

MAGAZINE OF THE CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES (Sussex Branch)

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THE MAGAZINE FOR
PSEUDO-RELIGIOUS
CIRCLE FANATICS
EVERYWHERE!!

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Editor: **ANDY THOMAS**

14 Bishops Drive
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1HA Tel. 0273 474711

"By Maya, by my magic which I stamp on floating
Nature-forms, the primal vast - I come, and go"

BHAGAVAD-GITA

Actually I've filched the above quote from John Cole's article elsewhere this issue as there wasn't room on that page, sorry about that, John. Well, magic is being stamped on our crop fields once again, as the 1994 circle season has begun (properly) with a bang. Already approximately 15 formations have been reported, most of which have appeared around the Avebury area and in that holy grail medium of circle research - oilseed rape. This many formations this early in the year bodes well for the forthcoming months and there's a real sense of excitement already, reminiscent of summer months of yore. There are some very impressive formations (some of which I witnessed myself, getting soaked into the bargain!), some of which can be seen on pages 6 & 7. The general consensus is good, although some have been concerned by a certain amount of breakages and bruising on some of the rape stalks. But as I noticed myself, the moment one steps into a rape formation, you leave behind a trail of broken stalks, so delicate is this crop. It only needs one person to step onto the crop lay for damage to occur - so a few breaks and bruises do not a hoax make; the majority of the rape in this year's formations have been very nicely bent in the time-honoured tradition. (Although surely even the 'circlemakers' themselves are bound to break the odd stem here and there - who said they were 100% infallible?) But here's a funny thing! Until this year, it has been accepted lore that rape formations are virtually impossible to fake without leaving very obvious damage. But - surprise, surprise! - this year's rape formations are already being written off by some 'researchers' as "hoaxes" - some of whom haven't even entered the fields themselves ("Oh, it didn't look worth investigating" - pathetic.)! What has happened since last year to make rape formations easily hoaxable? Nothing! It's just the result of sceptics preying on the weak-minded. Only one of the formations so far has been confirmed as man-made, but this was apparently very obvious. Otherwise, they must be clever chaps these hoaxers, learning to bend thousands of rape stalks at 45° without breaking. (It is possible to 'lean' a rape stalk over in very wet soil - but not bend at an angle.) Already, a well-known CCCS member called George has reportedly recorded an interview for a European TV station in which he states that - wait for it! - all the rape formations this year are fakes. And this from the man who stated only three months ago "Obviously, we must try to be more positive". George will apparently "know" when the real phenomenon appears. Oh really? Know something that others don't? No. Why, George, why? Why do you do this? And why are you determined to make CCCS look stupid...? But then what do I know, I'm clearly just one of the pseudo-religious fanatics...

The catchphrase on the front cover is of course what's known as 'irony' in case you hadn't guessed. But this is now the standard-issue barb dished out to anyone who dares to consider that the majority of crop formations are not created by hoaxers. It's the easy option for those who almost believed in a deeper mystery but who let their standard worldview closed-mindedness get the better of them: - by laying into those who still have the audacity to be open-minded enough to still consider a real phenomenon at the heart of most of the agriglyphs, they move the focus away from their own confused feelings and make themselves feel better by portraying others as rabid, drooling fundamentalist nutcases who are obviously too sheep-like and undisciplined of mind to make their own informed decisions. This attitude does a huge disservice to crop circle research and is entirely unjustified. I may be all for love, light and the raising of consciousness ("See - a fanatic!"), but call me a pseudo-religious cultist again and I'll punch your lights out. Peace man!

ANDY THOMAS

Sussex Circular: Edited and produced by Andy Thomas. Articles and contributions to the editorial address please. CCCS Sussex Branch Convenor: Barry Reynolds (Tel. 0444 232873). Subscription applications and queries: Debbie Pardoe, 42 Croxden Way, Willingdon Trees, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN22 0UJ. Subscription £10.00 (12 copies), cheques payable to 'CCCS Sussex'. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors and not the Sussex Circular or the CCCS as a whole, unless otherwise stated.

Attendance at the CCCS AGM, held in deepest Andover on 10th April, was rather like the current membership; down slightly in numbers compared to the previous year. But to hell with the numbers, it's the quality of the people that counts.

