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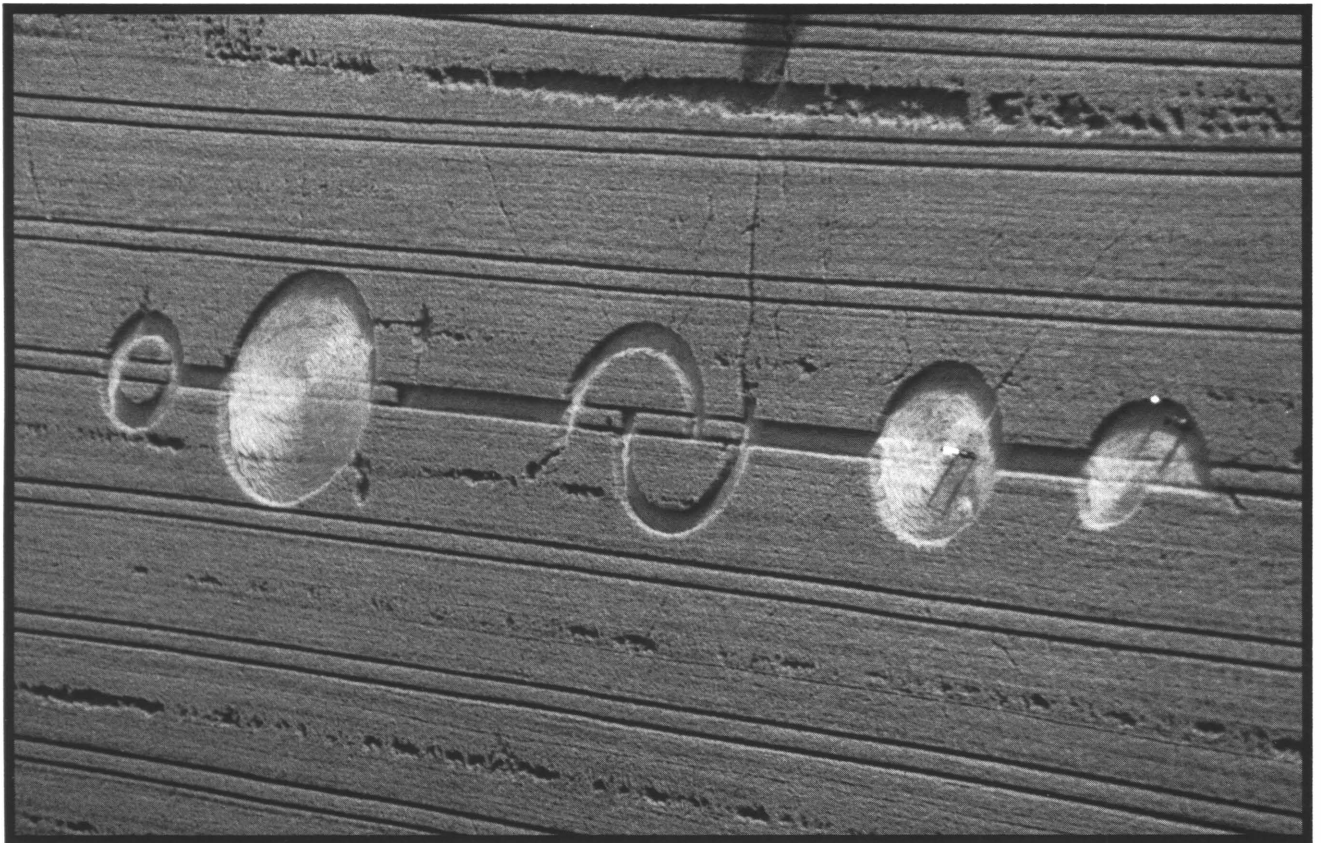


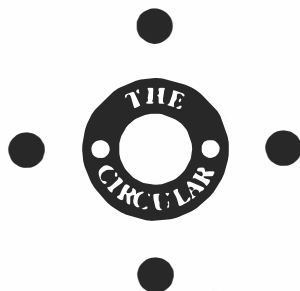
photo by Leonie Starr

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The cover photograph by Leonie Starr is of the formation at Cherhill, Wilts, which appeared overnight on the 8th/9th August 1993.

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EDITORIAL

Barbara Davies

The evidence mounts that there are both recurring and one-off physical anomalies in and connected with the crop circles. But there are perceptual anomalies, too, as this edition shows, and it is becoming more widely accepted that we can't always *know for certain*.

The ordinariness of unicorns

Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead*, begins with the two main characters in something of the position we are in - faced with a totally inexplicable anomaly. In their case, a coin that is spun 89 times comes down 'heads' each time, against all the laws of probability. Rosencrantz ignores the implications - as some people do the circles. But Guildenstern is terrified. *The laws of probability, in which he has been trained to believe, no longer operate*. He spins a few more coins. They still come down heads, and he attempts to get a grip on reality with some standard logical exercises. The spinning of further coins, however, becomes boringly predictable. Guildenstern reflects that familiarity normalises even an anomaly - such as, a unicorn. The first man to see it assumes he is either dreaming or in the presence of a miracle. But as more people witness it, it becomes more and more ordinary, until the situation flips and everyone says "Look, look! A horse with an arrow in its forehead! It must have been mistaken for a deer!"

We are in danger of getting used to crop circles! Like a lot of people, it seems, I can't after all *really* hold in my mind for long the extraordinariness of the phenomenon, so I vacillate between realities. Looking at strangely distorted cereal nodes, I lose contact with the 'intelligence' involved - and the other way round.

