



SC

*THE MONTHLY
JOURNAL OF
CROP CIRCLES
AND BEYOND*

67

AUGUST 1997

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**More
Egyptian
Links?**

**Photos
And
Diagrams
Of The
1997
Season**

**All
The Latest
Formations
Listed & Detailed**

"When you have found out the prevailing passion of any man, remember never to trust him where that passion is concerned"
EARL OF CHESTERFIELD

Be warned; those convinced that the infamous Oliver's Castle video is fake will soon be walking around with stupid smiles on their smug faces. Things aren't looking so good for the authenticity of the video given that one Lee Winterston claims to have tracked down the alleged cameraman (John Wabe) and has stated that Wabe, apparently a video animator, is about to publicly confess to having created the footage with special effects. US TV is supposedly going to broadcast the expose on its Discovery channel. The proof of the pudding, however, will be how convincing Wabe and his story of how he faked the sequence is. Many questions remain to be answered. Some are expressing their concern that this expose may in itself be a Doug and Dave-type scam. But the fact is that nearly all will accept this version as the truth if only because of the exposure it will receive and as such the Oliver's Castle case will be firmly closed within weeks in the eyes of most. The saddest thing about the whole of this business is not that the sequence may be fake after all - there are enough amazing unexplained things going on out there in the fields for that not to really matter - but that as a result already over-inflated egos will be fed further in those apparently vindicated and we'll see a sharp rise in the outrageous arrogance which has already inflicted so much damage to the phenomenon's public credibility. Those who have been so vocally sceptical about the video have also tended to be the ones most cynical about the genuineness of the majority of crop formations. Already in 1997 this arrogance has led to some researchers implying that only *they* can tell the difference between real and hoaxed formations. Their opinionated pronouncements have gone around the world as *fact* and misled the gullible who seem to have forgotten how to use their own discernment. The "I-told-you-sos" which will arise from the Oliver's Castle 'revelations' can only lead to more of this risible behaviour and for that, we mourn. Assuming that the promised expose actually materialises and convinces, we at SC are proud of the fact that we remained *open-minded* throughout the year of questioning (despite all the false claims of being "starty-eyed advocates", which we never were) when others were content to rely on third-hand opinion and blah-blah. That the sceptics may have turned out to be right is more luck than vindication, when there were no reliable facts to back them up, only speculation. They have nothing to be proud of. Next time, they may not be so fortunate. By the way, a note to those inventing the rumours that the SC team has been out there in Sussex making its own crop formations - keep it coming, we have a good old chuckle at each pathetically stupid accusation which comes along. Those who *believe* these rumours are very sad, however, and should commit hara-kiri now.

ANDY THOMAS

SC

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Front Cover: Headbourne Worthy, Hampshire, July 1997. Photograph by Steve Alexander.

After what felt like a slow start, the numbers of new formations for this year are now easily on a par with 1996, with reports tumbling in by the day... As ever, we give our warning that the following information is as we have received it and may be subject to error and later correction. For instance, we have noted that all small single circles are almost without exception said to be "about 30' across" (when most of them are actually quite a lot bigger when measured) and all pictograms, no matter what the configuration, are first reported to be "celtic crosses". The amount of people, bless 'em, that seem incapable of stating or passing on a simple fact or description without major over-simplification or corruption is shockingly high and some of the resulting misinformation is often never publicly corrected. This goes for all sources everywhere by the way, not just SC. So, you have been warned. However, at least 50% of the following is probably pretty accurate...

BEDFORDSHIRE

Barton Le Clay: As we go to print, a formation has been reported near here, details unknown.

BERKSHIRE

Farley Hill, Nr Reading: A small ringed circle with an emanating path on one side and a three-pronged key on the other appeared here early July. Some reports say the paths are more wobbly than the rings, which are neat.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Aylesbury: A messy 50' swastika was discovered in barley on 15th July, in the same field as a swastika the previous year, leading one to conclude either that a) the circlemakers are evil Nazi scum, b) the meaning of the swastika is intended in its original symbolism (Hitler simply hi-jacked a perfectly respectable pagan symbol), or, as is fairly likely, c) that local pig-ignorant jackbooted 'yoofs' felt like messing about one night. CCCS reports that it

doused well. Hmmm. But hey, who knows?

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Ickleton: A formation of unknown details was reported by a pilot in this area on 7th June, which was of course the site of the 1991 Mandelbrot Set design, but no further info has been forthcoming.

St Neots: On 11th July, a dumbbell with one circle smaller than the other was found connected to a second dumbbell by a thin "kinked" path. Three "flared" paths emanated

from the larger circle of the second with an unattached grapeshot nearby.

DEVON

Bickleigh, Nr Plymouth: A single circle with what may be an emanating "hook" shape was spotted here from the air not far from Plymouth airport and the nearby Wrigley's factory around 4th July. The formation looked fairly old when seen and has not yet been found on the ground.

DORSET

Poxford, Nr Dorchester: At this rather charmingly-named place, a small single circle in wheat was spotted on 1st July.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Chedworth, Nr Cirencester: A dumbbell with a standing centre in the largest circle was reported early July, next to a circle with three emanating arms, two of which end in smaller circles and one of which is simply a curved path. Two "tadpole" shapes lie further away in the same field.