Michael Green summed up the last year quite aptly with a quote from Dickens; "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times". Hopefully this year will see less of the latter. Membership was down again from 839 to 570 but this now represents a mostly active membership as opposed to previous years where the excess were simply 'armchair' cerealogists (not that there's anything wrong with being one, before we start getting letters - Ed). Finances are therefore lower but only by 15% compared to the 30% drop in membership. This is largely through the generosity of Officers not claiming their full expenses and several cost-cutting exercises. One of these is to be the axing of Hugh Pincott's Specialist Knowledge Services as membership/ mailing coordinator purely on a cost-cutting basis. Pat Palgrave-Moore will probably be taking up this role along with that of Secretary much to the relief of Barbara Davies (who remains Editor of 'The Circular') as she must be one of the most overworked members of the Council.

A lively discussion ("We are not some kind of peasant rabble") ensued over whether the Membership or Council should elect the Chairman, which eventually went the way of the constitutional amendment. Therefore the Chairman will now be chosen annually by the Membership and the Chairman elect must have been a Council member for the preceding twelve months. Michael Green was then re-elected as Chairman after the ballot papers sent out with the AGM notices were counted. (For the other results, see Editorial last issue.)

Future policy was discussed which soon descended into more arguments over the authenticity of the Bythorn formation which is far too boring to regurgitate here so a couple more quotes on the subject of evidence for fakery instead; "The overwhelming evidence did not overwhelm". "There are without a shadow of a doubt, shadows over the doubts". (If anyone is able to identify the quoted person above, then send your name and address written in code underneath a stamp stuck to a packet of seeds to the Sussex Circular.)

There then followed the best organised lunch break in the history of cerealogy courtesy of Busty "I know how to organise a piss-up" Taylor. In fact it was so good that no-one wanted to leave the appointed pub where tables had been booked to go back for the afternoon session! Michael Green was last seen dragging Lucy Pringle screaming from her place and chips and Barbara Davies downing a pint of Guinness in one as Michael muttered something about setting a good example to the younger members. The younger members eventually decided to toe the line and staggered back for the afternoon lecture. (Suggestion: next year's AGM is actually held in a pub.)

Traditionally, the AGM's afternoon lecture is unintelligible to those without a degree in pseudo-biomechanics or something (although this could be due to the beer at lunchtime). This year however was to be different and a superb lecture by Jim Lyons entitled 'Circles of Consciousness' followed. Jim detailed the history of physics from the ancient Greeks right up to the modern day. This was done in layman's terms so that even the duffers from CCCS Sussex (four of us) could understand what was being said. We were taken on a lightning history tour of accepted physics covering Galileo and pendulum swinging, the Golden Ratio, Kepler and the rotation of planets, Newton and various forces, Faraday and magnetic fields, Maxwell and electromagnetism, Kelvin and the vortex ring (slides showing patterns in sand on drums were remarkably cerealogical in appearance), Tesla and HF voltages, Max Planck, Einstein etc, etc. The more esoteric side of things then followed covering chakras, meridians, electromagnetic fields of the brain, meditation and how the left and right hemispheres of two people can become attuned, subtle energies including an awesome display of dowsing, etc. Several people's brain-wave patterns can attune during meditation and thought can apparently interact with the environment via subtle energies which were probably known to Neolithic man. Scientists are 'inventing' new subatomic particles on paper and then subsequently finding them. Are they actually creating these new particles themselves with thought? Tie this in to the meditating which various groups have been doing with crop circles recently and you may realise that we really are getting positive results; our coherent minds are actually affecting our surroundings. The possibilities of Project Sky (see last issue) must therefore be limitless...

BARRY REYNOLDS

'THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE UFO': BILL WITNES ATTENDS A LECTURE BY GEOFF FREED

Geoff Freed's above titled lecture was held by the Viewpoint Aquarius group at Worthing in February and was full of humour and a light, well-grounded wisdom. His main sources are the 1800 contactees he interviewed for an official body referred to as "part of the Ministry for Silly Walks". Freed does not name names or spotlight government agencies, neither does he appear to publish or promote himself, but as part of his attitudinal healing work he does speak about UFOs; what he knows takes him 28 days to deliver, speaking for nine hours a day. He is a forensic scientist and one-time Zen Buddhist monk. The following is from his personal overview of the situation - "take whatever feels right and use it as you wish".

Current scientific opinion puts us on one of the 10 million inhabited planets in a smaller than average galaxy, among 10 billion other galaxies. There is a plan for each seeded planet; each one is an experiment and there is a rule of non-interference in their development (this includes telepathy and channelling). This rule was contravened by beings who blew up their own planet (now the asteroid belt) and came to Earth 10,000 years ago, altering our genes to make us like them. We have now become a risk to other systems who will if necessary intervene to prevent the splitting of the planet; the success or failure of humanity though, is down to us.

