

SC

*THE MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF
CROP CIRCLES
AND BEYOND*

49

FEBRUARY 1996

£1.00

**Experiences
In The '95
Formations**

**Doug
Ruby's
'The Gift'**

**Rarities
From
1995**

Published by the Society for Crop Circles Research, PO Box 100, Blandford, Dorset, UK. Tel: 01258 462222. Fax: 01258 462223. Email: scrc@compuserve.com

"Necessary training in science must not lead us to mistake the means for the end" ANON

As part of the main Centre for Crop Circle Studies' attempt to sort out their recent administration problems, you should find with this issue (unless you're reading it as a back copy, of course) a questionnaire asking for your views about the future of the organisation. So at this point I'll turn you over to Barry Reynolds who is chairing the 'Review Body' to explain...

"Enclosed with this issue of SC you will find a copy of a survey recently issued by CCCS to all its current members via The Circular. As CCCS would also like to obtain the opinions of non-members and ex-members alike we have been asked to canvas the readers of SC. You will notice from the survey that the closing date is 31/1/96, which by the time you read this is likely to have passed or will be only a few days away. So please, stop what you are doing and fill in the survey NOW. We will hold the closing date open for a few extra days to allow time for your results to be returned. If you have already filled one out then you need not fill out another. Thank you.

PS. A pair of gents' reading glasses have been found under a chair cushion at the Scout Centre, Burgess Hill, branch headquarters of CCCS Sussex. If they are yours please contact Barry on 01444 232873."

On a completely different note, congratulations to Colin Andrews and Dr Jonathan Sherwood for making it into *Private Eye* magazine's 'Pseud's Corner' column! This regular item is reserved for cuttings which they see as being a little over-imaginative and flowery in the creative writing department, and a press release promoting Colin and Jonathan's activities with the connection between the "harmonics" of the Great Pyramid and crop circles has made the grade. Of course, *Private Eye* could get an endless supply of suitable material from any croppie publication going, including SC, if they were made aware of them! I offer a (small) prize for anyone who can get us into 'Pseud's Corner'...

Don't forget, next month is our special extended Fiftieth issue, with a few excellent contributions from some guest stars, and - finally! - the answer (well, almost) to those cryptic messages that pop up each month down the side of our pages...

ANDY THOMAS



The Monthly Journal of
Crop Circles and Beyond

Editor: **ANDY THOMAS**

14 Bishops Drive
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1HA

Tel: 01273 474711

SC: Edited and produced by ANDY THOMAS. Articles, letters and contributions to the editorial address please. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors and not SC as a whole, unless otherwise stated.

SC copyright (C) 1995; permission must be sought for any reproduction of material. Copyright for individual articles and illustrations lies with the original authors, artists and photographers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

£10.00 (UK)
£13.00 (Europe)
£18.00 (US and overseas)

Cheques payable to
'CCCS Sussex'.
Cheques & POs must be
made out in sterling,
drawn on a bank with a
British branch.
Eurocheques accepted.
Cash sent at own risk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MAILING ADDRESS:

Debbie Pardoe
42 Croxden Way
Willingdon Trees
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN22 0UJ
Tel: 01323 520054

Front cover: Winterbourne Bassett, Wiltshire,
July 1995. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

Another summer has come to an end, a summer that passed like a flash of lightning due to the gloriously hot, sunny weather, bringing the formations to an unusually abrupt and early end. In the south the harvesters completed the majority of their work by the beginning of August, a good two weeks sooner than usual. The fields are now bare once more apart from the occasional imprint of once majestic shapes which captured our hearts and stimulated our minds during the preceding months.

What has been happening in the fields to people, animals and mechanical equipment during those glorious halcyon days? The reports are still coming in thick and fast (*Lucy collects records of unusual effects on people in formations - Ed*); to date I have received almost

forty, seventeen of which are from men. Not quite such a good record as last year, but very many thanks to all of you who have taken the trouble to fill in and send me your wonderful experiences. Please keep it up and remember that nothing is too small or insignificant. I find that many people tend to ignore their five senses. Taste, smell, touch, feeling and hearing. You never know when one small effect may be a crucial piece in the jig-saw puzzle. As always I want to reassure you that everything you write to me is in total confidence unless you give me permission otherwise; some reports are very personal and private and this is respected at all times.

Each year certain formations are remarkable for a number of reasons; this summer I rate five formations as having been quite outstanding. This is a larger number than most years and even if I find just one that has that special ineffable quality to it, I am happy. I will tell you about them, but only three in detail.

The first on my list was the seven-ringed spiral in barley at Avebury Trusloe. This is the field where in 1991 two formations appeared, again in barley, one facing north\south, the other east\west. It was in the north\south formation that had formed on 9th June, that Diana Clift and I found a ring so narrow, less than the width of Diana's hand, that it would have gone unnoticed had it not crossed a tramline. It measured 2" and extended 10'4" into

the standing crop. The surrounding area of barley was completely undamaged. It was one of those magical experiences that have imprinted themselves forever on the hard disk of my memory bank.

The spiral that graced the field this year was wonderfully beautiful to the eye, yet at my talk in Haslemere this September, some people found they were unable to look at the slide, it made them

feel physically ill, and so they were intrigued to hear the following story.

