we spent an awful amount of time following different leads and were given much help by many



members of FGK. Now we would like to disclose our more important findings :-

A German federal institute obtained two of the disks and made an assay. Scientists found one plate was made of 99.9% pure silver and the other was of the usual grade of industrial bronze. The value of the silver disk is about 1000 DM (£400) and the other is almost worthless. The excavator spread a rumour that he had destroyed the third disk, allegedly made of gold. Its value would have been about 200,000 DM (£80,000) –but unfortunately no one ever saw this disk, if indeed it ever existed.

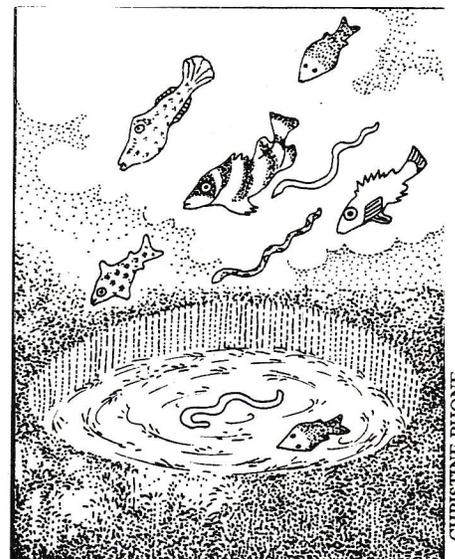
The surface of the disks was cleaned by the excavator using a sand-blaster, probably so that an examination to determine the disks' age would be impossible. Supposedly the two disks were sold to a private collector. It can be seen that the disks were cast in two different moulds. We assume that the bronze plate was made

just to provide pictures for the newspapers. Then, if a secret deal with a private collector was ever agreed, this would have been the reason for casting a disk of a much higher value: the silver disk.

At first we promised the farmer that we would find his disks for him and he was co-operative. But when we located his property he showed no interest at all. *Of course the whole story is far more complicated. For instance, photos of a third, broken disk appeared. But we discovered this was a fake. We conclude that Herr Harenberg has been one of those who pulled the strings in this business and we also believe that we know who it was that manufactured the disks: an artist called "\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*". It now certainly seems that the whole story of the buried plates was devised with the objective of making money!*

So what is the significance of all this regarding the Grasdorf crop circle? Although we have discovered recently some hints that the circle might be a hoax, we still think it is most probably genuine.

## CORNELIA



Hey, .... this is no dew-pond !!  
We've been hoaxed !

# A CHALLENGE FROM THE CROP CIRCLE MAKERS

Michael Green, Chairman of CCCS, presents a dialogue, channelled via 'Joeb', with those Devic Beings responsible for the crop circles, and in this is revealed their purpose.

## Introduction

In 1992 I circulated a paper to the CCCS Council and our wider leadership on *Communication with the Crop Circle Makers* in which I made a plea for the opportunity to discuss directly with the non-human intelligences behind the phenomenon the way in which communication could be established. This plea was answered from more than one source. Indeed, every self-respecting spirit nowadays whose channelled material is reaching me seems to have something to say about crop circles! Most of these communications are of a very general nature, but the discussions that the Sussex branch and myself have had with Joeb, channelled through Paul Bura in 1993, have been specific and detailed about the phenomenon, its source and all the problems concerned with communication.

The substance of this paper therefore is a digest of certain aspects of these channelled conversations with Joeb in six sessions extending over a period of 5 months from 10th February 1993 to 6th July 1993. I attended two of these meetings. Questions from the group members are prefaced by "Q" in the transcript; my own remarks by "M". I am most grateful to Paul Bura for permission to use this material.

The subject matter of these communications is self-explanatory and in its homely way conforms closely to my own perceptions and experience of the nature of Ultimate Reality. Three things stand out in particular for me.

1. The basic motive behind the creation of this phenomenon is to awaken the 'Seed People' amongst humanity to their responsibility at this time by the use of symbols acting on their subconscious.

2. Although extra-terrestrial Intelligences are involved (the 'space people'), the initiative, formulation and creation of the crop circle phenomenon is wholly under the direction of our own Global Intelligence. This Being who is described as *Gaia*, Lady Annan or the Earth Mother is known in the Timeless Wisdom as the Earth Logos. 'She' is working through the Intelligences of the natural world who are generally termed *devas* in this transcript.