Local government in Sirius and the Pleiades has authorised five different peoples to monitor the situation: From Andromeda, oldest of all the peoples to come here, are the 11ft tall humanoids, not cyclopeans or Atlanteans, they are sometimes known as the Elders; they collate all the information and send it back to Sirius, they hold the original plans and teachings and also liaise with an Earth hierarchy of the Bailey/Blavatsky ilk. There are three of these beings in suspended animation somewhere in Tibet and only lamas who have mastered 'tummo' (raising body heat) are allowed to visit. Just coming out to make contact - one was seen in Edgware recently - are the 'Norwegians'; they can pass as humans with their blonde or red hair and bronzed foreheads; hexagonal irises give them away, hence the sunglasses. They monitor the polluting multinationals, materialism generally, and are especially interested in the progressive Letts economic system making headway in Australia and Canada. A third group, who may be the Muses of old, are concerned with music and the arts and resemble the Spielberg/Close Encounters character. The ET type (the body of one has been found in a cave in Turkey) are concerned with child development, monitoring abuse and paedophile rings; there was a suggestion that in the areas where such activities take place, UFO sightings are being reported prior to arrests. Last, but not least, are the little people who attend to rivers and forests etc. Indigenous peoples say they are coming out at the moment; at the same time many Native Americans are returning to their land, and these developments are seen to be in line with the Hopi prophecy that in 1993 the Medicine Wheel would turn again.

The subject of the 'grey' alien is to be considered as something of a side issue in this context; it is being heavily promoted at the moment, as a cover for experiments being conducted by an internal government cabal into methods of mind control. The cabal is beginning to realise that the game is up, having failed to silence the forthcoming book by Betty Reginas, in which it is revealed that subsequent to the removal of three steno-receiver implants, her abduction memories gave way to the clear recollection of being in an army field-hospital with an intra-nasal optic fibre attached to her brain. The grey alien does exist however, being one of the 'abominations' created by the same people who interfered with us - their technology is not up to much, the saucers they use are left over from that time and crash with monotonous regularity. Known as the 'sponge people' by Central American tribes, their general degeneracy and psychic intensity is a result of having lived underground for too long. Their desperate program for genetic rejuvenation is failing, and although we may feel a sadness for them, there is nothing to be done, their way is rapidly coming to an end. As with any being who seeks to control another, their power over us derives from our fear and is nothing more than a transmission of their own fear for themselves.

Getting back to the program proper; if and when it is considered that humanity has turned the corner, there will be a place for us at local government level, full relations can be entered into and Operation Earth Clean Up with shared technology and personnel can get under way. The next 18 months are crucial, but we can be optimistic because as >>

traditional economies break down there are new systems and technologies coming through to replace them. Cancer cures, six free energy devices, and to all intents and purposes indestructible materials are all coming onto the market; permaculture is spreading around the globe and there are already 28,000 sustainable (Findhorn-esque) communities worldwide.

What sort of galactic community might we be joining? It is a 'Unitocracy', where each person is considered to have a direct connection with the divine: the only religion is called 'listening in silence to the divine within'. There is no work and no money, UFOs last thousands of years, clothes grow with you. Extra-Terrestrials are compassionate but not emotional and they don't give advice. They act with spontaneous inspiration, utilising intellectual capacity only when it is needed, at other times they rest in peace (samadhi). They communicate by telepathy but also have the privacy of their own minds. The very fact that they are contacting us more and more is a sign of the coming rapprochement, as is the reduction of mental blocks from thirty years, down in some cases to just a few weeks. Communication is through holograms and other devices as direct telepathy would be too painful for us, and besides they do not want to contract our mental viruses. The meeting, when it happens, will not be with any particular government - they are too embroiled in drugs/arms/extortion etc. It is more likely to occur in one of the global villages.

We come now to possibly the most controversial (!) part of the lecture: the increase in channelling is not seen as a positive development. ETs do not channel; psychic entities are using this as a way to manipulate and infiltrate the Earth experience at this time, giving some useful information as a hook, promising more. As years go by, discernment goes and the personality begins to erode; any communication with an entity that names itself is a clear indication that ego is to the fore. Freed believes that the crop circles may increasingly be used as contact points, but for the time being we will not solve their mystery, nor will we fathom the Martian monument enigmas - they serve to demonstrate that our minds are limited.

I can't end this piece without sharing one of Mr Freed's anecdotes about Maharishi Yogi on the military use of ESP: "Don't worry, let them play with it, sooner or later they will fall into God."