HAMPSHIRE

Bishops Waltham: Aerial surveillance in mid July turned up what appeared to be a large harvested formation in what had been barley. Around 200' or

so across, the remaining design appeared to be a circle with one edge slightly overlapped by a ring (a bit like a Vesica Piscis). Within the overlap was a small circle, from which a "tree-trunk" shaped path crossed the ring to its outer edge.

Bournemouth Airport: As part of the publicity for a local operatic society show, the word *Oklahoma!* was carved between tramlines by sixteen people over six hours and reported on the local TV news...

Droxford: In the field next to the formation reported last issue, a faint pictogram made up of two ringed circles, one larger than the other with six small satellites, appeared in barley around 14th June.

Headbourne Worthy: An astonishingly chunky quintuplet in wheat was discovered on 7th July, approximately 200' across. Four evenly-spaced ringed circles arranged like dots on a dice are superimposed over a large single circle. Impressive.

Lane End Down/Gander Down, Cheriton: A circle with connecting 'ears' - two thick semicircular rings - each side make this design look a little like a squashed picture of Saturn, with two pairs of grapeshot with standing centres either side, one larger in each pair. The lay is radial from the centre and reportedly complex. The main circle looks as if a thin ring has been laid to form its circumference and then a central swirl has expanded outward in a kind of saw-teeth splatter laying over the 'ring'. Clearly visible from the B3046.

Longstock: A neat ringed circle with three semi-circles emanating to suggest 'triangular' points is surrounded by six grapeshot satellites, one noticeably off-centre and seemingly diverted by the presence of tractor tramlines. Spotted in barley on 4th July. Wrongly reported by some as being at West Meon.

East Meon: An 150' long insectogram, reminiscent of 1994's Barbury 'bee' but this time clearly resembling an ant, appeared in wheat around 15th July. The adjacent field held the nested crescents formation of 1995. Reportedly impressive.

West Meon: A very neat ring lined inside with a wavy series of thirteen arcs and a semi-circle completing a gap, was spotted on 29th June in wheat. A small single circle lies just inside the ring. The overall

effect is that of a scallop shell, or, as it has been dubbed, probably forever, a 'pastry cutter'. A small ringed dumbbell lies in a field nearby.

Morestead: An attractive design appeared here in wheat around 21st July, of a kind of quintuplet but with the central circle smaller than the four satellites, the spaces between each of which have a smaller semi-circle nesting inside. The whole formation is either ringed or contained within a larger flattened circle, not sure which yet.

Petersfield: Two formations have been spotted at two separate locations in this area, reported around 9th July. One lies just off the A272 west of the town and appears to be a small circle with two crescents either side, not far from a farmhouse. Another is a fairly rough single circle not far from a windmill, exact location uncertain. One more circle may also be in this area but it is not clear as to whether this is the one with the crescents being misreported.

Shorley, Nr Cheriton: In a throwback to the 1995 'asteroid' designs, a neat ring of 29 grapeshot orbit a small central circle. The pattern was first spotted 7th July in barley. Each circle has a standing centre. Reaching out from the chain of grapeshot to the centre are two large spokes of mottled squiggles. Be warned - Peter Sorensen's diagram of this formation omits these features because he didn't personally like them... A dangerous precedent we think! (And, following this logic, why does Peter make diagrams at all of formations he thinks are man-made? See letter from Peter to SC next issue.)

OXFORDSHIRE

Uffington: Just below the famous white horse carving, a very crude smiley face appeared looking up on 6th July... Probably not genuine, would you believe. But on the other hand who can say for sure? (That should get our critics going.)

SHROPSHIRE

Shrewsbury: A small circle has been spotted from the A5 two miles east of here, first seen 15th July.

SOMERSET

Chute Mead, Nr Taunton: Unconfirmed sighting

around 29th June, details unknown.

Haslebury Plucknett, Nr Crewkerne: Another entry in the most ridiculously named circle site competition, a large circle with a "cross-like pattern" inside it is surrounded by an even larger circle and appeared around 17th July. Which bits are standing or laid are uncertain.

Newbridge: Just outside of Bath, not far from the by-pass, a single circle was spotted on 11th July.

SUFFOLK

Hitcham, Nr Sudbury: An old-style triple-dumbbell (three circles in a row, central largest, connected by pathways) of approximately 300' length appeared in wheat on 3rd July and received prominent coverage in *The East Anglian Daily Times*. Returning after surveying the formation, Essex CCCS convenor Peter Henden received an irate call from the farmer - in the hour it had taken Peter to drive home between 7.00pm and 8.00pm, another large pattern had appeared next to it in the same field, this time a dumbbell with one circle ringed and with an arc of five circles just outside it. Thus we have a rarity in this instance - a confirmed early evening appearance of a crop formation...!