Keith Wakelam, a friend and colleague, a retired electronics engineer and author of many books, including *Discovering Eternity*, came with me to Wiltshire to help bury the small brown bottles of water used in my research for possible homeopathic

qualities. It was a glorious early summer's day in June. We parked in the lane adjacent to the field and with the farmer's permission entered the field and made our way towards the formation. Little did we know what lay before us! We entered the spiral and then our problems began; we had the greatest difficulty finding our way to the centre; why should that be? Succeeding at last, I buried a bottle and Keith took his rods and walked along the south tramline to the perimeter and back. Going out and coming back the rods performed in a way he had never previously experienced; they pointed straight at him and he felt very uncomfortable as though he was "being drained of his essential life force". I then took his rods and walked down and back along the same tramline. My rods also behaved in a novel way (to be repeated in certain other formations during the season), the rod in my left hand pointing towards the lane and the right hand rod spinning violently, first clockwise, stopping and reversing its direction. It continued to do this until I came back to the centre. Keith remarked that I looked like some sort of mini helicopter about to take off! My compass, when placed in the centre, had oscillated wildly for some considerable time, but eventually it came to rest. I then stood in the centre whilst Keith walked around the first spiral; every 45 degrees his rods changed polarity. It seemed to indicate that there was some sort of dynamo effect; alternating negative\positive energy, such as the ancients in-

- FEATURES -

SWINGS AND ROUNDAABOUTS

LUCY PRINGLE recounts some fascinating experiences aboard the swings and roundabouts of the 1995 crop formations, in Part One of a two-part article...

roduced when building their complex stone structures in bygone days, thereby generating their own energy source.

By the time Keith returned to the centre, I was feeling very ill with the onset of a migraine (I am a migraine sufferer but only get them now when under extreme stress and that certainly was not the case that beautiful sunny summer's morning). I started to feel sick and dizzy and experienced flashing lights ...how on earth was I going to manage not only to collect plant samples for the BLT team, 30 feet outside the circle to the east and west, samples on the east and west perimeters of the spiral AND bury my remaining bottles? Keith volunteered to stand in the centre and direct me to the exact points in the field. I seemed to feel marginally better when outside the formation and also managed to bury the bottles before returning to the centre. There I found Keith in a dreadful state. He also is an occasional migraine sufferer, but like me only gets it when under stressful conditions. He was experiencing flashing rainbow lights, his peripheral vision had gone and he was feeling most unwell. We crawled out of the formation, somehow managing to bury several control water bottle samples as we made our slow and halting way back to the car, where we sat like two heaps, unable to think or talk.

After a while Keith felt well enough to drive, he reversed the car and came back onto the main A40 Calne\Beckhampton road. It was not for a few minutes that I realised that something was amiss... I tapped Keith on the shoulder; "do you realise you are driving on the wrong side of the road!", I said. We stopped for lunch at Stones restaurant in Avebury before attempting our familiar journey home. That was not so easy either, twice we got lost on the way back having taken the wrong turning. It was clear that we had lost all coherent thought and were thoroughly disorientated. Keith recovered after about twenty-four hours; I did not feel back to normal for several days.

Did I ever manage to find the bottles? With considerable trepidation, I returned to the field ten days later with Malcolm Stewart and was amazed to find them without difficulty and neither of us suffered any adverse physical effects.

I had previously believed that in most formations the strongest energy was to be found at the perimeter, but for both Keith and me to suffer such dire effects in the centre, it forced me to rethink my previous hypothesis. It seemed without a doubt as

though the centre was the most powerful point, a black hole of very low pressure (cyclonic). It was therefore with considerable interest that I learned that the ADAS report stated that the level of a particular element was inexplicably higher in the centre!

I also checked the records Hamish Miller had kindly sent me some years ago and found that the Michael energy line runs directly along the lane where our car was parked and the direction in which my left dowsing rod pointed, whereas the Mary line runs parallel from the Beckhampton roundabout, both lines meeting and crossing at Windmill Hill directly north of the formation. Was it coincidence that the formation appeared at the new moon when energy lines are often more active?

The second formation of particular note was the Telegraph Hill 'Clutch Plate', clearly and majestically visible from the road. This appeared on the night of the 11\12th June. I had driven past the field at 20.00 hours on the evening of the 11th and the field had been bare. I obtained permission for the Hampshire research team to go into the formation at 05.30 on the 13th. On the evening of the 12th, I informed Shelly Keel (BLT) and told her I would give her a ring *after* I had been into the formation. It was beautiful, a quintuplet of quintuplets resting serenely in gently waving barley. The morning dawned and I forced myself out of bed. Am I mad I asked myself? (Many would say yes!) We met at the Cheesefoot Head car park and made our way down the lanes and into the formation. What a beauty, enhanced by the magical and unearthly quality of the morning, when the animals and birds have no fear of you and treat you as one of them. At that moment we were all part of the same eco-structure.