BILL WITNES



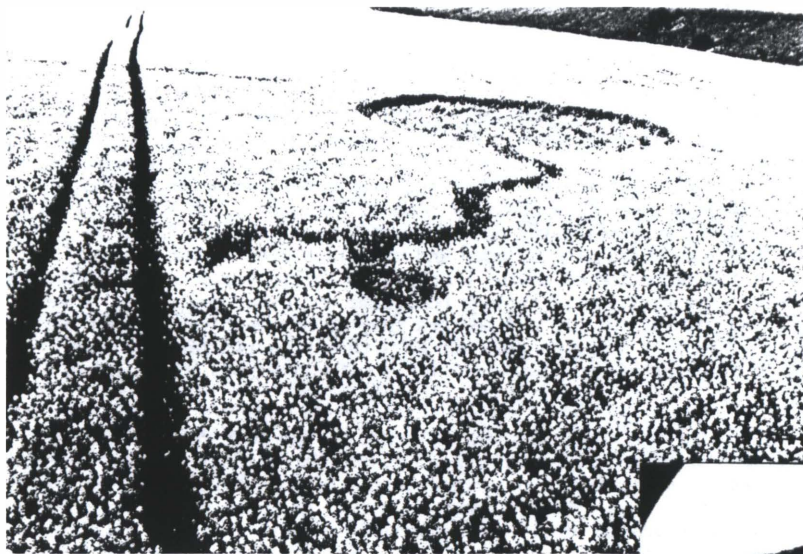
VIEWS

LET THE MYSTERY REMAIN! JOHN COLE CALLS FOR AREAS OF UNCERTAINTY...

It struck me recently that, for all our attempts, the mystery of the crop circles will never actually be solved. Even now, it is clear that it will never be possible to establish without doubt the genuineness or otherwise of any given formation which has not been seen by several witnesses while it was actually being made. Recent attempts to prove that Doug and Dave were the originators of all formations is an example of this impossibility as the 'evidence' is not about to convince anyone who does not want to be convinced. However, it is difficult for us human beings to live with an unsolved mystery and many of us in our own ways are beginning to plump for one of the popular theories, whether it be human field artists, alien field artists, plasma vortices, Devic spirits etc, because of this discomfort. To 'solve' this mystery, after all is the unspoken purpose of crop circle research is it not? We must remember however that all theories are in reality fantasies and not fall into the trap, as Orthodox Science and other religious movements do of taking their fantasies literally, mistaking them for truth.

It just may be that the whole point of the agriglyphs is their mystery for when we embrace mystery instead of trying to solve it, to be in control of it, then we open ourselves to the endless depths of human experience. As Paul Ricoeur says: "Enigma does not block understanding but provokes it... That which arouses understanding is precisely the double meaning..." Let us have our fantasies/theories but let us share them, not to separate us but to enrich each other. Let us let the symbols in the fields and the ideas around them sink into our consciousness without trying too hard to fit them into our worldview but let our worldview expand by means of them. We can only become smug when we think we know but when we admit that we do not, we become open.

JOHN COLE



THE SEASON BEGINS...

Just a small selection of the impressive pictograms that have appeared in the last few weeks. All these formations were in rape.

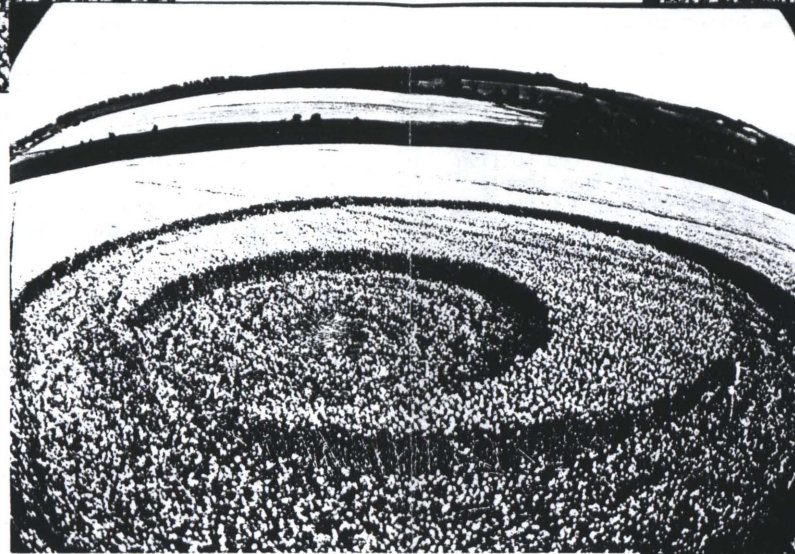


ABOVE: Longwood Warren, Cheesefoot Head

ABOVE: The Sanctuary, Nr Avebury

BELOW: Furze Knoll, Morgans Hill

BELOW: West Kennett



ABOVE: The Sanctuary, Nr Avebury



All photographs by STEVE ALEXANDER for which, many thanks.