In my various roles in CCCS I receive many letters and telephone calls where there I would say there is an above-average proportion of coincidences and telepathy, at least in timing. (I have stopped being surprised that my telephones have a sympathetic resonance with each other - and that the caller on the second line has a

message related to what the first one was saying). To me, this proves nothing whatsoever about crop circles, though - it is just a symptom of being in collaboration with others on a more intense and subtle level than the everyday. Synchronicities breed each other; telepathy increases the more you use it.

New dimensions

These things were around before crop circles became news - but *more* people are experiencing them through the circles, and are being catapulted into a dimension of living that formerly only a few people chose. Now so many, for the first time, have seen anomalous lights, been puzzled by coincidence or unprecedented photographic oddities, dreamed 'true' dreams, had dealings with channellers, learned to meditate. And *many scores* of people, because of the crop circles, have learned to dowse.

Need to know

But people find it hard to forgo the need for certainty. Even in dowsing there has been a reversion to the need for 'experts' - dowser is quoted against dowser, and channeller against channeller, in the need for the security of an absolute 'yes' or an absolute 'no'.

I think it is interesting we are never allowed to 'know'. The really weird sequel to Diana Clift's dowsing experiment (a '**million-to-one-chance**') could be taken to typify the way the circle maker(s) constantly both defeat our expectations and make gifts of the totally extraordinary. There have been plenty of scientific dowsing experiments, some with very positive outcomes. But imagine the repercussions and competition if this one had seemed to establish a 'dowsing litmus test' for circles! Instead, we are entertained with a little magic - for all along, from the moment Max Payne had shuffled them, the samples concerned were arranged in a logical and even qualitative order! *He* had unwittingly dowsed them!

Perhaps the message is that we should not be too solemn about all this.

Where realities meet

In dowsing, we send our minds into an in-between area where they connect with some aspect of external reality. In the Celtic tradition, if you are going to encounter another dimension a likely place is, for

instance, neither by night nor day, neither on land or water - but *In-between* (on a boat at twilight!). I think we need to be able to find the ability to be relaxed in that In-betweenness - the unknowing, which to the mystic was a necessary stage on the way to truth.

In a 1992 formation at Winterbourne Stoke (whoever or whatever made it) there were two elements < > with a space between which, John Haddington said, conveyed a sense of *almost touching*, almost making contact, with another world - like Michelangelo's portrayal of the moment when Adam's finger reaches to touch, but does not *quite* touch, the outstretched finger of God.

To me, the beautiful 'hands-of-friendship' formation [*cover picture*], which appeared at Cherhill during the Bath Conference, suggests a similar in-between space where realities can meet and communication take place.



Dialogue

Communication has been the theme this year throughout CCCS: several local branches have spontaneously worked at this. If the results are ambiguous - well, it takes time to get to know even human beings! There are some signs that the 'answers' are sometimes given not to those working in this area but to others in the crop-circle network. Well, aren't we all in this together? (Speak up at the back!).

Some people are looking for explanation to the model of a holographic *universal mind* (which by definition might explain some of the more attractive inspirations of the hoaxers). By now I personally feel it quite likely that our minds are not only interactive with the intelligence, but are *actually playing a part in the designs that form*, and the times and locations where they occur. That we are, at least in some sense, co-creating. I believe there are really too many human-attractor coincidences to ignore, if we are to look at all the evidence. More people than I can count have *felt* this is the case, that they personally have *evoked*, and not just received, the gift of a circle.

OVERVIEW OF THE SEASON

Barbara Davies

If the circle-makers, of whatever kind, are reflecting our thoughts, is it any wonder that the designs this year are confused and even bizarre? More and more designs placed themselves near, or even possibly imitated manmade formations (see the wheelchair story at the end of the next section). It is almost as though the diversity and clamour of our ideas and opinions are mirrored by confusion or elaboration in the circle-making dimension. Maybe we need to do some very careful thinking!

Learning from hoaxers?

Some say, it doesn't matter which of the formations are man-made and which are not, if some of the so-called 'hoaxers' are indeed unwittingly channelling their designs, so furthering the very effect they are mocking. However, it seems just as well to know if their designs have been offered to us with a good heart or an intention to deceive. Which is why several pages of this issue are given over to examining Schnabel's hoaxing claim. We at least learn how to look carefully at circles, as well as human nature!

Most of this issue concentrates as usual on **first hand** material, with a good proportion of **raw data**. Requests for the images of 1993 will continue to be met in the December issue with more fine photographs.

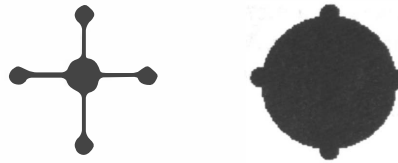
Though numbers were down this year to about two-thirds of last year's (though reports are still coming into the database: a list will be published in the December issue), we had many formations of great interest and beauty.

After some fine, tightly-swirled rape circles, mainly in the Oxfordshire/Berkshire area, the first 'public' formation was opposite Silbury Hill, with its radially-laid, 'toothed' centre surrounded by a very-difficult-to-hoax narrow ring.

By early June, Sussex had begun to produce a crop of particularly fine formations,

some of them subsequently 'mutating' for reasons still not all accountable to hoax.

This to this,



for instance..