SUSSEX

Newhaven, East Sussex: At last the phenomenon returns to SC's home county with a small but rather cute dumbbell in wheat which was first spotted at this coastal harbour town on 20th July. A pathway emanating from a large clockwise circle of about 56' leads to the flat edge of a smaller semi-circle with an intricate lay, very reminiscent of the 'mushroom' shape in the nearby Denton formation of 1995, as if a theme is continuing here. The overall length is approximately 86' (a full survey will appear in a future issue). The crop in the field itself is low and fairly sparsely sown, giving the lay a rougher appearance than it might otherwise have had. Many stalks remain standing, untouched, apparently never having been laid flat in the first place. Most impressively, several stems of wheat at the edge of the large circle had been drawn into the lay of the crop from behind standing, unaffected stalks, something noted before in other cases. The formation lies just outside the town on the Southeast/Rodmell road from Lewes, site of the 1995 Southeast rape rings, but the best

view to be had is from the Newhaven to Beddingham A26 road at South Heighton, looking west, from where the formation can be clearly seen across the Ouse valley.

WARWICKSHIRE

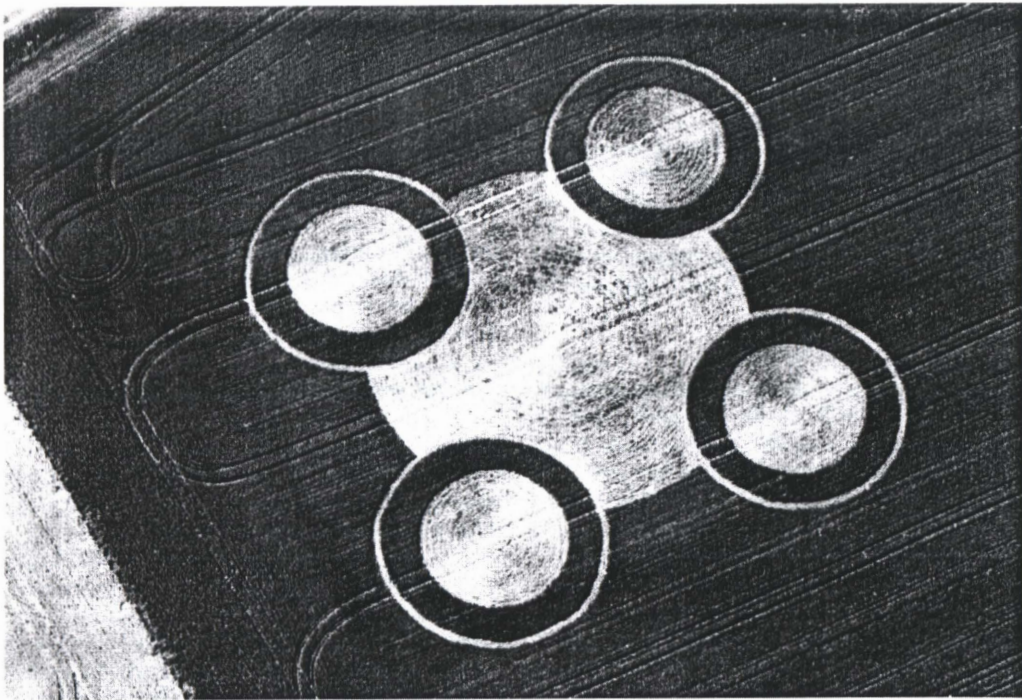
Cosford, Nr Rugby: A strange but rather beautiful fried-egg shape with a wavy edge and a perfect standing ring within it appeared here around 12th July.

Long Marston, Nr Stratford-upon-Avon: A highly visible pictogram - something with a circle and a "loop" in it - can be seen from the B4632 and arrived around 16th July. The pattern apparently bears a resemblance to the logo of the *Sneaker Pimps*, a band playing at the nearby Phoenix Festival, in a similar situation to the 'eye' formation which appeared near here in 1995 (see SC 51). Sceptics have thus instantly branded it a hoax, but others simply place it into the pantheon of 'genuine' formations which appeared to synchronously interact with the people and places around them. The formation is apparently beautifully constructed. As ever, the arguments will run and run - unless you're one of the sceptics, in which case the arguments, rather unconstructively, have already stopped.