3. The 'Beings' responsible for the

crop formations are living Intelligences working under God (however defined), who deserve the same consideration and courtesy that we should extend to members of the human family. The real challenge of these communications is that if we, as investigators of this phenomenon, wish to communicate and work with these other Beings it will require a drastic and far-reaching change in our attitude and behaviour: we must accept that they exist and be prepared to joyfully work in love and harmony with them and each other.

## The Devas and Gaia

Q: Can you tell us about the Devic forces?

J: Devic Force. Well let me explain the best way I can. Grass has Deva. What this is, is an angelic force, and it is intelligence to do with grass. Devic Forces also for trees: it is a type of consciousness. Devic Forces also for animals. Also for insects, which have one mind. In other words it a group consciousness. The Devic Forces for example are points of energy, some people call them fairies. And these Devic Forces, these energy fields, help to create the etheric counterpart of a leaf, or tree, I should say. And upon this etheric counterpart is built the physical. These energy fields, these points of light, these Intelligences, are all under one Deva. You have a tree Deva, an animal Deva and so on. These are streams of consciousness which all come under the Mother, the Earth Mother, (Lady Annan as this man calls her), and all these forces can be called into play. But to see them work, my friend, if your eye was opened, and to see the colour and the energy and the harmony - you would marvel. There are Energies, Devas, I should say, for water. There are Devic energies for air and for earth: all there, all working together, and a great sight it is. You could be dazzled by the beauty of it. Bewitched even. But all these forces are coming together to help create the circles. So that people whose minds will open will marvel at what will be seen.

Q: What is the nature of the balls of light? Are they entities or is it just a force which is remotely supplied by the Devic Spirits?

The greatest of these..rediscovered truths .. is an ancient doctrine firmly established in all grades of New Age thought, that the universe is an organic system and the earth is a divine, living creature. That perception is at the root of true orthodoxy, and from it develops the traditional world-view which provides the only useful guide to the proper conduct of human affairs.

John Michell  
20th August 1993

J: It is Devic Force... the energy from it. Various people call them fairies or nature spirits. Some, when they collect together, form into a ball of light, but also the vitality globules of *Prana* gather together in a ball of energy and this will in fact follow an energy line to its conclusion. These things do happen. There is a great influx of energy at the moment. There are two kinds. One mentioned was *Pranic* Energy, which is energy which is manipulated by the Devic Energies. But then you can have a group of nature spirits who will be doing some function or other with stone, plant or water and you will see them as a ball of glowing light as they work together. But it is energy. People will see them in different ways. This man (Paul Bura) when he sees, for example, Lady Gaia, he always sees Her as dark and very beautiful. And he is right, She is very beautiful. Others see her a just a ball or mass of colour and light. It does not matter, it is all energy, everything is energy.

M: As a matter of interest, Joeb, what form does your connection with the Earth-Mother take? Do you actually see Her - is She personified - or are you just aware of the energy? How does this take place?

J: Oh my friend, how can I describe such beauty to you. I see Her in swirling light, so dazzling and so wonderful, but of course being a human I also see Her as a very beautiful woman. This man (Paul Bura) also sees Her occasionally like this but She (is everywhere). You see, She is within (as well as without) because She is part of the cosmos as well as part of the Godhead in many ways. Everything of course happens under God. To describe Her is to describe the indescribable. My friend you may have in your life experienced a oneness during meditation, or a time when you are being lifted up so profoundly that you find words are difficult to express. If you have experienced this

then you must know the difficulty I have with explaining my perception of My Lady. There are many who work for Her of course....I am but one. But no, I cannot explain than in this way.

## How does the Devic World view Humanity?

M: Can you say something about your appreciation of how the Devic Beings view us? Is there something They are expecting of us which we are failing to produce?

J: You are viewed as walking circuit boards - that is the way it is - walking energy fields. They view you and They see the mud, and the sludge that is inside the auric fields. They see you as Beings of Light, believe it or not - as indeed you are - and when They sense harmony in your aura they are attracted to you. It is really as simple as that. You are walking 'circuit boards', and they like to see a circuit board that does not have a blockage. You must understand, if you have on this earth a perfect piece of electronic machinery, you have only got to take out one wire, the whole thing fails. It is similar to what we are trying to achieve. Everything, as far as possible must be light. They do not need you. They do not need anybody to make these circles. So, when you are there you are in a sense interfering, but of course They are coming round to your way of thinking, and knowing that They are there for your benefit and usefulness. They also know of the changes that are to come on this Earth and They know that They too have work to do, even though they do not trust us 100%. I understand, you see, because I am in the middle: I am human being that does not have a physical body of course, but I am still essentially human. I have expanded consciousness, but even I have a long way to go. I am teacher, I teach people here and circles are always part of my work but not all of it. But we do our best. So you must learn to cope. You must learn to radiate love and positivity and that is what They wish to see. If you have this, They will do their work.