At this point reports of motorway formations began to flood in. The fashion for highly visible circles was not confined to Britain, or to 1993 but the knowledge that London was surrounded by mainly triangular formations was a bit daunting. Beside the M4, north of Boxford, an ambitious pictogram (which, however, showed a suspicious dependency on the tramlines for spine) had a honeycomb lay thought to be due to the effect of feet pressing rather more firmly on to the crop than, say, a plank. Within a fortnight, two even more striking formations appeared beside the M1 and near Nuneaton - one for the East Midlands and one for the West. The opinions of those who have visited both are divided - dowers declare for the first, and crop-lay people for the second. What looked like a pastiche of a Dharmic wheel appeared beside the M4 near Swindon - a mixture of symbols from the 1992 formation crowded together with other items, and centred on a great Eye. (Yet there was some grapeshot elsewhere in the field that looked good to researchers).

Meanwhile, at Goodworth Clatford, near Andover, appeared a ringed circle with a radial lay, beautifully laid in swathes, with complex interweaving. One of our members who visited it quite early on declared it undoubtedly a hoax on the grounds that he detected signs of someone having unobtrusively left it. The someone was pretty certainly James Chapman, the first person known to enter it! I feel the only criterion we can depend on is 'Could a human being have made this?' (which is why the Schnabel demonstration, reported by Lucy Pringle, was a valuable exercise, reluctant though we are to give space to personalities in the hoaxing scene).

The Avebury area began to collect a variety of formations, such as some old-fashioned 1991-1992 style dumbbell-based pictograms. Then early on the 11th July, an innovation appeared: a ring encircling

a nearby T-junction, near which a number of original pictograms soon appeared (a triplet of tailed circles caused concern by being dubbed '666!').

One of the new circles which appeared there, overnight on 24/25th July, provided a small group of people with an opportunity to be present while the centre of it actually wove itself together:-

IN THE EAST KENNET SPACESHIP from Shirley Gifford

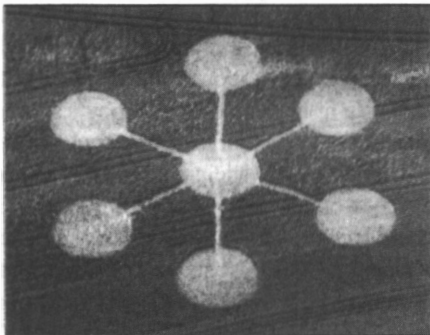
On Sunday 25th July, I had made a set of dowsing rods but wanted to try them out before anyone was about. So we made our way to the new formation at East Kennet (9 am). On entering we noticed (3 of us) that a new circle had been added during the night. We didn't enter the circle but decided to drive in to Alton Barnes and inform the American party who were camping at the Barge Inn. The circle, we observed had a beautiful centre of standing corn like a spray of flowers. Anyway, we told Colette Dowell and Chad Deetkin who said they would be up as soon as possible - with that we made our way back to the formation. We noticed a man walking in the original formation, the time now being about 9.30 am. As we entered the new circle the man was seated meditating. I walked around and only half noticed, or rather didn't take much notice, that about 6 of the centre corn-stalks had bent over as though someone had bent them. I didn't make anything of it and sat talking to the man, who lived in East Kennet with a friend. The three of us continued to chat until the American party came to measure and photograph. It was then when Chad was taking photos of the centre piece that I noticed that every single stalk of corn had bent over and twisted itself into a knot and now formed a cone shape. No-one went near the centre and at least 3 of us were present in the circle from 9.30 am until that moment - I am only sorry that I was unable to take a photo - my camera had run out of film.



Shirley Gifford

One of the others present at this close encounter, besides those named in the 'American' party, was Simon Lackford, newsletter editor of the Cornish C.C. branch. He has given me a verbal account which entirely agrees with Shirley Gifford's (though they were unknown to each other). In July 1991 a related experience happened to George Bishop, and (UFO researchers) Doug Cooper and Bob Boyd, who arrived at a new circle when it was still twitching into place. The effect corresponds with the desiccating effect of the crop-circle-making energy postulated by Levensgood, Larsen and others (see Ormar Fowler's article later in this issue). But why does it make such 'intelligent' shapes?

In early July, near Devizes, a collection of weird and largely messy 'pictograms' appeared, with meanders and vaguely astrological-looking signs - though one with curly horns, labelled 'The Fire Dragon', had a certain jauntiness! They looked like graffiti to me. Soon after, the (pointedly?) symmetrical 'clock-face' appeared nearby - six circles most precisely positioned around a seventh.



Echilhampton 'clockface' *Busty Taylor*
July 1993

From then on, I noticed that a number of other new formations had a soothingly balanced look, including several of the ones around the East Kennet T-junction, and a particularly fine series along the Hog's Back, in Surrey, between Farnham and Guildford. One of the latter, discovered amid camera anomalies etc., by Diana Clift, had a particularly beautiful lay-pattern - a standing crescent-moon to one side of a circle cradled an eye-shaped swirl at the centre (reactions to this were totally different to the 'menacing' eye in the M4 Wheel, mentioned above). Seen from ground-level, it looks remarkably like a Yin-Yang sign.

Further along was a very large 'Barbury Castle Mark II' - a triangle containing a circle and surrounded by another - but



Crescent and Eye - Hogs Back

July 1993

Anthony Horn

without any flourishes on the corners. The few people who visited it spoke very highly of it (article coming in the next issue of **The Circular**).