We completed our particular areas of research and then drove down the road to take pictures from another angle taking advantage of the wondrous morning light. I took one picture using my Pentax ME Super (Kodak Ektachrome Elite, ASA 100), but then the battery (1.3V) failed. This is not the first time my cameras have failed whilst inside or shortly *after* being inside a formation. I drove home and telephoned Shelly Keel recommending the formation as worthy of further research. She then told me a strange story. "On the 12 June, we arrived at the field at 21.05 and stood by the gate outside the field. It was a little too dark to take photos without a flash but I thought I would try anyway (I knew the battery in my camera was flat, it had been for some

time). I took some standing on the ground and then thought I might get a better shot from on top of the gate. As I got near the top I leaned a bit too far forward and my camera (round my neck) swung out over the edge of the field. I thought I had better get down before I fell down, so back on the ground I started to take photos again and the flash worked. I looked at the battery indicator at the top of my camera and it registered a full battery". I have spoken to Shelly since then and at the date of writing (October) the battery (6V) is still fully charged.

Later that morning I met Malcolm Stewart and we went to the local photographic shop where my batteries were certified dead. I bought replacements but retained my old ones after hearing Shelly's story. The bottles duly collected from the Avebury Trusloe spiral, I drove to Thruxton where I met Steve Alexander for a flight over the fields. We were both very tired having been up since about four that morning, so said little. Casually Steve turned to me and said "I must tell you something strange"; It seems that when we entered the Telegraph Hill formation that morning, Steve had laid his second camera (Nikon FM 5 Volt, using FUJI Super G, ASA 200) on the ground whilst he assembled his pole and took several shots of the formation. When he had finished he collected the Nikon that had been lying on the ground and walked up the tramline at the top of the formation. The light meter glowed dimly a few times and faded completely. The battery was dead. As Steve told me this tale a familiar shiver went down my spine... (it is this sort of evidence each year that tells me that something beyond our human knowledge and experience is occurring). This was the third camera failure within twenty-four hours and all connected with the same formation. Fortunately Steve had not thrown out his old batteries and I suggested he should retain and test them. Returning home, exhausted, later that evening, I resolved that if I did nothing else before tumbling into bed, I must test my 'dead' batteries. I put them back in my cameras and lo and behold they were as strong as if they were new. I have used them ever since! Steve rang me the following day to tell me that his defunct batteries had also come back to life!

The following day Paul Vigay went into the formation with his camera, mobile telephone and electrostatic voltmeter. His camera battery (6V) and mobile telephone failed and his electrostatic voltmeter behaved in a most curious manner.

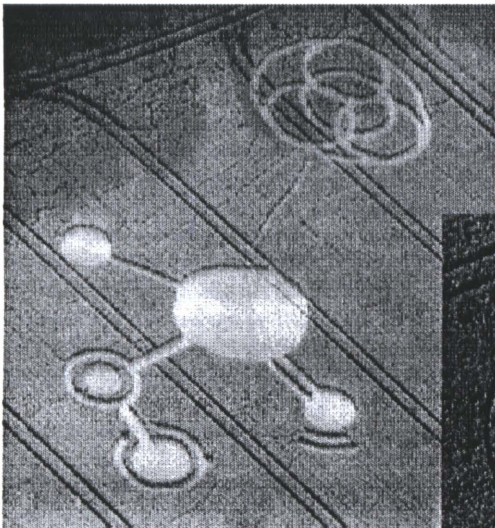
Paul's batteries did not recover but he and I independently returned to the formation some five to six days later with the same equipment. This time it was not affected in any way.

This clearly raises possible health problems for those people who have health equipment requiring batteries and I would strongly advise people thus equipped to exercise extreme caution when entering certain crop formations. During this period a woman entered the formation and was sitting quietly when she heard a crackling noise in the crop that seemed to be getting louder as it approached her. A couple joined her and the noise stopped abruptly. Her husband returned with their two labradors, who, the moment they entered the formation, attacked each other and then the unknown couple. The dogs seemed very frightened and kept pressing themselves against their owners as if in need of comfort and reassurance. They were taken out of the formation and immediately returned to their normal friendly selves, wagging their tails happily and jumping about in a carefree manner.

What frequencies were temporarily present that could have affected electrical equipment and so disturbed normally friendly, placid animals? We do know that at certain frequencies, animals in laboratory conditions have attacked the nearest living creature.