## Purpose of the Crop Formations

M: The role of course of the crop circles is an introduction, if you like, to the Devic World. First of all the selected 'Seed People'; and then later for the much greater masses of people in different ways. One of our roles (with others) in this lifetime is to bring together the Devic World and the human world, to begin the process of bringing both sides together. I am well aware They don't need us for this particular exercise but in the general business of coming together they do. This I think is

one of the chosen ways, so we must make a success of this if we possibly can as a group working together; and time is short. J: This is knowledge I have picked up. That the circles will become more technical, but at the same time although they appear technical, they will be simple and easier to understand. Many of these circles are there because they are ancient symbols, and these ancient symbols are very powerful. Not only for those who look for them, but for the energy they give off in the surrounding countryside. This man (Paul Bura) knows of energy that can be written down on paper, he has at this moment something called the Irish Maze which we have drawn out. This man Andy (Andy Thomas), drew it out on paper and we got various people to walk (this) sacred maze and they all experienced something. It is extraordinary, isn't it, that you can have a piece of paper and write something on it, draw something on it, and immediately it draws energy. This is extraordinary but it is natural. So there are so many ways of looking at these circles. So many ways of interpretation. They work on many levels. They work on the level of physical sight for people who say this is beautiful, and hopefully it will open them up to what they really know is within - to what is to come. On another level those that (physically) experience the circles by walking in them, to experience the energy there, will find a small change within them. It leaves its mark. I have said this before, but this man Andy, his life was changed by seeing one crop circle and it has changed him forever, because he a Seed Person. He knows, as indeed you do, that you were all programmed aeons ago for this. And it is necessary for you to expand your consciousness and your mind to (an even greater extent).

When I came to you it was because you invoked the Earth Goddess. My Goddess whom I serve under God. I am Her servant, but I do not think that I know everything. I am here to impart to you the changes that will happen upon Her surface, and indeed the changes that will occur for man upon Her surface. You know about those things, you are seeds, planted aeons ago for this time, because this time has been known for thousands of years. Remember, we are all working together here. We are Devic Forces all under the Earth Mother, and you stand on her beautiful body, so you are part of her too. And you are working towards a common end, and that is to open the minds of men to let them know that what the Earth can do and what She is and help them to remember what She was and how beautiful She was and can be again. That is the purpose of this: it is to open minds.

There is only one lot of Circle Makers, but They are in a sense, (remember we are using Devic Forces) legion. Devic and Spirits were here before man and it is their world, very much so, and They work for us. Different crop circles in different styles appear in various parts of the world, as indeed in various parts of this country, because they have something to say. You must understand, shapes in the corn give off energy and that energy is spread out around the countryside for certain people to pick up who live in that area. It is there to draw people and to open them up. I am not going to start preaching again about the coming changes to the Earth, but I have to - to a certain extent. Later on Crop Circles will be faded out at some stage and in will come the Astrograms. But for the time being we are still working very hard on the ground, and we will begin to bring you designs of greater power and greater intensity to help open up the Seed People who have the memory of what is to transpire in the future - those people who have incarnated on the Earth at this time to bring about the changes. These designs are here to help to awaken these people.

Q: Who designs the patterns?

J: The Masters. You remember, that each are part of the world has many Guardians and many people working for the Light. So there are many people in positions of power who can make these decisions.

"Which design shall we have for Sompting?"

"Let us have a Celtic Cross?"

"We will have a Celtic Cross"

So we have a Celtic Cross. (Do) you know how powerful a Celtic Cross is? No you do not, but it is very powerful. The Celtic priests were full of earth magic. I knew these things, I knew how to use it, and to use it positively for the Earth and for man. This symbol is very powerful even to this day. And now it is here, set for people to see. It is not only because of what you see visually, it is what it gives off in energy to help people to open up and to understand what is happening.