Ancient tracks

The Hog's Back is part of the long line of the chalk North Downs, running east from that point, along the southern edge of the London Green Belt, for many miles into Kent - reputedly an old pilgrim path to Canterbury and certainly a very ancient route. I once knew it well and, oddly, I had travelled along it less than a day before the formation appeared, on one of my rare visits upcountry. In 1992 it had been 'tried out' with by a couple of 'Neptune' pictograms, which few people saw; this year it seemed decidedly favoured as a picture gallery. As well as the crescent and the ringed triangle there was a ringed circle with a very interesting lay, and a simply proportioned dumbbell / mirror. They were a nice change from prongs, keys, and other fancy bits!

The ancient track motif was around most of the season - the very first circle at Aston Rowant was near the Icknield Way/Ridgeway. Of course, this tendency is not unknown to hoaxers, but intentional deceivers are not the only people to make shapes in the fields!

On Friday August 13th I received, through the post, without explanation, except for a request that I preserve it as evidence, the original version of the following drawing (that is, before the alterations to the symbols were made), postmarked 12th Aug. !:



Well, I thought, Bigfoot (Tifinag) Hunter Erik is at it again. I felt highly dubious of any result from the language lesson - and even more so when I saw the amended version. Familiar to us from childhood, the sketch and indeed the *notion* of a 'house' might mean little to a non-human intelligence (not many dwelling-places actually look like this especially, as Erik admits, from above!). As for the heart, the sign is several moves away from the notion of 'love' - even supposing the intelligence addressed has any understanding of emotion. Identifying the meaning of one symbol (i.e. a word) through another symbol whose significance to the recipient is very questionable, is unlikely to be successful, I thought, harking back to the days when the common ground between myself and Vietnamese refugees formed the essential basis to their beginners' English. However, I reckoned either without the circlemakers' sophistication or Erik's buoyant conviction. Subsequently **The Circular** received the following:-

EXPEDITION PRESS RELEASE

OPERATION MAGPIE,
an international effort to solve
the crop circle mystery, all
alleged claims of hoaxing
notwithstanding, announces a
dramatic **BREAKTHROUGH**
in communicating with hypo-
thetical extraterrestrials, those
who may be involved in making
some 80+ crop circles in Wilt-
shire, Hampshire and other UK
counties in 1993.

On 12th August on the top of Hackpen Hill near Broad Hinton, Wilts, two members of the 4-person team, Erik Beckjord and Joan DeNeve, of Los Angeles, C.A. USA, created a cut-out message written in grass using an industrial mower. The message was designed to be an 'English lesson for aliens' to facilitate a change from circles' symbolism over to

plain English.
The message out consisted of

MAN - (man symbol); HOUSE - (house symbol); WATER - (wavy lines); LOVE - (heart symbol)

Each word was over 25' in height. Additional signs were written but not used, but recorded safely in the event that the aliens used these in the reply, as was done in 1991.

[see Close Encounters - Letters from America for Erik's account of his celebrated previous communication attempt]

What response?

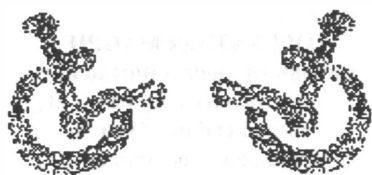
On Friday August 13th by Silbury Hill, Wilts, was found a fresh circles' formation in the form of the classic handicap zone symbol, using a stick man (man symbol) in a wheelchair symbol!

This shows a response to our effort since the stick man was used. What could it mean? Man is handicapped, man is in trouble, man is messed up, man must reform.

Team members Erik Beckjord, Joan DeNeve, Foeke Kootje (Netherlands) and Conny De Bryn (Netherlands) hope to return next year to continue the communication and will seek co-operative farmers to assist in this highly important effort.

During the 1993 trip, two red UFOs were seen and videotaped - were these also viewing crop circles, or were these making them???

Erik Beckjord



The apparent response to Erik's experiment was not only prompt but continuing. After the shape which Erik visited (as also did several 'hot-line' people) had been promptly cut out of the field by an irritated farmer, another, a *mirror-image* of the first, was discovered by two other hot-line regulars early on the 18th August, near Hill Barn, East Kennet, *well after Erik had returned to America*. They thought it was beautiful, and stuck to their opinion. I had commented to Erik and others on the 13th that I thought that the wheelchair sign

usually faces *left*. What was going on? Then I saw that actually the symbol bore a definite resemblance to the fine formation which appeared near Berne (*see News from Abroad*). . . !

Subsequently, the centre of East field received a half-finished-looking shape that bore a considerable resemblance to the 'wheelchairs' in design and lay, and which was variously described as beautifully-swirled, tumultuous and puffy, or an utter mess, where the stems had no sympathy with each other. There was no firm evidence either that it was genuine or that it was man-made - if the latter, I was told that it was more likely to be made by hand (that is, by foot) than using the familiar plank or garden roller. So the season concluded, with, I feel, many beautiful formations filed away in the expectation that a Big One would provide a final answer . . .

Are we any further on in knowing the true from the false? Personally, I don't think it is as simple as that, and that there is a good deal of overlap on both the physical and subtle level. There may be *more than two pigeon-holes*. The above stories show that there is a link between our minds and that/ those of the circlemakers (maybe both the non-human and the human) that we don't understand. This doesn't just seem simple prognostication to me: most people whom I have met who have experienced precognition know that this is what it is - that they are sensing a future event without any sort of responsibility for it. But many different and sane, people have a strong impression not so much of foresight but that something coming from them has triggered a subsequent circle event (sometimes hoaxed by someone else who was not party to their thoughts!). Whether this is factually the case or not - and, as 'mind' is not understood, we can't prove or disprove it - it does no harm for us to be careful how we think.