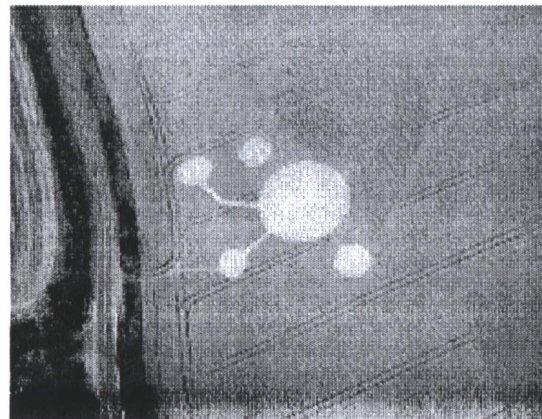
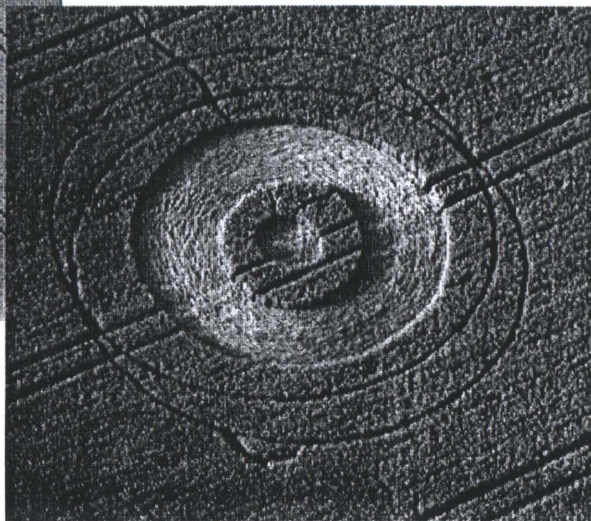
It is reported that a luminous object in the sky over the formation was recorded independently by Jilaen Sherwood on camera film on the early afternoon of Tuesday 27 June and by an unknown person on video. Neither saw the object when taking the picture, but it was visible when the film was later developed\viewed. For them both to have obtained the object would seem to indicate that a) it was the same object, and b) they were both there at the same time but unaware of the other's presence due to standing in different places. Nancy Talbott, who has been researching luminous objects in the States, is very interested in this report and feels that if the person using the video camera were known and could be contacted, it would be possible to establish much valuable information regarding this experience by performing a triangulation of where each person was standing at the time. LP

TO BE CONTINUED IN SC 51...



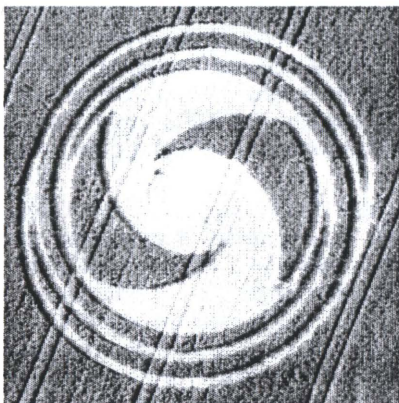
TOP: West Lavington, Hampshire. Photo: **STEVE ALEXANDER**

MIDDLE: Not actually a 1995 formation, but a 1994 one which we hadn't seen before this photograph came our way, taken at Bratton, Wiltshire. Thought you might like to see it! Photo: **JOHN HOLLOWAY**



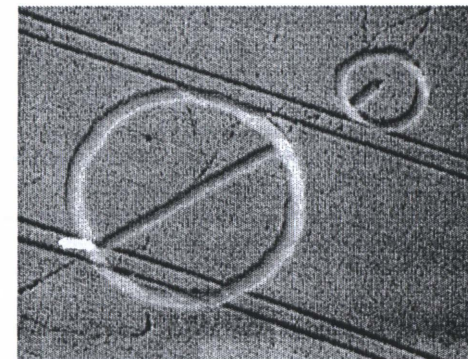
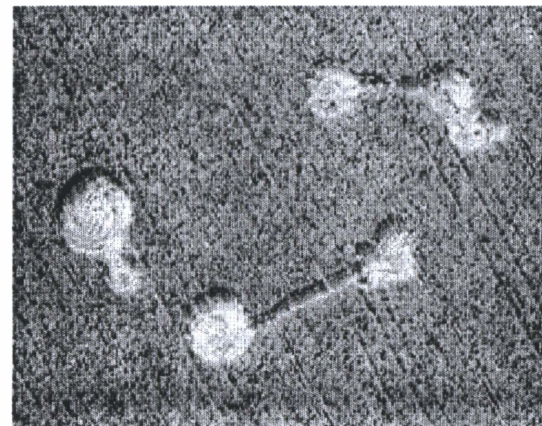
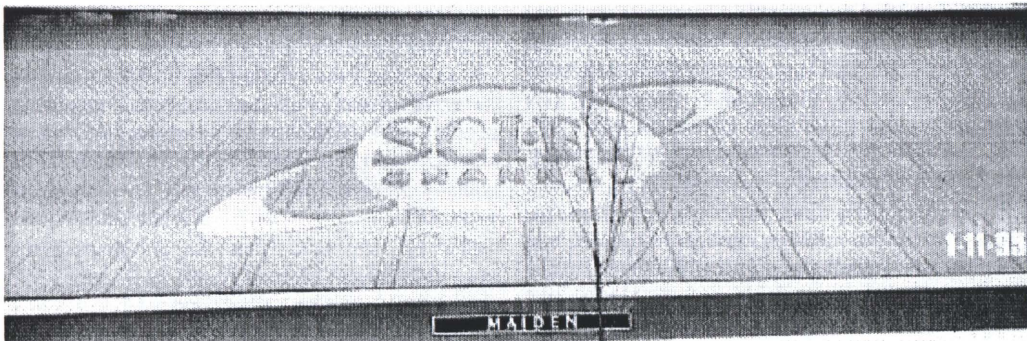
1995: STRAGGLERS & ODDITIES

Another collection of photographs from the summer of 1995 (with one exception), but this time showing some of the less known formations which may have escaped your attention for reasons which may seem obvious in certain cases... Some are rather ragged, others just plain odd... and some were fine but just kept a low profile until now! One didn't even exist in reality...