J: You wish to know about the crop circle musical formations. They superimpose one upon the other and form musical notes. Of course sound is important. Sound is so important when you hear choirs sing, in all denominations - and people raise their voices in harmony and joy - to invoke God and the Forces of Light and all the Devic Forces that are in creation. It is done through sound and invocation. It has been used to good effect upon Silbury Hill. It is a good place. It is a wonderful place. It is full of energy and power. But I will say to you, the musical chord - play it, play it - see what it sounds like, get singers to impart these sounds - this harmony - when it is used in cer-

emony. The Goddess is there, the Earth Spirit waits. Her answers will come. The sound is important, the words and the ceremony and the beauty.

In the middle of that special place (Silbury Hill) are many power places. It is why we have so many of your crop circles there, because it is a concentrated place of energy. There are others across the Earth, as you know, and usually these are near other power places - some known and some unknown. It is necessary for these vast mandalas to be understood. They are there to open the minds of the seed people, to make them remember. So they can throw away their spiritual amnesia that they all suffer from, and they will remember again how it was, and how it will be and to prepare themselves for what is to come.

Silbury Hill is important because it is an accumulator of energy, it holds energy. It ebbs and flows. It flows into a centre like a standing stone. It will store it for a while and then it will pulse off. But Silbury Hill is always a great store of energy, built for the purpose - (a) marvellous place. You will know when the time is right for the ceremony and rites - maybe just before the new or full moon. I remember very little of the rites. I only remember now the philosophy, because I live it; or try to live it. And I spread also the gospel of love - the language of love. I have always emphasised it, since I first spoke to you all - the importance of love. Although it is used so blandly (sometimes it is perceived blandly), but it is where everything flows from and ultimately returns: wonderful journey.

## Astrograms

Q: The Astrograms. Will they be centred on the power sites as well, or will they be far more widespread?

J: The information that I have is that this will be global. These will not be relying so much on the former sites or the earth surface. They will be part of the work of the Devas who have created the crop circles, but it is not so necessary for them to use the same power sources. The Devas are very powerful. Sometimes in the history of man They have distrusted us because we failed to believe in them. You remember - 'do you believe in fairies'? Well, man who fails to believe in them, fails to see so many things. There are so many universes, so many types of being. But Light Mandalas will be created, and they will hope to be spread, indeed manipulated, by Devic forces. And this also to do with the Space People which are also part of the Ascension. They have something to do with this also - but this is not widely known - they have a hand in this. The Earth Goddess, Gaia, as you call

Her, She is the One who gives the orders for the making of these Astrograms. Crop circles will run their time and fewer will appear. They will be more technical.

Yes, you will see crop circles which will be harder to hoax, this is what they are working on, such as the three (the musical notation formations in 1992) that are superimposed is an instance of that. The days of crop circles - big news - may be past, but they will be followed by greater things. The minds of man will have to be opened. It can be done - is being done. You will start to see the odd Astrogram and as these take on the crop circles will fade a little but not yet because their work has still to carry on. They will appear more and more throughout the earth. You will find people reporting more and more. In a sense it is like My Lady writing a love letter to you with Her finger on Her beautiful body. Because no matter what you do to Her, She never stops loving. This is special, what we are doing. The co-operation between the Great Earth Mother, My Lady, the Devic Forces and yourself. This is a great time, but you also know that once we have the evidence, we will have lots of muck thrown at us. But this you already know. Stay together, work together, but above all learn to love one another. I am sorry I had to say this but it is important. People shy away from the word love, but it is communication. You are doing good work, and soon, maybe a few years it will be recognised for what it is. Stick to your guns, be truthful, not only to other people but to yourselves and learn to love yourself. If you do not love yourself, you cannot possibly love anybody else. You must respect what you say and what you do. You do this, and we will work with you to the very end.



*Droll comment on the contemporary scene at Alton Barnes: sign sponsored by the notorious ufofaker A. Dexter.*

# BOOK REVIEW

## THE BETRAYER OR THE BETRAYED ?

George Wingfield

CROPCIRCLE APOCALYPSE,  
by John Macnish (Circlevision  
Publications, £10)

This book is the most forthright exposition of total hoax theory yet. Its author John Macnish is seen by many as the Judas Iscariot of the crop circles. During the heady days of 1989 through 1991 he showed an all-consuming obsession for the circles mystery, which led to the setting up of his company, Circlevision, and the production of the magical *Cropcircle Communiqué* video documentary. But this was all before disillusion with the circles, and finally, rank cynicism took hold.