Erik eliminated the WAR symbol from his design, and I must say I prefer the apparent naivete of his approach to another communication which recently arrived unsolicited from a well-known circles' debunker (sent to 37 other figures in the crop circle world). The thick bundle of paper had a violent *Now will you believe me?* vibe about it. As I had never had any dealings with the author, I wondered why he felt compelled to batter me with this collection

of partial and flimsy 'evidence'. It felt like attempted mental rape: 'I will **make** you think what I think'. But on our side, too, the same compulsion is sometimes recognisably there - we all feel *right* of course.

Barbara Davies

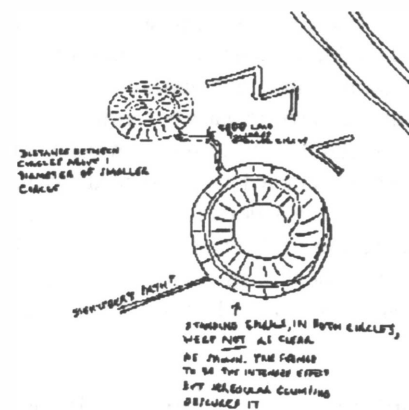
The next section consists of a series of first-hand reports of crop-circle related

STRANGE ENCOUNTERS

PERSONALISED CIRCLE-FORMATION at HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP?

Hetty Pegler's Tump is a Neolithic long-barrow in Gloucestershire administered by English Heritage. Its fenced enclosure is approached by a path skirting one edge of a field bordering the B4066. The field was full of green wheat about waist high when we visited it on 27th June, 1993.

When we arrived at the Tump we climbed up on the mound and immediately noticed a crop formation about 20 yards away but invisible from ground level. Libby's sketch shows the relation of its components to the tramlines in the vicinity. None of them touched or crossed one and from the tump there was no visible track leading into the formation. We could see two circles, about 2 metres and one-and-a-half wide, in a ratio to each other of about 3:5). The nearer and larger had a centre of standing corn and to the right of them was an angular figure rather like an M or W with its open arm towards us. Nearer was a much smaller circle, apparently a single grapeshot, which we felt was related to the main formation.



From the Tump

Libby Valdez

We had no camera, binoculars or measuring equipment with us but Libby had drawing materials and made a sketch on the spot. I then went down to see how near I could get to the formation. Apart from a narrow path, apparently made by sightseers, leading to the larger circle, which was clearly several days old there were no obvious signs of disturbance.

Spiralling radial lay

Close up, some interesting features became apparent: the pattern was confused because the green corn was beginning to stand up again, but there seems to have been a clockwise spiral of standing crop leading to the well-defined central clump. The flattened corn was laid radially out, like the spokes of a bicycle wheel.

There was a narrow passage joining the two circles which could have been made by sightseers - but which I am inclined to think was part of the original formation as it was curved in a manner reminiscent of paths in one of the outlying circles of the Barbury Castle formation.

Though the smaller circle had no clearly defined central clump it also had a fair amount of standing corn in it, and I again received the impression of a clockwise spiral confused by later standing crop. As in the other circle, the corn which remained flattened was laid radially.

M and V?

The left-hand end of the M-like figure came to within a few feet of this circle, and I was quite surprised to see no sightseer's path into it. In fact, as far as I could see, the 'M' wasn't entered from any side - and neither was the other angular figure between it and the larger circle, like a V or arrowhead, which had been invisible from the mound. We were unable to approach the 'grapeshot'.

So much for 'hard' observations. I add two 'soft' ones.

1) We had simply come to visit the long barrow. We had never been there before. As we set off that afternoon, Libby said "I think we may see a crop circle today". We hadn't seen any this season up to then. She says she "had a crop-circlly feeling and we were going to an ancient site, near which they tend to occur."

2) When we got back to the mound I started

drawing the formation. As I came to the 'V' shaped feature I began saying "And there's another feature by the 'M' . . ." Lib immediately said "Oh, it's not a Malcolm and Libby crop circle, is it?" Up to then I hadn't thought of the 'V' shape as an 'L' (and the angle was certainly narrower than 90 degrees) but the two figures could be interpreted, especially from the tump, as a rough M and L. (Of course, it could be M for Macdonald and V for Valdez . . .). Am thoroughly unsure whether any importance should be attached to this!

**Malcolm Macdonald
Libby Valdez**

*Subsequently, the formation was visited and photographed at my request by Rob Preston, from South Wales. The photographs clearly show the main features described by Malcolm. Rob, whom I had not told of the M and V/L, or the story attached to them, had a strong (pleasant) reaction to the letters (more so than the circles), though he saw the V/L as a crescent. He thinks it very likely, now, that he was picking up on Malcolm and Libby's feelings. He volunteered the observation that the M was so remote from the tramlines that it would have been impossible to make it mechanically. Rob also has some interesting ideas on John Holman's mirage-like photograph, published in the last edition of *The Circular*:-*

It seems to me that this double vision is caused by a type of refraction, a different density. If so, what type? It would seem to me that the process which causes the crop circles bends light and therefore is a type of lens?

Rob continues with a few thoughts about Chaos:

As for the Gingerbread Man which formed one of the crop circles, it rather seems to me that the chaos theory might be the underlying structure of everything we are aware of. I think most of us understand how fractal patterns were discovered and that fractal patterns may be magnified many thousands of times and each time the same image is seen.

I wonder if life is like a fractal pattern. Irrespective at what point we commence our travels in the pattern we just grow and grow infinitely.