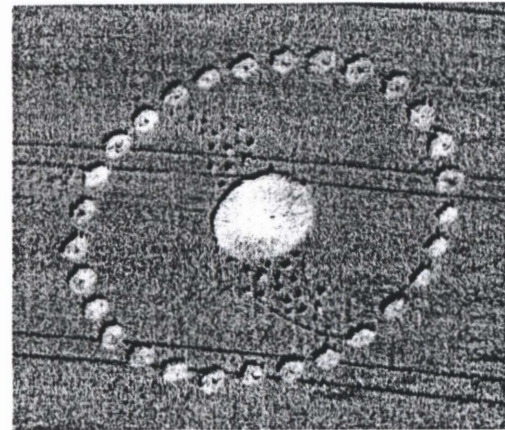
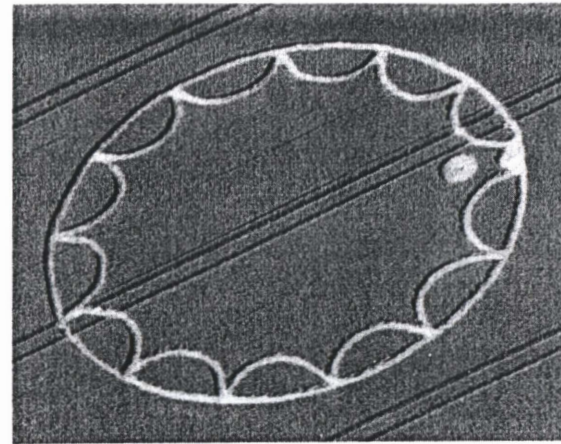
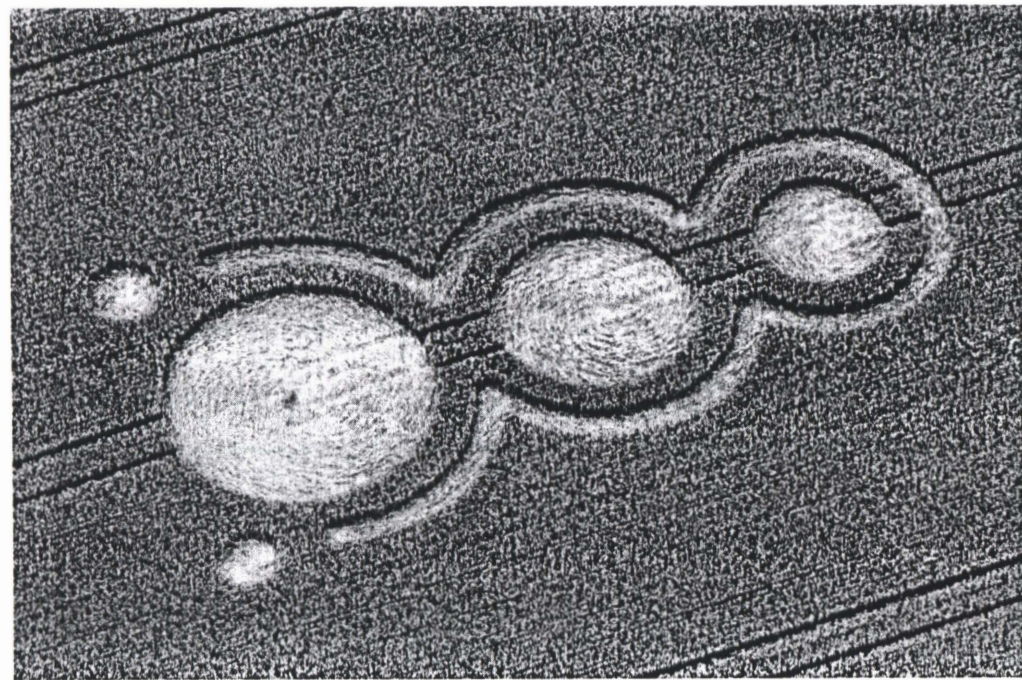
WILTSHIRE

Alton Barnes: In the classic East Field, home to some corker crop designs in years past, a small single circle appeared in wheat around 20th July. Given that the massive Cley Hill formation at Warminster started as a single circle, hopes are high that this might also grow accordingly...

Alton Priors: On the hill overlooking the East Field, an extraordinary 300' design of twelve overlapping rings surrounding a circle (although the overlaps which edge up to it really make it a twelve-sided shape) appeared in long-eared wheat on 11th July, just in time to greet the Wiltshire Crop Circle Study Group's 'fun weekend' at Alton Barnes - surely no coincidence and apparently nothing to do with 'hoaxers'. Another example rather of the interactive quality which has been observed in the phenomenon so many times. The lay of the crop was fairly messy as formations go, yet displayed some highly impressive features. Much of the crop in the rings was



ABOVE: *The world's chunkiest quintuplet at Headbourne Worthy, Hampshire. Photo: STEVE ALEXANDER*
BELOW: *A lovely pictogram at Upham, Hampshire. Photo: LUCY PRINGLE*

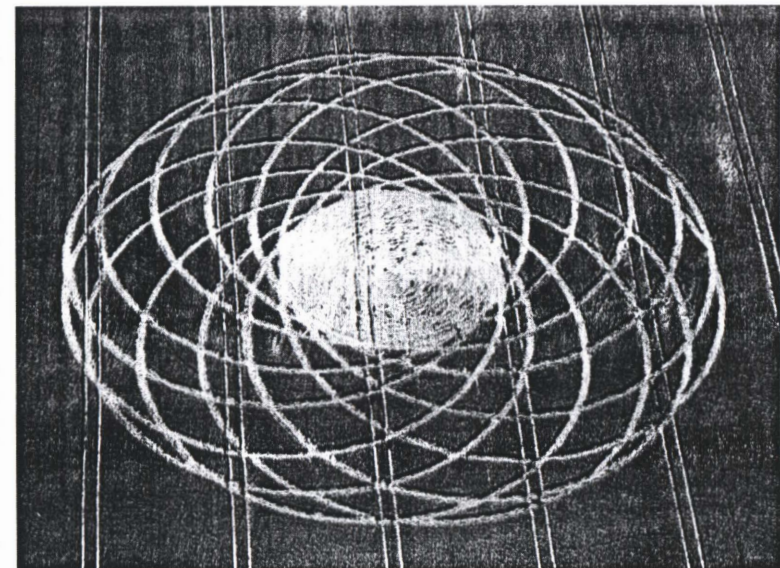


TOP: *'Pastry cutter' (oh dear) at West Meon, Hampshire. Photo: LUCY PRINGLE*

MIDDLE LEFT: *Shorley, Nr Cheriton, Hampshire. Note the presence of the mottled 'spokes' in the middle - absent from some diagrams doing the rounds (see page 5). Photo: LUCY PRINGLE*