LEFT: Since printing this picture of the 1995 formation at Wilmington, East Sussex, on last month's front cover, it has been pointed out that, with a bit of squinting, the letters 'SC' can be discerned, the S in the middle and the standing angel-fish shapes being Cs. Is this coincidence..? Our very own formation! And no, we didn't make it ourselves... Photo: **MICHAEL HUBBARD**

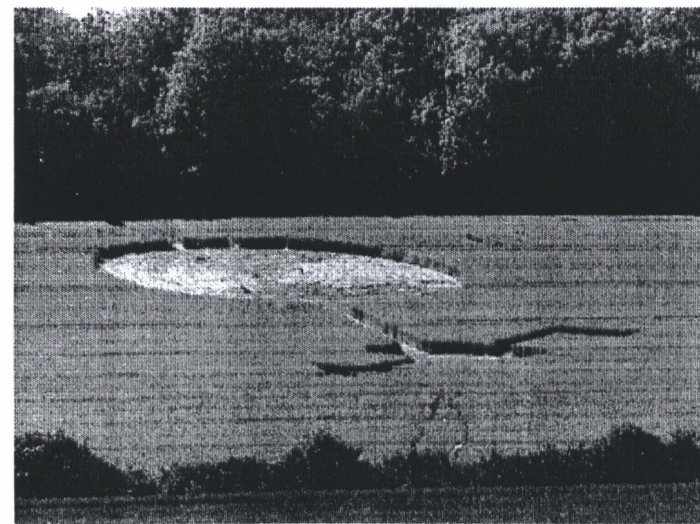
BELOW: These massive billboard posters appeared around London this winter, advertising the launching of the new 'Sci-Fi' satellite TV channel, the logo being a crop circle in a golden field. As far as can be ascertained, this formation was created using computer graphics and didn't really exist, unless anyone knows different. Photo: **BARRY REYNOLDS**



TOP: Essex - location known but anonymity requested by the farmer! Photo: **PETER HENDEN**

MIDDLE: West Kennett, Wiltshire. These formations, resembling bones and dog biscuits, appeared very close to nearby dog boarding kennels... Photo: **STEVE ALEXANDER**

BELOW: Dorchester, Dorset. Photo: **JOHN HOLLOWAY**



ABOVE RIGHT: West Lavington, Hampshire. Photo: **STEVE ALEXANDER**

SC's reputation for damning re-views to rival *Private Eye* was maintained in December's issue, Andy Thomas' coverage of the 1996 CCCS calendar being unfortunately all too apt. However, he is unfair to blame "the CCCS" *en bloc* for this fiasco - the fact is that this year's calendar project was hijacked!

After last year's venture into calendars (good sales, good pix, terrible cover and no writing space), the Council decided that the finished product needed a broader input than just the enthusiasm of the two editors. Back in March 1995, the 1996 edition was put into the hands of the publications committee - Pat Palgrave-Moore, Richard Smith, Michael Green, and myself - with Lucy Pringle co-opted specifically for the calendar. We were scheduled to meet for this purpose in September.

Come mid-September and no meeting, I rang Patrick, only to discover that an emergency meeting of CCCS officers (called because of financial difficulties) had made other decisions. The kitty was short of cash to pay for a calendar, and Christine Green (Michael's wife) had made an offer to sponsor it *provided that she chose the pictures*. The officers (acting as an executive without Council's authority) decided *inter alia* to accept this offer, despite it being directly contrary to the spirit of Council's decision in March, and without consulting the publications committee. This was one reason for Patrick's subsequent resignation from Council; Lucy and I were never even officially informed!

Thus the content and photographs were chosen by Michael or Christine Green alone - on ideological rather than aesthetic or representative grounds. I can assure readers that had the calendar been compiled as originally intended, it would have had more formations and the photos would all have been excellent. The publications committee is now defunct...

ANTHONY CHEKE, Oxford, Oxfordshire

During December the past two previous years, the ley structure for the entire planet has changed, and 1995 was no exception. The ley structure and count has again increased over the past summer by twice the amount. It's increased in the two places I dowsed for any changes of any kind in the ley structure, both at Lapworth (Warwickshire) and Countesthorpe (Leicestershire).

- LETTERS -

Since all genuine crop circles are part of these ley earth energy lines, it means many places now will have formations, where they have not ever come before, in 1996. With all the leys now available across the country, places far and wide will see crop circles for the first time perhaps, and areas where the force is already strong (ie. Sussex) should have more than their fair share again.

Last year the increase opened up all the old ancient sites around the country, with new leys feeding round each one, and these powered up during the year as time went by, so this year the excess ley power will discharge as crop circles. The ancient sites act as a battery, charging up during the year in cycles, then, when they are fully charged, they can only discharge the power in the form of crop circles down the leys.

This year, we should see the best formations since the crop circle phenomenon began; the increased ley structure will pulse ley power to places far and wide, and not just the UK. The ley grid is a planetary thing, and it's part of the St Michael and St Mary line, where many other large leys pass across the country, feeding off minor power leys from the main vein. These in turn then go on to produce fine genuine crop circles in our fields, right at the place where these leys cross each other at N/S/E/W, at the dead centre of each circle formation.