I wonder if those who are responsible for the Gingerbread Man formation are telling

us that we are at the basic [stage of] knowledge, and that there are no more artifacts of truth to be found in the treasure-house of truth seeking?

Therefore I'm saying this: that the underlying key to nature is Chaos, as we now know, and the circle makers understand this of their own domain. I believe it is possible that they produced the Gingerbread Man to tell us that here we have found the common denominator that links both our spheres.

Rob Preston

The reference to visual effects, and different spheres recalls Andrew King's extraordinary experience with one of the M25 formations this year. (It is fitting that it was Steve Clementson and Andrew who talked at our AGM about multiple dimensions!):-

SHAPE-SHIFTING CIRCLE? Ephemeral Circle at Junction 17

The presence of this formation was first intimated to me by Steve Clementson on about 23/24th June. Its location, and how to get there, were very precisely described - in a field next to and fully visible from the M25 motorway at Rickmansworth. My wife and I travelled there on Saturday 26th June, arriving at the site at about 13.00 hrs. Having identified the field, we drove down a cart track to a position opposite, north of the motorway with a full vision of the slightly sloping field. We observed no trace of any crop marking. We then double-checked this by driving on to the motorway and stopped on the J17 sliproad entering the motorway clockwise, from which point the whole field was fully visible. Not the slightest trace of any formation could be seen by either of us. The field was of still green but ripening barley.

Now you see me, now you don't!

After I informed Steve Clementson of its 'disappearance', that same evening, he went out himself and confirmed that it was not visible! As this was quite late in the day (7-8pm) the sun would have been at a lower angle and either corroborated or dispelled a time/shadow hypothesis. In a subsequent conversation with Barry Reynolds, later that day, he informed us that this same formation had been reported by a member or colleague, hence confirming its presence.

On the following day, Sunday, my wife and I had occasion to go to Heathrow early in the morning, so we decided to go on to Rickmansworth to check again if we could see the formation, and to take a photograph of the empty field if it was not there. In the event, it was quite clearly there, as can be seen from the photograph. The formation consists of a circle with a narrow triangle inside it and one grapeshot some 20 yards away in line with the tip of the triangle or arrowhead. There are no tramlines in the field, and the formation gave a positive reaction to Steve Clementson's 'Gizmo'. There is a cellnet stub aerial in one corner of the field close to the motorway.

The only possible conventional explanation for its ephemerality might be the angle of the sun; this was much narrower on the second occasion and would have tended to cast more obvious shadows. However, on the first occasion *no trace* of anything was noted in the position where the formation was later seen.

Dr. Andrew King
Shaila King

[The photograph supplied with this article has not quite enough contrast to come out clearly in black-and-white, but it shows very clearly a sizeable flat-laid triangle in a ring, and also the grapeshot mentioned].

The number of accounts of circles overlooked that the researchers concerned "could not possibly have missed the first time" - the phrase is always the same - is growing. Solid researchers like George Bishop, Stanley Morcom, etc. have also experienced this bewilderment. Is this part of the phenomenon? Most of them have not known others have had a similar experience. One of the strangest accounts comes from Jill Harris of Cornwall, who sent samples from the two formations involved to Pat Delgado, (who sent some to Dr. Levengood, whose comments on the blackening involved became widely known).

Jill went to interview Capt Mike King (ex marines, on holiday in Cornwall), who had reported seeing a wobbling round craft, more like fabric than metal, with a kind of skirt, rise up with a whining sound in front of him, early on a rainy Sunday morning in June 1991. It was said to have left an oily paraffin-like smell, and a circle on the ground in the grass of the hayfield. Jill then went to inspect the circle, to which the farmer directed her:-

I wandered the length and breadth of the field but apart from the tracks running on either side of the granite outcrop . . . I could see nothing which could remotely be called a circle or anything of significance. Very baffled . . . I took photographs from every conceivable angle, and [grass] samples. By that time, very hot and tired, I limped down the field to retrieve Pat Delgado's questionnaire. Warily turning round to come back I saw a shape in the tall grass, an **M** or **IVI**

Jill found that though solidly built she could not reproduce the marks by stamping. She sent me photographs and a diagram of them. They were also seen and drawn by some friends of mine, so they did exist!.

But there was no trace of any oil or foreign substance in the field . . . I could find no trace of any burn marks, circle or liquid [as reported by the farmer].

Having posted off her report and samples to Pat Delgado, Jill went back to the field]

Her next report read:

I don't quite know what to say about what happened next. I have no explanation to offer you.

Upon entering the field, the first thing I saw was the circle with the Y and the blackened grass [originally reported]. It was impossible to miss it. My friend confirmed that it bore all the appearance of a CND badge. . . If it had been visible on my previous visit I **COULD NOT** have missed it. I can only say that I did not see it. . . I enclose two samples, one of the [normal] grass and one of the blackened grass. You will observe that the grass is quite dead. . .

So there you have it. I measured and photographed an M which has now almost disappeared, and overlooked a 20' wide circle with attendant scorch marks and oil spillage and a bold Y design running through it which was so close to the gate that I could not have failed to see it, ignoring the fact that I repeatedly walked the field trying to find it in the first place. And I **CAN'T EXPLAIN IT!!!**

Jill's comments on her experience, which continues to puzzle her, are:

Some sort of mind manipulation seems to be in evidence but I would question whether

it is mischievous even though some of the more bizarre side effects seem to be so. My own feeling is that, for some reason not yet completely clear to us, certain individuals have triggered a long dormant programme in the planetary mind. The experience leads us to open doors in our minds long closed to us by reason of our downward spiral.