MIDDLE RIGHT: *Single circle in rape near Silbury Hill, Wiltshire early in the season. Photo: LUCY PRINGLE*

RIGHT: *Alton Priors, Wiltshire. Photo: STEVE ALEXANDER*



#3 '97 CIRCLES GALLERY

Views of the continuing circle events from 1997 by LUCY PRINGLE and STEVE ALEXANDER.

Full colour original copies can be obtained from Steve at: 27 St Francis Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 2UG, and from Lucy at: 5 Town Lane, Sheet, Petersfield, Hants, GU32 2AF.

swept outwards to the sides and where the paths crossed it was as if whatever had created the pattern had struggled to contain itself, with stems falling in all directions and then suddenly correcting themselves in a manner inconsistent with any man-made technique, especially where tractor tramlines intersected. Interestingly, crop which flowed down the fairly steep incline of the hill was much flatter than that which flowed up the hill, which was much more unruly, suggesting some kind of centrifugal force gaining and then losing momentum with the topography of the slope. A good view of this field, home to several designs in years past, can, as ever, be had from driving down to Alton Barnes from the Lockeridge road past Adams Grave. A Japanese TV crew from Nippon TV filmed interviews in this and other formations in the area for a programme which should go out in August over there.

Bishops Cannings/Bourton: Possibly the crispest, neatest formation of the year so far, this also appeared the weekend of the Alton Barnes croppie event, on 13th July, and was thus much visited very quickly. A five-pointed star in wheat enclosed by a thick ring, a sunburst effect is given by the presence of straight paths emanating from the hollows between the star's arms. The antithesis of the Alton Priors rings, which were roughly laid though impressively intricate, this was extremely tidy and straightforward and impressive for that instead! The flow of the central circle and the main ring is a delight in particular. Where one set of tractor tramlines crosses the main ring, standing curtains of crop which have never been laid flat have been left marking their path - an unexplained effect noted before in several formations. The pattern is shockingly beautiful when seen from the air, although in many ways it is a simple design. Visible from the A361 between Beckhamp-ton and Devizes, although reports coming in as we go to print suggest it may now have been harvested.

Clev Hill, Nr Warminster: On 14th July, a single circle in wheat which had appeared here a week or so previously suddenly turned into one of the most ambitious crop designs of the year, just below an ancient hill fort which has seen circles and many UFO reports in years past. 200' or so across, it now resembles a many-spoked wheel contained within a hexagon (not a "six-sided octagon" - ? - as it has been described!) identical to that of this year's Stonehenge snowflake (now sadly harvested). The overall effect, like looking down on a maypole, watching the

streamers criss-cross in all directions, is chaotic but impressive.

Marlborough: Reports suggest that a large 'serpent' formation appeared in this vicinity but was harvested on the same day, some time in mid-July. Aerial photographers are keeping an eye out for any remains.

Oliver's Castle: Happily without any controversies over people who may or may not have videoed its creation, a formation arrived back at this old haunt around 20th July, in the same field as the beautiful crescents of 1994 (one field along from the snowflake field). Around 150' across, this seems to have a Japanese calligraphy flavour to it, which sceptics will instantly jump on as the Japanese TV crew from Nippon TV are featuring the Oliver's Castle video controversy quite heavily in their forthcoming documentary. Who's to say this isn't more synchronicity, however? A small circle is orbited by two thin rings, quite far out from it. This is then intersected by two thin crescents back to back on opposite sides. A small 'signature' 'S' shape with two grapeshot in the crook of the curves lies nearby. The lay of the crop is very neat and the formation has a strange, unique quality to it.

Silbury Hill: The most staggering event of the year so far, to which this brief report will do no justice at all, appeared in the wheat fields between the ancient mound and Avebury on 23rd July. Approximately 350' wide, the pattern consists of a six-pointed Star of David-type design. On the tip of each point is another smaller star and surrounding the whole is a chain of many asteroid-type circles, alternating large/small. Each circle seems to have a different example of swirling techniques as if the formation is throwing in everything the phenomenon has given us so far. The flattened crop itself makes its own intricate patterns when the lay is seen catching the sunlight from the air, rather like the 1994 Avebury web. Surprisingly, it's barely visible from the A4 road, but viewed well from Silbury itself. Even some of the very sceptical researchers have been forced to declare this genuine. God, it must be good.

YORKSHIRE

Askham Bryan, Nr York: Not far from the Ring Road around York, a dumbbell has been discovered, the larger circle of which is about 100' across. The

same field held a formation three years previously. **Barnsley:** Just up from Junction 37 of the M1, near a deer farm, a small ringed circle was spotted on 21st July.

THE ONES THAT GOT AWAY...