FROM: Jayne Macnish, Circlevision, The Paddocks, Whitton, Ludlow, Shropshire

Reviews such as Barry Reynolds' (SC 28) are usually taken as a bit of a joke by Circlevision but unfortunately Barry has outdone himself in this particular review by introducing us to a world of fantasy. (We're talking about his review of 'Cropcircle Apocalypse' here - Ed)

Barry falls into the trap that many crop circle 'experts' do; he hasn't done his homework. John filmed at GERALD DE TRAFFORD's villa, he had nothing to do with George de Trafford. If Barry had bothered to ask when we last spoke a few weeks ago he need not have committed this 'faux pas'.

It is also worth saying that Paul Vigay has also confirmed that while he can produce computer images, he has never implied or suggested that the stills and video of hoaxers at work as now contained within 'Cropcircle Apocalypse' and 'Revelations': Cropcircle Communiqué II are not the genuine article. This was pointed out to Barry in a telephone conversation weeks ago.

There is no reason for a well respected TV producer such as John Macnish or the company he has worked for, 'Circlevision' to lie or receive money not to tell the truth. So although everyone is entitled to an opinion (no matter how bigoted) why not check the facts first?

I don't intend to take this any further but would ask that this letter is included in the next Sussex Circular.

JAYNE MACNISH

BARRY REYNOLDS REPLIES: It is interesting to note that the only 'faux pas' I managed to commit in my review was to confuse George and Gerald de Trafford who both happened to live in Malta. At no time did I imply that Macnish's photographs are faked; just that people should be aware that it is easy to fake them if one wanted to. I know because I work with computers as a profession and have witnessed the possibilities with my own eyes. Unfortunately my recollection of the one, hostile telephone conversation that Mrs Macnish made to me on Sunday 27th March does not appear to match hers.

* Barry's one mistake hardly makes his review a "world of fantasy". Interestingly, neither in the review or anywhere else in SC has it ever been suggested that Macnish "might receive money not to tell the truth". So what's that all about? Curious... And what is it that Jayne doesn't intend to take any further? What could she mean..? We've also received a couple of letters from Erik Beckjord, making the point that Jayne states above that because images can be faked does not mean that the photos in question were, necessarily. Erik's a big fan of 'Apocalypse' and now sees the crop circles as pretty much one big hoax. Having said that, his house burned down in the Malibu fires recently and he makes an appeal for anyone with spare copies of old crop circle publications to donate them to his "museum", struggling due to his losses in the fire... I have his address if anyone's interested... - Ed.

*



FROM: Ray Cox, 4 Lulworth Close, Halesowen, West Midlands

The Sussex Circular continues to be a most interesting magazine for our subject - as well as entertaining!

A couple of thoughts arising from issue 28; about the curious inconsistencies in Doug and Dave's statements. Not only are there well substantiated reports - from the research of Paul Fuller and Terence Meaden for example - of circles long before the 70's and 80's, and probably back into more historical times, but eye-witness reports as well. The latter are of course in a minority but they cannot be disregarded by John Macnish or anyone else. For any researchers to dismiss this area as "another phenomenon" (what!) is as defective as a demure rationalist ignoring, say, equipment malfunction or physiological effects. I can not help but wonder at the apparent gulf between the amazing geometric ratios discovered by John Martineau and others and D & D's claim to vault over the crop to make grapeshot, presumably aesthetically, and yet which circles still conform to the geometries as found. Surely it's one thing to plan those out on paper and another to make the forms on the crop - especially in the way described by D & D. We cannot take coincidence that far!