Jill Harris

The importance of sound in relation to the creation of crop circles has been a dominant theme this year, both among the mystics and the physicists - if indeed these days one can talk of a divide. On page 9 of the June **Circular** we printed a plan of one of three lines of grapeshot which appeared in the heart of crop circle country in 1992. During the winter, several people felt more urgently than before that music, or at least sound, had strong crop-circle relevance. Not a new notion - both theoretically and practically a number of researchers had been exploring this idea since at least 1990, but since another of the three grapeshot lines so strongly suggested the notes of a diatonic scale, or the look of a simple pipe or tinwhistle, it seemed worth looking into the possibilities of relating the three to each other - harmony, in fact. A remote formation consisting of three touching circles was then found to have been at the centre of the triangle formed by the three groups of grapeshot - (see page 9 of the March **Circular**).

A preliminary attempt by a musicologist to reconcile the three was played by Michael Green at the Bath Conference. I felt that certain passages certainly 'had something', and was interested that he had arrived at similar conclusions to me - that one line suggested a melody, another a scale, and that the third, which appeared to make no sense alone, might do so when combined with the others.

However, there are many options open to the interpreter. The 'melody' line was, from my point of view, printed upside down in the June **Circular**! I was somewhat disconcerted until I realised that a melody (and rhythm) could be inferred from it this way up, also. Inversion, after all, is a standard device used by composers of variations. Likewise, the 'scale' could be approached from either end, and the doubling of some of the little circles could be taken to represent either a long note, or

a semitone (or less) interval. Etc., etc. There is ample room for creative research here; does anyone else feel like having a go at finding the harmony?

Musician **Rick Bushnell**, some of whose intuitive music, composed with Tony Creasey, was played at the beginning of the Conference believes that crop-circles may be formed by sound, and has come up with the following model:

Firstly, a scan of the area is made by an intelligence using a frequency in the visual light range, locating ley line paths. Next there is usually a delay because a lot of calculations have to be made.

Then the intelligence manipulates orgone into the cookie-cutting outer edge of the formation. The inside temperature is raised by high frequency sound, maybe filling the area with water or steam, to just below the heads or ears of wheat. Whilst in steam/water the plants fall into the shapes and weaves that we see. This also is achieved by high frequency sound.

So I believe that the plant is bent whilst at a highish temperature, steamed flat then left to set dry. (Hence the mud splashes I have witnessed on the leaves in new formations. It looks as if the underlying soil heated up into steam or liquid. This then dried on the leaves and looked like dusty mud)

Rick Bushnell

Rick mentioned this last feature while we were discussing some details in Barry Reynolds' account of one of the most interesting events this season: see Branches' Reports. I also have noticed this finely sprayed mud effect - but not in all formations.

Rick also mentions another element in virgin circles which helps him to identify them: "the intent look and feel of the formation."

The Beckhampton Delphinogram

1991

&

Learning Curve:

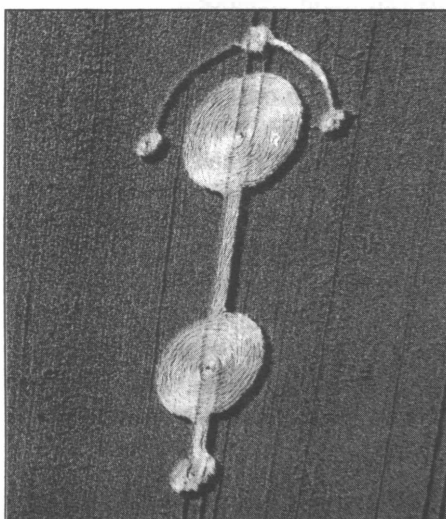
East Field Alton Barnes.

Rick says that copies of this beautiful 30 min. tape can be obtained from him at: 87 Send Rd., Send, Woking, GU23 7EZ at £5.99 (overseas £6.99) incl p&p

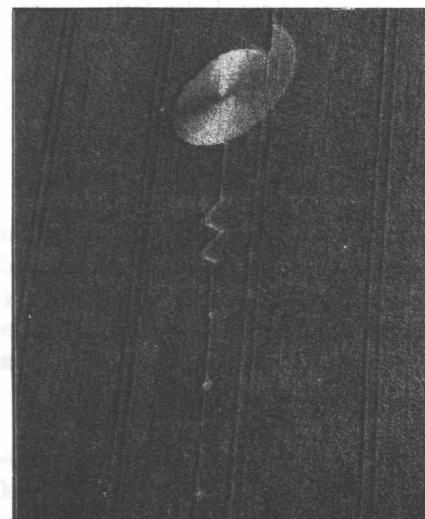


'Spaceship' - East Kennet

Anthony Horn
24/25 July 1993



Windmill Hill nr. Avebury Michael Green
1/2 Aug 1993



'Snail & Trail' - E. Kennet Michael Green
11 July 1993



'Serpent' - Upton Scudamore

28 July 1993

Andrew King

DOWSING EXPERIMENT

Diana Clift

This experiment was carried out on the 16th, 17th and 18th July 1993 at La Bussiere near Dijon in France, at the annual meeting of the Scientific and Medical Network.

On the 9th July 1993 I visited a crop circle in Lancing, Sussex (a Celtic cross with superimposed circle) and gathered samples of crop - 3 from the central circle, 3 from the satellite circles and 4 controls from elsewhere in the same field. I took single stems of wheat, some with head attached, some with roots, and put each in a plain brown envelope with a label giving the precise origin. I also took a sample from a 1992 Surrey crop circle (also wheat) together with a 1992 control from the same field. I included another three controls, two of them empty envelopes and one of a piece of spider plant from my house.