Aura dowsing this last summer has produced exciting results, and it looks like some of the formations from the Sussex and Essex areas return weaker aura samples than those from the Midlands and Shropshire area. It follows on from this that the power to feed these genuine formations seems not to come from the local crop circle area, but from farther afield. Which means Silbury Hill and Stonehenge don't seem to be the places feeding local Wiltshire formations; the power comes from north of these areas. Telford and Shrewsbury recorded the highest aura figures across the country for genuine crop circles from my dowsing records. Not far away from those formations lies the old henge of Arbor Low, and many other ancient sites in Yorkshire to the north. It's very possible that ancient sites in the north of the UK do power many crop circles in the south; the dowsing aura figures certainly suggest this. More dowsing work is needed to prove this beyond any doubt from 1995's research, but I am happy the facts seem to point towards my theory.

Following on from that a little, it may just be correct to say that crop circles in other countries are fed from these same ancient sites in the north of the UK. Aura dowsing the other crop circle sites from abroad will show the aura levels compared to our known levels in the UK, then we will know if we power the planet regarding crop circle formations. What a nice thought.

MICHAEL NEWARK, Coventry, West Midlands

I have just received the latest excellent copy of SC and was very interested in Barry Reynolds' article on the amazing Cissbury Ring formation.

However, I cannot help wondering if there is a 'nuts and bolts' human connection here, owing to the close proximity of both Chanctonbury Ring and Cissbury Ring to the rather mysterious and secretive government establishment known as 'Wiston House' at Steyning. This is ostensibly an interna-

The crop circles, long derided by the orthodox science community as an out-of-bounds subject for serious discussion, may be about to take a place of importance in the ongoing debate concerning alternative sources of energy. As remote as such a connection may seem at this time of writing, an evening spent with Doug Ruby's *The Gift*, will help to bring matters together as an awesome revelation.

The persistent, and to some, aggravating annual reappearance of the ever more complex crop circle designs, have now in 1996 earned the right to be studied in depth by imaginative research physicists around the world. Their time has come!

Doug Ruby, comparatively new to the study of crop circles (*he hasn't yet witnessed one for himself - Ed*), has seen something in the flat two-dimensional designs which has eluded others. With the eyes of a commercial airline pilot, and as one whose working life depends on a keen sense of the third dimension, Mr Ruby has lifted elongated crop designs from aerial photographs to view them as

tional conference centre whose existence I first became aware of on reading *The Demonic Connection* by Toyne Newton (incidentally, the main inspiration for Andrew Collins' book *The Black Alchemist*). Is it then quite possible that we have a 'Command and Control' post operating satellite-based weaponry, refining techniques which could include laser or maser (or other) beams to create crop patterns all over East Sussex and beyond? To go even further, could it be that the personnel of Wiston House include advisers not from this planet?!

It seems to me that perhaps we should be looking carefully for discreet establishments which are sited fairly near crop formations quite apart from the huge and obvious Salisbury Plain itself.

ANNE COOPER, Midhurst, West Sussex

While I respect Anne's views and certainly can't prove them wrong, I still feel that the military would have neither the desire nor the imagination to perpetrate the beauty we are seeing in our fields. And why do it so publicly, arousing curiosity, with so much secret military land available? - Ed.

three-dimensional images in depth. When spun on a common shaft, the several rings and circles of a pictogram take on the eerie look of an energy field, one that may indeed be of special significance to those scientists who study such things.

Mr Ruby feels that he has received considerable help from as yet poorly understood sources to treat crop designs as one might a cut-out from a sheet of paper. The result of such treatment is startling! A reading of *The Gift*, with its full compliment of photos and drawings to supplement thrilling text, may well engage imaginations into full-forward.

There is energy all around us to be tapped and used for the benefit of everything and

everyone. The crop circles may be a timely gift to mortal humans who can use all the help they can get in their quest for clean energy as we approach the twenty-first century. Doug Ruby's contribution as a conduit for new concepts in this quest may prove to be invaluable. DR

Enquiries on how to obtain The Gift in the UK can be made through Marcus Allen on 01342 322854.

Answers to questions which shall change nought

- REVIEWS -

RUBY FINDS PEARLS

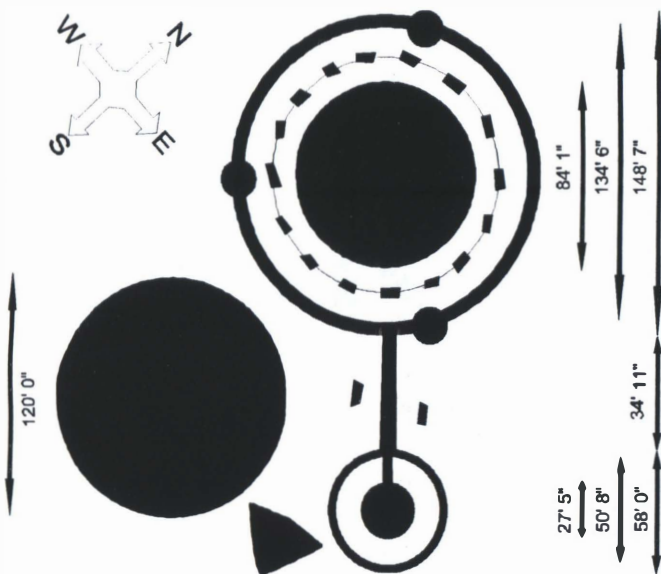
Pearls of wisdom that is; Doug Ruby's new book *The Gift*, recently published in the US, explores the possibility that the crop formations may be two-dimensional diagrams of three-dimensional energy fields, from which new clean energy sources may possibly be derived. DOUG ROGERS has a copy...