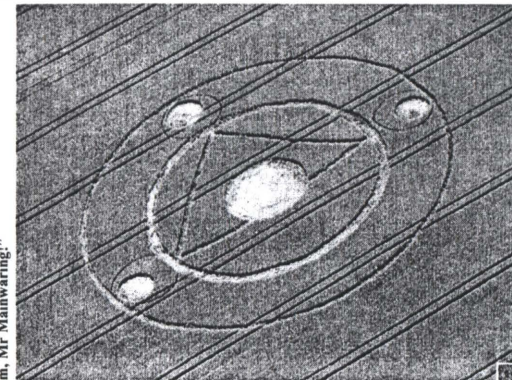
There are NO formations at: Lockeridge in Wiltshire, Stanmer Park in East Sussex, or anywhere else where wind lodging has been mistakenly reported as crop formations, whatever you may hear. Lodging can be impressive and some of its causes are admittedly questionable, but we just can't include this sort of stuff in our lists without good reason or SC would be the size of a telephone directory. And those who report it mustn't get upset when we react by saying "yes, that's wind damage by the sound of it"... Petrol is expensive, so please be more specific if you can before you call in and get us all excited. Thanks.

AND FINALLY...

A correction to our Kilmeston report last month,

where we got fooled by the old quintuplet/celtic cross description wheeze and wasn't as neat as we'd heard. In fact this design is a double ringed circle with three thinly ringed satellites between the two rings and a rather crude triangle superimposed on the central area. Some state that the satellite circles were not originally ringed. (See photo below.) Apologies that once again we have not included a global round-up as promised. The fact is, there are now so many circle reports from around the world coming in that we're currently concentrating on the English formations, in the country where the majority of our readers reside. In themselves, these are hard enough to keep up with. Our many readers in other parts of the globe mustn't despair, however. Next month we will try our hardest to list all the US/overseas events of this year. Honest. AT

It's impossible to list everyone who has contributed to the information gathering for the above but particular thanks this issue to: Karen Douglas & Steve Alexander, Crop Circle Connector, CCCS, Jo Boume, Denise Miller, Jim Lyons, Michael Glickman, Patricia Murray & Peter Henden.

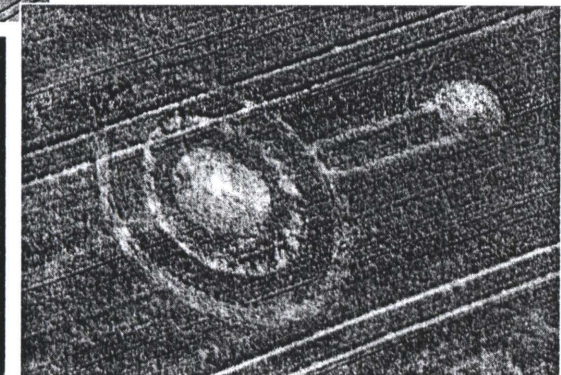
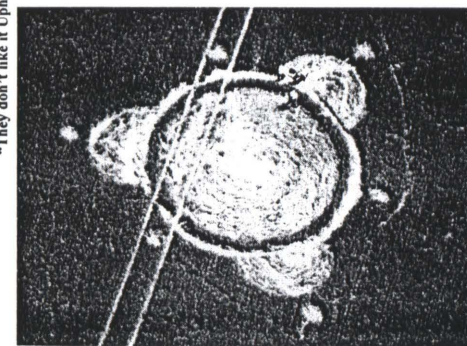


LEFT: Kilmeston, Hampshire. Actually, even SC has to admit this one does look slightly dodgy, although it may have been 'added to'... Photo: LUCY PRINGLE

BELOW LEFT: Longstock, Hampshire. Everyone likes this formation. Interestingly, look how the presence of the tramline seems to have knocked one of the satellites slightly off-kilter. Photo: STEVE ALEXANDER

BELOW RIGHT: Upham, Hampshire. Given that schoolboy juveniles like the SC team think this looks a bit rude, its unintentionally hilarious nick-name 'The Pan Handle' from some is rather unfortunate (readers of Viz will understand). Photo: LUCY PRINGLE

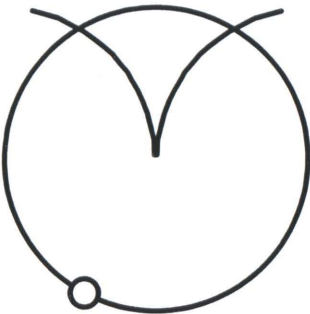
"They don't like it Upham, Mr Mainwaring"



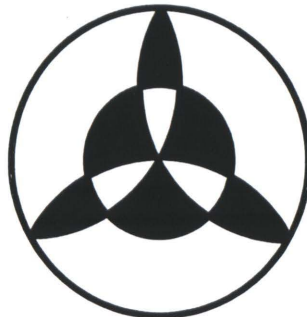


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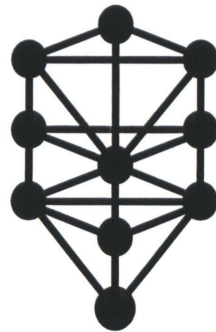
Formations are numbered in date order but are not shown to scale with each other.