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RAY COX

BARRY REYNOLDS IN ASTROLOGY-NOT-A-LOAD-OF-BALDERDASH SHOCK: 'ASTROGENETICS' REVIEWED

I will make a bold statement. Maurice M Cotterell's 'Astrogenetics - The New Theory' is one of the best books I have ever read. No, I will correct that. This IS the best book I have ever read (what, even better than 'Two-Thirds'? - Ed) and I do not say that lightly. At heart, I need scientific evidence to finally convince me of the authenticity of something (that goes out of the window when crop circles are concerned as I have had first-hand experience of things beyond science as we currently know it), which is why I have always believed that Astrology is a load of old balderdash. However, this excellent book not only 'proves' the theory of Astrology but goes on neatly to sow up such diverse topics as the sunspot cycle, genetics, the human gestation period, magnetic fields and their effect on life, the Golden Section, the Fibonacci sequence, the honey bee, the Mayan calendar and the Chinese calendar. All in one encompassing theory which appears to me to be totally watertight.

One warning about this book though - it contains a lot of mathematical formulae, as it should as it is basically a scientific paper, which may put those of you without a degree in mathematics off it. However, as I found, you can ignore the numbers bit to a large extent and just read the wordy bits; this will still give you a large understanding of the theories. And you never know, you may still be able to astound your friends with such fascinating facts as: $(1/2C) W = (1/2 + 3.0072\%) \times (D + 3.0072\%)$ the adjustment necessary to D is not exactly 3.0072% but suffices for our analysis."

So what's it all about then? "The Astrogenetic theory introduces irrefutable evidence which conclusively proves; solar radiation mutates genes at conception (not birth), such mutations are of twelve types (ie. signs of the zodiac), the dispersion of mutation types agrees with empirical studies of Astrology and personality and results from the interplay of solar radiations and the movement of the Earth around the Sun." Cotterell shows that "interstellar radiation bombards the foetus at conception causing chemical reactions within the enzymes of the first living cells through the process of cellular radiobiology. Chromosomes are spliced and rearranged. The inherited genes are thus mutated. The resulting offspring will have a unique personality which will be a function of the radiation that caused its mutation."

The radiation that comes from the sun in various cycles lasting from approximately one month through 260-days (the Mayan calendar) to 60 years (the Chinese Astrological calendar). The fluctuations are due to the Sun having both a Polar magnetic field (like the Earth) and an Equatorial belt of North, South, North, South rotating at different speeds, as well as many other factors. So, the amount of radiation reaching the Earth therefore varies according to known parameters such as the rotational speed of the Sun's Polar magnetic field (once every 37 days), the rotational speed of the Sun's Equatorial magnetic belt (once every 26 days) and the length of time it takes the Earth to orbit the Sun (once every 365.2422 days). Thus, depending on where the Earth is in comparison to both of the Sun's magnetic fields, the amount of solar radiation reaching the Earth is decided. This may range from being net positive, if both line up one way, through to net negative if they line up the other way. Two people conceived under both positive or both negative emissions will therefore harmonise, whereas two people born under opposite emissions will not. Just like Astrology.

Cotterell goes even further and discovers other periodicities in the radiation emissions which tie in neatly with both the Chinese and the Mayan Astrological calendars which brings us to one of many questions. How did the ancient peoples know these periods? In order to calculate them they needed to know that the Sun has two distinct magnetic fields that rotate and at different speeds, they needed to know what these speeds are which requires spectrum measuring techniques (doppler) and knowledge of regression routines to calculate the regressions. All of which we supposedly only discovered in recent times. We later discover the reasons why pi (the Golden Section) and the Fibonacci sequence are so intrinsic to nature as they too are by-products of solar radiation. In fact after some pretty deft number crunching we are shown that pi is actually the solar radiation frequency.

The implications of Astrogenetics are vast. Cotterell proposes that genetic mutation is possible "if excessive radiation from huge solar disturbances reaches Earth. All living species would undergo a mutational leap as the Earth's geomagnetic field increased in >> 9

intensity. This then explains en-masse mutational evolution and perhaps also explains away the giraffe paradox" (if the length of the giraffe's neck has grown through 'survival of the fittest', why have no neck bones of intermediary length ever been found as Darwin's theory of evolution expects?).

According to Cotterell, solar radiation and Astrogenetics must therefore play an important role in evolution and just as importantly fertilisation. If the solar radiation sequence changes, or ceases, then fertility must do likewise. We know that from 1645-1715 there were NO recorded sunspots (the Maunder minimum). The fertility rate for the UK dropped by 30% during this period. (Interestingly, the sperm-count in Western men has dropped by 50% in the last 50 years - this has been put down to chemical pollution of our foods, but it would be interesting to see if Cotterell's ideas tie in - Ed.) Around 750 AD the sunspot cycle reached a 2000 year low. The Maya, like the dinosaurs before them, started to die out - a civilisation can be expected to die out within 100 years. And just to prove it he produces a chart showing how the known solar activity maximums and minimums correspond superbly to the rise and falls of all the major civilisations throughout history. The Incas died out suddenly around 1500 AD during a sunspot minimum, the Egyptian Empire did the same around 1300 BC. So, maybe previous civilisations have been considerably more intelligent than us but did die out very quickly. And maybe we will all go the same way during the next sunspot minimum...