- FORMATION SURVEYS -
SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS '95:
10b) CISSBURY #2

Report by BARRY REYNOLDS

BELOW: Survey diagram of the additions to the Cissbury formation (see last issue for diagram of the original rings configuration).

RIGHT: Table showing dimensions of the Cissbury additions



SUSSEX CROP FORMATIONS

For those unaware, although a publication which covers crop circle events everywhere, SC is produced by members of CCCS Sussex, whose task it is to investigate and survey all crop formations which appear in the counties of East and West Sussex in England. SC can never hope to include full surveys of all the many formations across the country so it is continuing its tradition of featuring detailed reports of the formations on its own doorstep. Reading these are a useful exercise for all readers, however remote from Sussex, because surveys of any formations in this amount of detail are very hard to come by. We hope that these on-the-spot and in-depth reports give a good idea of the nature of the circle phenomenon across-the-board and all the many facets involved, such as important geometries and correlations, which often go unreported with the simplified news of major formations elsewhere.

Ref: Sussex 1995/10b

Date of Appearance: 25th July 1995

Description: Complex dumbbell, circle and triangle

Crop: Wheat

Crop laid anticlockwise

Location: Near Cissbury Ring, Sompting, West Sussex

O.S. Map No: 198

Grid Ref: TQ 155 087

Surveyed by: Barry Reynolds, Nigel Tomsett & Debbie Pardoe

Survey

Top of Dumbbell

Diameter of Inner Circle	84' 1"
Diameter of Inner Ring	134' 6"
Diameter of Outer Ring	148' 7"

Bottom of Dumbbell

Diameter of Inner Circle	27' 5"
Diameter of Inner Ring	50' 8"
Diameter of Outer Ring	58' 0"

Dumbbell Shaft

Length	34' 11"
Width	6' 1" - 8' 6"

Dumbbell Boxes

Length	6' 0" - 10' 0"
Width	4' 2" - 4' 10"

Triangle

Length of Sides	18' 4" x 21' 0" x 15' 8"
-----------------	--------------------------

Circle

Diameter	118' 2" x 120' 0"
----------	-------------------

The morning after sampling the Cissbury Ring six-ringer (try saying that fast after a few beers!), Tuesday 25th July 1995, Andy Thomas and Jason Porthouse discovered that the original formation had now 'grown' three additional shapes by its side (see last issue for report on the original formation).

The huge new dumbbell, triangle and circle next to the already enormous six rings made this now a truly astonishing sight. The combined formations had an overall length in excess of 500' and looked quite simply breathtaking, making up the largest ever complex of formations in Sussex.

The lays within the formation were exquisite and caused Nigel Tomsett and Barry Reynolds to agree that this was easily the best formation either of them had ever visited. Tiny pathways joined various parts of the formation together, including a ring a mere two inches wide which joined all sixteen boxes. After spending some considerable time following some of these pathways, Barry concluded that "something" (the Circlemakers, a ball of energy, call it what you will) had come from the original six-ringer, bouncing down the tramline. Less than 100' from the outer ring (northern side) it had turned abruptly south and traversed three sets of tramlines leaving a pathway 2-4" wide as it went. This entered the outer ring of the north dumbbell circle UNDERNEATH the lay but exited it ON TOP, continued through the standing crop, through a box (under the lay) and into the circle (still under the lay). It travelled approximately half of the circle radius until it met a pathway coming in the opposite direction where it then continued with the flow of the circle. This was repeated within the separate large circle.

Due to fading light and the sheer size of this complex dumbbell only rudimentary measurements were taken.

Aerial photographs of the two formations show some interesting anomalies. The original six-ringer was extremely precise and beautiful but the additional dumbbell was, from the air, untidy and not very circular. This led some armchair cerealogists to declare that the dumbbell was a hoax as it did not 'look right'. However, if the photograph (see SC 46) is examined carefully you will notice that the imperfections in the largest ring occur where it crosses tramlines and that the noticeable elongations of this ring happen opposite each other both at the highest and the lowest point of the formation as regards its position on the hill slope, ie. the lay shows extensive 'gap seeking' (an effect noted in

many formations) at the tramlines and is elongated in relation to the lie of the land. It should be noted that in this area of the field the crop was very sparsely sown and at the point where the ring is nearest to the separate circle, where the ring is noticeably kinked, there was virtually no crop growing at all.

There are certain stories which have been laid down in crop circle folklore and these are recounted during the long winter months to impress all and sundry. The following true story must surely rank amongst those...