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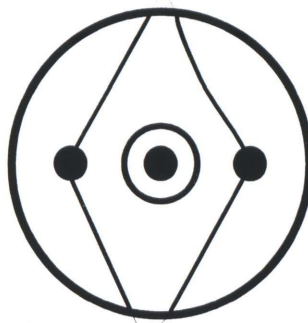
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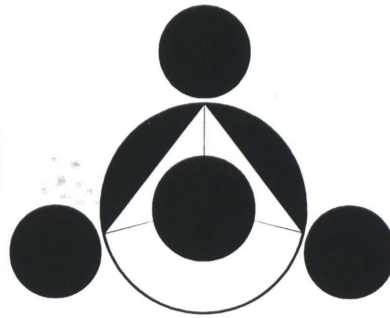
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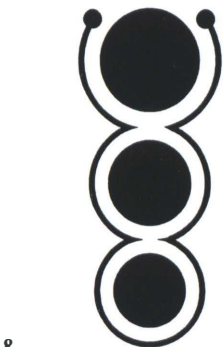
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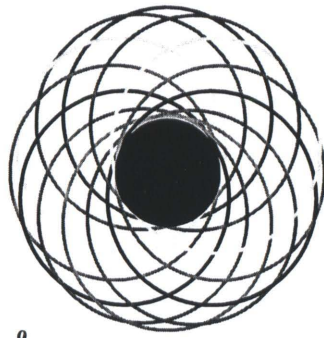
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#1 '97 CIRCLES DIAGRAMS

Just a sample of some of this year's designs in diagrammatic form, with graphics by BARRY REYNOLDS...

- 1) Barbury Castle, Wiltshire, 20th April
- 2) Littlebury Green, Essex, 23rd April
- 3) Strehthall, Essex, 2nd May
- 4) Burderop Down, Wiltshire, 4th May
- 5) Winterbourne Bassett, Wiltshire, 2nd June
- 6) Droxford, Hampshire, 9th June
- 7) Rockley Down, Wiltshire, 14th June
- 8) Upham, Hampshire, 15th June
- 9) Alton Priors, Wiltshire, 11th July

Let's have three cheers for Karen Douglas and her excellent article in SC 63 about a possible connection between our present day crop circles and the structures scattered along the Nile, left to us to contemplate from thousands of years ago. Karen has been interested in the mathematical and geometrical intricacies of the several Egyptian monuments studied by Schwaller, Hancock, West, Bauval and Shoch. The question has been raised: Is there a link between the twentieth century intellect responsible for today's crop designs and the imaginative mind which conceived of huge stone structures long, long ago? I am delighted that space has been allotted in SC to review such a possible connection. And, though that linkage might take some considerable thought with regard to the crop designs themselves, there is indeed a connection in so far as the tools for construction are concerned. May I explain ...

Consider for a moment what device it is that our visitors use to lay down a design in our wheat, barley, oats and oilseed rape. Certainly we would be foolish to suppose that the machinery used to project such heat and force necessary to draw designs in various planted crops was totted through light years of space just to draw a circle for us to look at. Oh, no! That device must have been built for other purposes, perhaps ranging from use as a weapon, to a tool for construction. It's in this latter role as an "implement" capable of projecting a precisely directable beam of energy, that the tool becomes very interesting to cerealogists.

The difference between the projection of an energy to bend over a growing plant and the cutting of a slab of stone may be simply a degree of magnitude. The reasoning follows familiar lines... Various plants at various stages of growth require variable amounts of energy to accomplish the desired result. That tool which we suspect is carried onboard our visitors' craft must be adjustable to circumstances lest we would see some burnt crop designs from time to time (*actually, we do!* - Ed). (Is the circular grape-shot a test pattern?) If the projected energy is controllable and variable, why should we assume limits to the range of variability? Wound down to precise minimums, our visitors may have discovered many years ago that their tool, designed for entirely different purposes, could be used to draw designs in sand, snow, rocky soil... and in orderly rows of closely spaced sown plants. Wound up to much higher levels of power, this same tool might be used to

cut stone... and now we're back to the Nile Valley. Karen mentions Graham Hancock's *Fingerprints of the Gods*. When next you have a copy at hand, take a look at Hancock's several photos of cut stones which fit precisely together in walls or in structures. Please... let's not have some boring sceptic try to explain the fantastic capabilities of yesteryear's stone masons who, while

sitting on a three-legged stool, chipped away at these mating surfaces 'til they met... perfectly. Just what suspension device was used, do you suppose, to hold one multi-ton stone above the other while all this chipping with hammer and chisel was under way? Without running off on a tangent to speculate on levitation and all that, let's stick to smooth matching surfaces of

stone both curved and flat. The obviously portable tool was employed there in the Nile Valley, just as it may have been elsewhere.

Consider those long straight lines and curvaceous designs found on the benign Nazca Plain. Our visitors' tool, designed for a wide range of duties, may well have been employed at Nazca to burst what little moisture was in the ground there into steam. The gravel-strewn landscape may have parted its stones from its soil under steam pressure along continuous lines in response to the directed energy from our now understandable tool.