*Cropcircle Apocalypse* ("The answer is here..") is then the story of the circles as seen through Macnish's eyes; it is therefore a history of circlefaking and illusion. Certainly no one should belittle research he has done in this area. But, like other "Mystery Solved" books, there is much that is conveniently ignored or else assumed. He is unable to show who or what made the Barbury Castle formation, or the Mandelbrot, and the majority of the fine Wiltshire formations of 1990 and 1991. Total hoax theory ascribes all these to a mythical "A-team" which defies identification and has now, evidently, retired.

As a "believer" initially, Macnish often had difficulty in convincing other media people that there really was something of an extraordinary nature going on in the cornfields of Britain. Strange events which seemed to tease the BBC's investigations were often found to have more mundane explanations on closer examination, and the highly publicised early cropwatches attracted hoaxers like moths to a light.

After the Doug & Dave disclosures he soon accepts quite uncritically what they say, then adopts the old maxim, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em". Although in retrospect it can be seen that D & D may never have had any government connection, their attempts to claim the £10,000 prizes offered by the *Sunday Mirror* and *The Star* for a "solution" to the circles, makes many of their claims --especially that of having "created" the circles phenomenon in Britain-- highly dubious. But Macnish chooses to believe their tale and pooh-poohs clear government interest in the circles in 1990-1991.

Coming as this all does from the producer of *Communiqué*, many cropies will see Macnish as someone who has now betrayed the circles. This is unjustified: everyone can change their mind. But Macnish reacts as if the circles had betrayed him, and his particular malice is reserved for those who were his erstwhile colleagues during his initial involvement with the phenomenon. This book shows clearly that it was not so much the circles, as the people who regarded Macnish as a friend who were betrayed. Colin Andrews, Pat Delgado, Michael Green, myself and others whom he scathingly labels as "experts", may have been misguided, over-enthusiastic and sometimes even foolish, but they never sought, like him, deliberately to deceive and they are treated disgracefully in this book. Once Macnish's disillusion with the phenomenon had set in, he then plotted to deceive the "experts" with elaborately staged hoaxed formations, whose making he filmed. The fact that those he targeted were people who had once worked with him, and trusted him, evidently made no difference at all.

His prize subterfuge was the creation of a large pictogram near HMS Mercury at East Meon, which he commissioned Doug & Dave to make in July 1992. The farmer was handsomely paid and the whole process filmed before unsuspecting researchers were lured to examining it. Here Macnish falters slightly: "It felt like deceit but I knew it wasn't". (What sheer hypocrisy! What was it, then?) Colin Andrews visited it and called it a fake. Others however were taken in. This reviewer never went anywhere near it and merely reported what was said by those who did; nevertheless, we are told that "he did not find it in the least bit suspect". (In fact I was the first to publish that it was a fake in early 1993.)

Disillusionment in the post D & D months led Macnish firmly into alliance with hoaxers such as Schnabel and Irving. Maybe one discerns a certain bitterness in his actions, engendered by the shattering of a dream. When Circlevision was first set up, the crop circles were the goose that was going to lay golden eggs. Make no mistake that commercial considerations played a considerable part in this tragicomic saga! But then, what is one to do when the goose stops laying the golden eggs? Macnish's solution seems to be to try to kill the goose, and feast upon its carcass!

In doing so, he lambasts the so-called "experts" (who called the crop researchers "experts" other than Macnish himself?). He lashes them, myself included, in every way imaginable pouring scorn and ridicule on almost everything they did or said.

Considerations of fairness and accuracy are swept aside as if this book was some kind of catharsis for the author who had been so cruelly taken in by the circles. There is insufficient room here to dispute all the dubious allegations which he makes.

The book is manipulative in many ways. It gives the impression that before it, and Schnabel's 1993 book, certain 'cropies' had concealed, not exposed, the hoaxing dimension. One has only to read articles in *The Cerealogist* in 1992 and 1993 (by Jürgen Krönig, and myself, for example) to see that this is simply not the case.

If this is the violent reaction of someone who was himself deceived, the 'experts' he excoriates were hardly those responsible. Were the circle phenomenon a total falsehood, as Macnish would have one believe, the man who gave it substance more than any other was Terence Meaden. Here was a scientist who spent ten years researching the circles, lecturing on them and giving them respectability with articles in *New Scientist* and other journals, and involving scientists worldwide. If one accepts Macnish's analysis, then all Meaden's huge database of circle data is no more than a mountain of self-deception. Andrews & Delgado's "unknown intelligence" was clearly far nearer the mark than Meaden's natural phenomenon! But not a word of criticism of Meaden appears in *Apocalypse*.