After being told that the original six-ringer had mutated only a few hours after the survey team had left the site, Barry mused "wouldn't it be incredible if the new formation had actually appeared on the site where one of the control samples (collected to compare with circle-laid plants) had been taken the previous night?". Wouldn't it indeed! Barry saw a video recording of the additions on the evening of the 25th. Hmm... it looked incredibly close to where he had taken the easterly controls, south of the six-ringer. The following evening (26th July) the sampling team returned to the site and Barry headed straight for the control samples area. You could easily say that searching a massive field for stems of wheat that had had their heads removed 48 hours earlier is a bit like looking for the proverbial needle in a haystack, and you wouldn't be far wrong. But Barry paced out the same distance down the tramline, walked through one part of the new ring, through standing crop, through another part of the new ring, on another six feet and then stopped. "Hmmm" he wondered. He backed up six feet and was now standing in the flattened crop of the ring. "They have to be here. They have to be!". He took his usual single step from the tramline into the now flattened crop and sank to his knees. He was joined by Jean Reynolds (his Mum) and together they searched, carefully lifting up the thousands of flattened stems until eventually - "Eureka!" - they found them! They were now in possession of the de-headed stems taken from within a flattened area of a crop formation, having removed the heads from these same stems in standing crop only a few hours before the formation had appeared! Wow, Dr. Levengood was going to have a field day!!

This dumbbell seemed to be the fourth component of a design sequence which started in this area, the 1993 & 1995 Shoreham formations and Upper Beeding '95 (report to follow) being the others. BR

cornography

with Michael Glickman

As Robert Downey Jr said in *Air America*, "No need to give up a good theory just because it isn't true".

The recent Carl Sagan article, ably reviewed in the last issue by Doug Rogers is very significant. Why does a figure of Sagan's importance take so much time to rubbish the crop circles? He *knows* that they are man-made though he can cite no evidence. He talks approvingly of the "athletic" Doug and Dave, the "artists" who he has not met, but nevertheless believes. He talks arrogantly about "shoddy... standards of evidence" but all the evidence he cites himself is third-hand and anecdotal. Nothing in his grubby little piece is new. He trots out the stale old routines and attempts to do what he set out to do and what he is famous for - debunking. OK, America, you can go back to sleep now. One would like to say that if this is the best science can do at the end of our century, then God help us. It's not worth saying because, tragically, he is the best science can do. But his most significant phrase is "how belief systems widely held and supported by the political, religious and academic hierarchies often turn out to be not just slightly in error but grotesquely wrong". Well, exactly, Carl!

When positions are about to shift cataclysmically, the defence of the status quo becomes most vehement. Just prior to revolutions, the establishment is most ruthless. Change is always heralded by a desperation, on the part of the authorities, to maintain convention.

I had been deeply irritated by the sequence of self-righteous debunkers but, over the last weeks, I have come to see how reassuring they are. The Sagans and their cohorts evince nothing more than the anxiety of a hollow and discredited ideology. I don't know for sure what is behind the circles, but I am sure of two things; Doug and Dave have nothing to do with it and the likes of Sagan, with their patronising denials and certainties, are laughable.

It must be awful to scoff, constantly, at the ideas of others. The only thing we can be certain of is that

change is constant. Change is the water we swim in. The banks of history are littered with sad and sanctimonious souls who, despite overwhelming evidence, assert that today's consensus must be an eternal truth. They are reinforced by the fact that society always regards new ideas with suspicion. Scoffers have the cowards' advantage: cheap shots at soft targets.

As science thus coagulates to a grotesque travesty, it is a delight to find individual scientists who have the courage, curiosity and imagination to put their heads above the trenches and explore the unconventional. Dr Levengood is one and another is Jim Lyons.

Jim's talk at the London Winter Lecture Series was a dazzling and provocative event. The range of his knowledge and the strength of his enthusiasm are infectious. He is working tentatively towards a theory of unified energies; a theory which must include, he believes, Neolithic sites and human consciousness.

Jim Lyons is worth a thousand Sagans.

I had a call this afternoon from the BBC. They have some programme which confronts perpetrators with their victims. They are planning to confront a hoax claimant with his victim farmer. The former, contrite, will confess and seek absolution; the latter, though aggrieved, will forgive. It sounds like a million laughs - a sort of croppie Oprah.

The problem, the young researcher explained, was that, amusing though the programme would be, very few people knew about crop circles. Would I be the "expert" to explain the subject prior to the confrontation? I told him that there could be no experts in the unknown and that, in any case, I could not be on a programme which trivialised a subject dear to my heart (*Andy Collins got the job - Ed*). It seems I was recommended for this gig by Cap'n Wingfield!

In my last column, I offered a prize for the best tabloid style screamer based on the initials CCCS. In the opinion of the judges, the best four entries, of no less than twelve submissions, were: Croppie Cranks Commit Suicide - Corn Circle Centre Sinks - Corny Croppies' Crisis Showdown - Crisis Causes Croppies' Strife. Sadly, I must admit that all twelve entries were from the only competitor, Graham Holman of Sussex. The prize is on its way! *MG*