'Astrogenetics - The New Theory' is an excellent 112-page paperback book packed with loads of diagrams and many well-presented facts, printed by the Western Litho Company of Plymouth. It costs around £10.00, ISBN 0 9513195 0 7.

BARRY REYNOLDS



FEATURES

THE PLAIN MAN'S GUIDE TO BASIC DOWSING... BY DAVID RUSSELL

Many will have heard of water divining - and water divining is one aspect of dowsing - but dowsing is not only water divining, it is a much more broadly based discipline which may be employed for finding virtually anything; mislaid objects, ancient foundations, minerals below ground level and even pipes where additionally the direction of water flow and the depth may be established. This faculty is not limited to purely practical uses but also for the rediscovery of the Earth's subtle energies which may be likened to the planet's nervous system or acupuncture meridians. The Ley alignments of ancient sacred sites were well researched and described in Alfred Watkins' book 'The Old Straight Tracks' which he published in 1925. Leys seem to manifest in straight or near straight rhumb lines; whereas the telluric or earth energy lines respond to yin/yan dragon-like courses crossing at significant places. It is interesting that this faculty is not confined to plodding about the countryside with rods or hazel twigs because there is an equally valid technique known as map dowsing. Using an Ordnance Survey map and a pendulum or other yes/no indicator, it is possible to provide the same detection without leaving the comfort of your home. The accuracy of this technique is only limited by the scale of the map employed. It is therefore obvious that this cannot depend entirely on a purely geophysical reaction and clearly demonstrates an access to a universal super-consciousness.

Dowsing has also been employed in the recording of the crop circle phenomenon. Most formations which have not been hoaxed seem to manifest an input of 'energy' emanating from some ancient sacred site, a tumulus, long barrow or church, many of which have been built on previous pre-Christian sites. Scientists endeavouring to discover how these formations are produced take exception to the rather loose description 'energies' which has a strictly scientific connotation. It might be more appropriate to describe this as a telluric 'influence', the word succinctly denoting a 'flowing in'. We are all potential dowsers, but depending on the quintessential belief that 'it works' - dowsing with a sceptic in my aura can disturb my concentration. Aboriginals, not tainted by what we are pleased to call civilisation, instinctively know where food, water and other essentials are to be found without rods or hazel twigs. This is a fundamental skill which many of us have lost and can so easily rediscover.

It is necessary to 'tune in' specifically to the particular object of research because >>10

only that stimulus will provide a reaction. If this were not so, the rods would be uncontrollable in an urban situation, being unable to differentiate between various types of drain pipes, water and gas pipes, electricity and telephone cables.

The origins of these subtle energies are unknown, though they may be created by thought. All you need do is ask. There does however seem to be some relationship with the Earth's moon, because it has been discovered that when there is a lunar eclipse the lines seem to disappear, providing no reaction to dowsing until the moon reappears - alternatively, could it be the effect of the moon on the dowser?

DAVID RUSSELL

* This plain man's guide to basic dowsing is part of a research paper being written following hypnotherapy of a subject who was bilocating, and by the technique of regression through previous incarnations, was found to be doing so in the early 4th century AD. Because dowsing formed an integral part of the ensuing research programme, this short explanation is included in the paper, still some way from publication. It is to be seen in this context rather than a specific work on dowsing.

THE 20% SOLUTION... FROM LARRY GRANT



Some time ago, I happened across an article which discussed the apparent fact that prophecy has a quirk and a dangerous one at that. Whenever I see mention of the various prophecies, visions, etc, that the wonderful mystic land of my home California is going to shove off to sea, or more accurately shove off to the bottom of the sea, I'm reminded of that article.

There is a famous prophecy from the past which is used as the core of the example: 'Cross the River and a Kingdom is lost.' So spaketh an ancient prophet to a king enquiring in the usual kingly way about his chances of conquering another man's kingdom just across the river from his own. Interpreting this prophecy as approval from the gods for his little escapade in slum clearance, our aforementioned king took his army across the river and promptly being slain, lost his own kingdom to his intended victim.