In Meaden's wake came John Macnish, whose obsession with the circles, and his media connections, gave national and international coverage to the phenomenon. He was prominent in promoting the crop circle myth --which he says now is nothing but deception. Who, then, was to blame, if 'total hoax' really was the solution all along (which I, and many others, cannot accept)?

Quite apart from the small matter of errors of date and some gross errors in a few people's names, this self-published volume verges on illiteracy with its quite execrable spelling. A few typos are understandable but this is ridiculous! (Could we perhaps have a whip-around to buy the man a spell-checker?)

Whereas he is eager to discount any circle-related UFO sightings on the grounds that Irving and Schnabel had launched some fake "UFOs" near Alton Barnes (inspired, in fact, by him), the more inexplicable cases, such as Steve Alexander's video, are carefully ignored. Equally, the well known sightings at Alton Barnes at the end of July 1992 were certainly not explained by Irving's fakes which is what he seeks to imply here.

Nevertheless it is a book which cannot be ignored by those with any interest in the subject of crop circles. One should read it and reconsider one's perspective of the circles. For some it may kill the subject,

but others, who are more discerning, will realise that not all was madness when the crop circles awoke something in many of us which went beyond the confines of physical science and far, far, beyond just "flattened corn". Many were bound to come back to earth with a bump but not all, one hopes, with such a cynical dismissal of the whole subject as we find in this unpleasant little volume.

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## GEMATRIA & GEOMETRY George Wingfield

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JESUS CHRIST, SUN OF GOD  
Ancient Cosmology and Early  
Christian Symbolism, David Fideler  
(Quest Books, The Theosophical  
Publishing House, P O Box 270,  
Wheaton IL60189-0270, USA, \$24)

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David Fideler's inspired volume gently leads one into the realm of sacred geometry and cosmological symbolism. This book is the product of fifteen years of research into the importance of number and geometry to the ancient Greek philosophers and early Christian writers. In antiquity, Jesus and other divine figures were represented as symbolic personifications of cosmic principles.

This is a study which I feel ill-qualified to review but it is an intriguing one and one which will draw those of an enquiring mind. The unfamiliar may feel wary of the esoteric world which Fideler opens up. There is undoubted harmony in this abstract realm of number and geometry but how does that relate to the so-called real, or physical, world which we inhabit? The author guides the reader in Gematria, the secret numeric language of Christian mysteries. He unfolds the harmony of Apollo, the numerology of the New Testament, the Gospel of John, Gnosis and the Gnostic Tradition. The Solar Logos, the Tree of Life and the Symbolism of the Cross are found here also. This is the lost science of the ancients in whose hidden meaning were held great truths.

Fideler is one who has been fascinated by the crop circles and the symbolism and meaning which people have discovered in them. Wise men will discern the nature of such truths, for this is the very stuff of revelation.

The foolish will ignore these matters and opt for the trite materialism of the kind displayed in the previously reviewed book. Take your pick. This is an excellent volume which I recommend to all those aware of the subtle levels of nature and their harmonies.

man-made and what was not. The genuine circles, he tells me, have an unmistakable "spider's web" pattern of ley energy lines whereas the hoaxes do not. He didn't care for the Scorpion formation ("rubbish"), or the strange formation at Furze Knoll which seems to embody a death's head. These were, he thought, undoubtedly man-made.

However he was pleased with a large quintuple set (or quincunx) which appeared in rape near East Kennett and some of the other simple circles found nearby.

The figure of eight (or "spectacles") south-west of West Kennett Long Barrow also dowsed O.K. But another peculiar concoction near the Long Barrow, which appeared on June 12th, and was seen in a brief feature on the circles on ITN's *News at Ten*, was almost certainly a fake embodying as it did a 60 ft snail-shell or nautilus, which is the design of a notorious circle-faker. A similar design at Cherhill (May 26th), which must have been out of the same stable, drew an equally unfavourable response from visitors. "Lop-sided, poorly laid, etc.", were comments. (Come on, Rob, you can surely do better than this ?)

One thing which can be said for certain is that until the farmers show a little more enterprise and perseverance in catching and prosecuting some of these crop vandals, this sort of nocturnal activity will undoubtedly spread and become increasingly popular.