A minor digression: The TRW company here in the US has been fiddling with lasers for years. One of their more powerful models has been sold to Israel where, when installed for defensive purposes later this year (1997), it will burn the metallic casing off any future airborne incoming SCUD missile. That's what one TRW model can do. I have another model that I point at a projector screen while explaining what tramlines are all about. Happily I leave no hole in the screen. You get my point about variable power settings.

One final remark, which I hope will entice Karen Douglas to write another article about connections. I took a ride up to Vermont a year ago to see how present day stone quarry operators handle big blocks of granite. Under the best of circumstances, in the most modern of quarries, the heaviest rectangular blocks removable from any quarry weigh perhaps 225 tons. A railroad flat car had to be within swing distance of the derrick used to "pick" the heavy stone from its cut point deep within the quarry. Hancock, Bauval and West all describe smooth sided blocks along the Nile weighing three times those we can barely cut and move today. But more impor-

- FEEDBACK -

TOOLS OF THE GODS

DOUG ROGERS, much excited by Karen Douglas' article a few issues back, believes an alien race has perfected an all-purpose device which not only can create crop designs but may also have carved out the ancient Egyptian monuments...

tantly, our twentieth century cutting tools require high pressure air, water, and a suspended abrasive in the slurry to cut away a slab from the wall of a mountain of stone. What sort of cutting device was used 5000 years ago ... or was it 12000 years ago???

May I suggest that our grainfield visitors know a thing or two about power tools and how to vary their projected energy. There is evidence that they have had lots of

practice here on the surface of our planet, using their tools in Egypt and in Peru and in England. Just as we might carry a monkey-wrench... your adjustable spanner... to do the work of several tools, our visitors seem to understand the practicality of carrying a single all-purpose instrument. And after all, for them, it might be a long ride back to the shop to select an alternate. **DR**

- FEATURES -

The Stonehenge SNOWFLAKE & The Fibonacci Sequence

BARRY REYNOLDS explores the geometrical significance of this year's Stonehenge formation...

The 1997 Stonehenge snowflake, apart from being the first ever formation to contain a hexagon, is an exact replica of the Fibonacci sequence. For those that have been following the amazing geometries behind some of the crop formations this will come as no surprise and the Fibonacci sequence will need no introduction. For those of you whose maths is a bit rusty the Fibonacci sequence is very simple. You start with 1 and then add another 1. The next number in the sequence is then always generated by adding the two previous numbers together. Hence; 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610, 987. Additionally, by dividing any number by the next we arrive at the magical golden section; eg. $610 / 987 = 0.618034$.

From the diagram you can see that starting at the tip of any branch of the snowflake and counting the circles as we go, we get the first nine numbers of the Fibonacci sequence. It is interesting to note that the Julia Set formation in the same field last year was a golden mean spiral. Two formations, same field, one year apart, with the same inherent geometry. **BR**

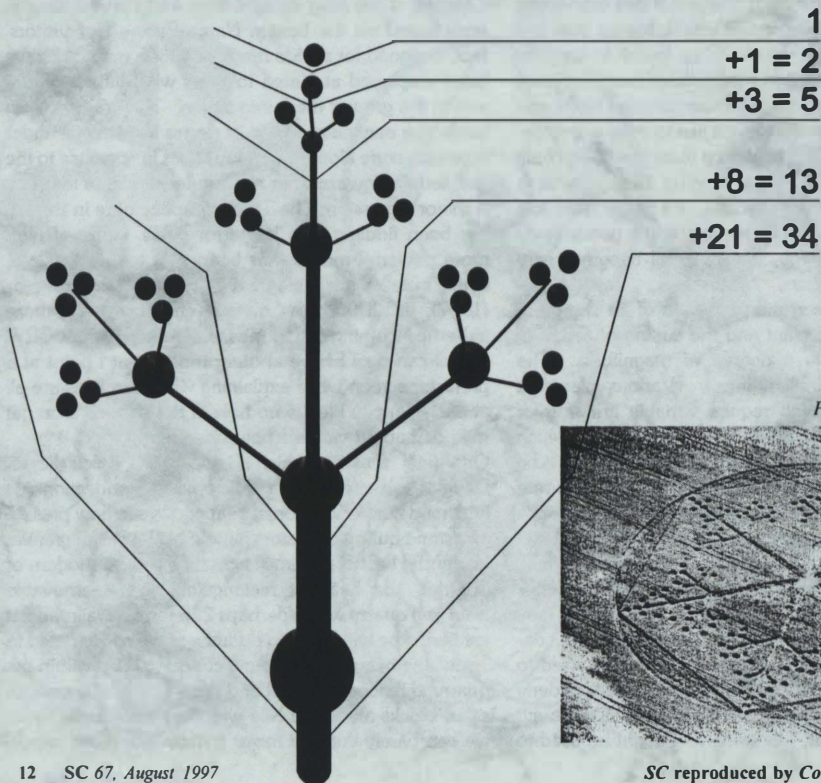


Diagram showing a branch of the Stonehenge snowflake and how it corresponds to the Fibonacci Sequence. Diagram: **BARRY REYNOLDS**

Photo: **STEVE ALEXANDER**