This is no isolated incident. The thrust of the article I've mentioned is that if you go through a bunch of ancient prophecies and study the results and actions taken, thereby you find that one in five - 20% - contain this 'surprise' result that the enquiring party suffers the fate expected as someone else's. It is perhaps not simple enough that prophecy can be wrong, it can be outrageously dangerous.

In parapsychology there has always been much discussion of just how our brains or our minds receive these 'messages' which turn up as prophecies, visions, clairvoyance, and all the other ranges of unusual or unexpected characteristics of our being. While these areas are still largely blank, there is some understanding that in the reception system is an inverting function which tends to provide reversals of the true data sought, or accidentally received.

There is also the problem that apparently the reception system, whatever or wherever it may be in our brains, communicates in faint or strong images rather than words and that frequently the translation of these one for another leaves much to be desired. So when someone in Britain tells me of the impending doom, when the seas are seen crashing in, the earth is upheaving, the skies are falling, I salve my sense of impending loss by muttering the phrase 'Cross the river, cross the river' over and over again until the hypnotic balm of constant repetition slips me back into stable California.

After all, I've one in five that it'll be swimming for you, not me. Oh well. Surf's up!

LARRY GRANT

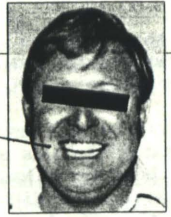
CCCS SUSSEX BRANCH MEETINGS

Mislaid that list already? Never had one? Right: 21 June - 21 July - 16 Aug - 15 Sep - 18 Oct - 17 Nov - 20 Dec. Start: 8.00pm. Venue: Scout HQ, Station Road, Burgess Hill. OF?

SAVES ON TEDIOUS
CCCS INQUIRIES!
YES, IT'S THE ACME...

HOAX CLAIM FORM

JUST FILL IN THE FORM -
AND PRESTO! YOU'RE A HOAXER!



TO: CCCS / CPR / BUFORA / ANYONE GULLIBLE ENOUGH TO BELIEVE ME

I wish to announce that I am claiming responsibility for making
..... (your choice of crop formation here, preferably a well-known one)

And supposedly created it using (tick as applicable): A: 10-ton garden roller [] B: Old bit of wood [] C: Baseball cap with useless bit of bent wire [] D: Pathetic bit of twine with sea-fishing swivel attached [] E: One-legged camera tripod [] F: Tripod with no legs at all []

I produced my 'proof' photographs with: A: Cheapo camera (Boots disposable) with totally indistinct image [] B: Computer [] C: Couldn't even be bothered to take any photos []

I can prove I created this formation because my car was spotted in the vicinity: A: One day after its appearance [] B: Two days after [] C: A week [] D: Two years later []

PS. I can also give the registration number of a mule-and-cart spotted near the 'Mowing Devil' formation of 1678, on application.

My official sponsor is: (well-known researcher of your choice)

He/She will confirm my story because they checked it out very thoroughly by: A: Doing nothing [] B: Taking my word for it [] C: Accepting bribes (lager: 1 pint)[] D: Looking at some hastily scribbled diagrams the night after I spotted, sorry created the formation in question [] E: Making sure no CCCS members ever got to hear about it to contest it []

I am working for: A: Opus Dei [] B: The Illuminati [] C: The Glitterati [] D: The Artiefartie [] E: CSICOP [] F: The Vatican [] G: Self-employed []

My supposed exploits will be featured in a forthcoming book/video by: A: Myself [] B: Jim Schnabel [] C: John Macnish [] D: Some sad individual []

I will be available to be plied with affection and tea and cakes by certain members of CCCS on when I will create a demonstration formation which will bear no resemblance whatsoever to anything I am claiming here and will therefore of course prove my claim beyond doubt. Oh and don't get any stupid ideas about asking questions I can't possibly answer either.

PLEASE THEREFORE STRIKE THIS FORMATION FROM ALL YOUR RECORDS AND ANY PUBLICATIONS YOU MAY BE PLANNING.

I hereby declare that I am a compulsive liar and that the resemblance of anything I may say to the truth is entirely coincidental. I also accept that if any of my claims are in fact found to be true, I will become a regular columnist for The Cerealogist and the Fortean Times.

Signed.....

To be signed by your Doctor:
..... (insert name here) is fully excused from blame or criticism for any hoaxed crop formations he may or may not have created as my patient is a registered sufferer from 'Croporrhoea' which gives him an unfortunate compulsion to destroy other people's property and/or talk out of his rear end.
Signed

"If the ACME Hoax Claim Form had been around in my day, how easy life would have been!"



JIM SCHNABULL ('Hoaxer')

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