## Spies 'R' Us

Right out of the blue comes unsolicited information concerning the connections with the Intelligence Services of three U.S. citizens who burst unexpectedly on to the crop circle scene in this country three years ago. A prominent American researcher, who is familiar with these matters, made specific enquiries about these three through a friend in Washington who has good contacts within the CIA and other branches of U.S. Intelligence. Word came back that all three worked, in various capacities, for that organisation.

This is hardly surprising news in view of the fact that one of them, Dan Smith, has been quite open about contract work he has done for the CIA, apparently in the field of computer programming. He, and the second of the trio, his close friend Rosemary Guiley, were the ones who introduced me to four charming gentlemen from the CIA when I visited Washington D.C. in April 1992.

The third member of the trio (who are all on close terms) is none other than Mr Jim Schnabel. He it was who went to quite extraordinary lengths to deny such a connection in 1992 and to generate a

veritable smokescreen of disinformation about his activities in the infamous "Schnabel Tape" (which mentioned Smith and Guiley). At the time I was compelled to remark that "The lady doth protest too much, methinks". This new information serves to confirm exactly what was suggested then: it revealed that Schnabel had been temporarily attached to "M5" in this country, which one assumes is a reference to MI5. My source, rather than the person in Washington D.C., is someone I have known a number of years and in whom I have complete confidence. Since this revelation might be seen as stirring up a wasp's nest (and also in extremely bad taste), I will not disclose the name of my source.

Before all the howls of scorn and derision arise yet again, as one can expect, from Mr Schnabel's fellow circlefakers, UFO & Crop Circle magazine editors, retired civil servants and the like, it must be said that there's hardly anything very remarkable about working for the CIA. There are thousands living in the Washington area who follow just such an avocation.

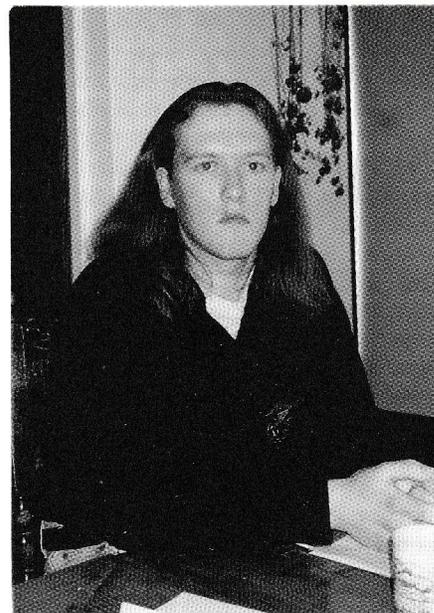
For years the U.S. government and its agencies have employed journalists, post graduate students, and others in apparently innocent employ, to gather information and to manipulate public opinion in various ways that they see fit. It is only because gullible people in this country imagine that "spies" must all be like the absurd woman-eating, bullet-proof, James Bond, equipped with every imaginable hi-tech device, and firing lethal volleys in every direction, that they are unaware that most intelligence operatives are fairly ordinary people. Like the rest of us, and like priests and princes, who some view as a category apart, they are prone to the same human frailties as we are and have no superhuman qualities.

But, why on earth should intelligence people ever be interested in what the world's finest brains have now shown is merely "flattened corn" ? Think about it!

## Last word on Bythorn

As promised in the last issue, *The Cereal-ogist* presents the findings of Montague Keen's official CCCS inquiry on the Bythorn formation (page 17). This has unfortunately had to be abridged due to its length and it is hoped that nothing too vital has been excised. Copies of the full report are available from Montague Keen (at :- School Barn Farm, Pentlow, nr. Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7JN).

When I clearly stated last autumn that I believed the formation was man-made, and made by Bill Bailey (a.k.a. Julian Richardson), I was subjected to numerous vituperative attacks. The *Sussex Circular* and others seemed to base these scathing



Julian Richardson

assaults on three main grounds. They were, first, that the claimed photographs showing the formation only partly completed didn't exist. Second, that there was definite proof from the farmer and others that the formation was first seen on the Saturday morning, Sept 4th, whereas Julian claimed that he only began making it that night. Third, that "Bill Bailey" was merely a shadowy figure, whose real name I did not know, and who would never appear at the inquiry on January 29th.

All three of these claims have proved to be false and I believe that Montague's report vindicates in every way the position which I took last autumn. However I have not heard the slightest expression of regret from those who saw fit to attack me at the time, and indeed some have now attacked the report as being biased.

I'm not vindictive and I hope that the Bythorn fiasco can now be laid to rest. But I would like to say that I have not accepted everything Julian told us at face value. It seems very likely to me that he did not work alone and had either one or two of his usual helpers with him at least during the initial phase of construction. There are two good reasons for believing this, besides the fact that they helped him with the large formations he made at Woodford and Cranford St Andrew. An analysis by Paul Vigay show that two slightly different radii were used in making the edges of the ten petals. Maybe two separate cords of supposedly —though not in fact— the same length, were employed by him and his helper(s) to expedite the operation. And, at the CCCS inquiry, he once used the word "we" in recounting how the circle was made, but rapidly corrected this unfortunate slip of the tongue.

or evade issues. To me his demeanour and his explanations had the ring of truth.

But what of the geometrical evidence? No one should doubt the sincerity with which Glickman, Chapman and others held their views, or the genuineness of their conviction that Richardson simply could not have made Bythorn in the manner and sequence described. But if, as I believe, the overwhelming weight of direct and circumstantial evidence is in his favour, it follows that Glickman's confidence in the infallibility of his reasoning and assumptions was ill-founded. Sincerity is not enough. Virtually all circle researchers believed that the characteristic "Morcom swirl" could not have been man-made, but a daylight sequence from a video made by John Macnish in 1992 reveals this to be an illusion. It shows precisely how, and how easily and how quickly, that illusion can be created. It should serve as a chastening reminder that assumptions about what skilful hoaxers can and cannot do are always dangerous, sometimes arrogant and occasionally disastrous.

The cumulative weight of the evidence favouring Richardson's account will

readily convince those for whom crop circles are no more than an odd phenomenon engaging the attention of other people. It is unlikely to persuade those for whom it has become an article of faith. There is no proof in this, as in much else; there is a combination of physical evidence, eye witness accounts and circumstantial probabilities. If it is axiomatic that such formations are genuine unless it is conclusively demonstrated that they have been made by man, then it is still possible to adjudge Richardson a liar. But this is to reverse the dictate of common sense as well as the prudence of Occam's razor. It assumes that obvious constructional errors (as seen in aerial photos) are not the product of a 19 year-old blundering furtively around a hillside field of wheat in the middle of the night with a rope-supported flattening stick, a tripod stand, marker plates and 50 metres of tape, but the deliberate design of an intelligence from beyond beaming messages to mankind.

More than that: it is to ignore the mounting evidence that hoaxing has taken place very extensively. The tenacity with which the alternative postulate is held of a communicating intelligence operating

through unknown agencies or forces to create symbolic, meaningful patterns, is a measure of the eagerness with which disciples of this thesis find supporting clues in both symmetry and the absence of symmetry. The Bythorn case neither supports nor undermines this thesis. But if it continues to be cited in support of that hypothesis when it has pretty well conclusively been shown to be man-made, then still further damage is done to that already gravely weakened belief.

For the CCCS, a body with no collective views, and dedicated ostensibly to the objective investigation of the phenomenon, to be seen (through its official journal and elsewhere) to be proclaiming as genuine what the world will be bound to consider a man-made artefact, is bad enough. It can only confirm that the CCCS has departed from any pretence of objectivity and, what may be worse, make it more difficult to command the support of a dwindling number of people willing and qualified to engage in further research. To be guilty of devoting several articles to a one-sided interpretation, interlarded with fanciful nonsense about terrified sheep in the field and armed gamekeepers patrolling it at night makes matters worse.



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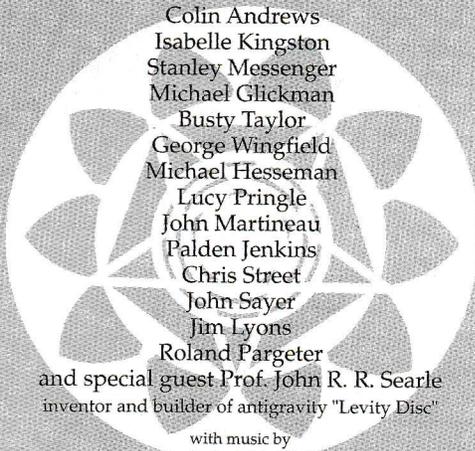


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