The samples were prepared in identical unmarked brown envelopes in England before I left for France. I shuffled the envelopes and at La Bussiere I gave them to a friend, Max Payne, who shuffled them again and numbered them from 1 to 15.

Volunteers were invited to dowse for 'sample of crop from crop circle' and some of them attempted to dowse for 'sample of crop from man-made crop circle' in a separate trial. They were allowed to use any technique they chose, including rods, pendulum, psychometry, 'feel' or guesswork. Of the 21 volunteers, some were highly experienced dowsers who used dowsing in their work (various therapies), some were complete novices, and others who had no dowsing skills and no special sensitivities used pure guesswork.

The experimenters, Max Payne, Elizabeth Fenwick and Fiona Steinkamp arranged the envelopes at random for the dowsers and noted the results. Some needed to handle the envelopes and this was permitted. The procedure was time-consuming as only one dowser could be in the room at a time, so the sessions were spread over 3 days. When all the volunteers had been tested, the envelopes were opened and the 'scores' calculated.

Results

Each correct guess scored 1, each incorrect -1. Absolute chance would predict a normal distribution of guesses with a mean of +1 or -1. Our distribution was slightly skewed with a peak at +3.

The range was from 4 to 11 correct guesses (i.e. -7 to +7), but most subjects fell in the range -3 to +3. Overall, there was an excess of correct guesses over incorrect guesses of 19 - i.e. of the 315 guesses, 167 were correct (53%) and 148 incorrect. However, those who handled the envelopes admitted they could tell from feel alone which were the empty ones and this contributed to the excess of correct answers. If the empty controls are discounted, the percentage of correct answers falls to 51%. A much larger trial would need to be carried out to tell if such a small excess of correct results is statistically significant.

The most remarkable feature of the results was that success was completely unrelated to dowsing experience or method used. The best results (+7 and +5) were achieved by three people who were guessing (the other guessers scored +3). The highest scorers admitted that they reasoned there would be seven or eight crop circle samples, the rest being controls. They also spotted the empty envelopes. If we discount the guessers and include only dowsers, the proportion of correct answers falls to 50%.

Experienced dowsers mostly fell in the range -3 to +3. There seemed to be no link between method used and success rate, nor did there appear to be any similarities in the pattern of answers.

A million to one chance

However, when we opened the envelopes which had been shuffled independently by two people, we found that the samples had been 'randomly' numbered in the following order:

1. & 2 Empty controls.
3. Control from Surrey 1992 field.
4. Sample from Surrey crop circle.
- 5, 6 & 7 Samples from central circle, Sussex 1993 crop formation.
- 8, 9 & 10 Samples from satellite circles, Sussex 1993 crop formation.
- 11, 12, 13 & 14 Controls from the Sussex field.
- 15 Control sample of spider plant.

Anne Miller, physicist, dowsing enthusiast and volunteer subject with the group,

calculated that the odds against the samples appearing in such a meaningful order after shuffling were about one in a million! It is possible that the shuffling was insufficiently thorough, but it is very surprising to say the least.

Conclusions

The circumstances of the experiment were not ideal, some tests being carried out late at night when the participants were very tired, and some in a moving coach. However, the dowsers themselves felt at the time that it was a reasonable test and expected to be able to detect samples from crop circles in this way.

It is possible that whatever dowsers detect from crop circles had 'gone off' in the interval between formation or collection and the experiment; or that they had been stored too close together so that the controls had been contaminated with whatever is the detectable ingredient from the crop circle samples; or that the envelopes screened out any dowsable properties. Alternatively the circles from which the samples were taken may have been hoaxed and not detectable. Or perhaps the conscious thought, 'sample from crop circle', was not appropriate. However, any of these should have resulted in the dowsers failing to get conclusive results, yet they all got unambiguous positive or negative responses, though the overall pattern of their findings was random, with as many false positives as false negatives. It is interesting that I, who knew how many positives to expect, got a pattern of results I knew could not be correct. Had I been guided by suggestion I would have done better!

In these circumstances, on this occasion, dowsing was unable to distinguish between crop circle samples and controls. If anything, experienced dowsers fared rather worse than those using pure guesswork. I hope that this experiment will be repeated and that other dowsing trials will be devised. Maybe dowsing in the field is more accurate. Lucy Pringle is able to find small bottles buried by her in crop circles, and elsewhere in the fields, with remarkable accuracy using dowsing alone.

However, I must recommend that dowsing responses to do with crop circles, unsupported by other evidence, should be treated with great caution.

ARGUS 1992 - IS SCIENCE GETTING BOGGED DOWN? Montague Keen

Litmus test

The Argus project 1992 was the CCCS's first major effort to put crop circle investigation on a strictly scientific basis in cooperation with scientists from various disciplines and different countries. As disbelief in the entire phenomenon spread in the wake of the Doug and Dave claims post 1991, and fears of massive hoaxing induced a state of near paranoia among the diminishing band of believers, so the search for an infallible litmus test had grown more urgent.

Hopes were high that Argus would provide it. Now that it has failed to do so, the temptation is to dismiss its efforts as valueless and its findings as irrelevant. More serious still is the growing and dangerous tendency to argue that its substantially negative conclusions simply fortify the view that we are not meant to know, or that crop circles are immune to or beyond the scientific purview, or - still worse - that there is no essential difference between a man-made and a genuine formation and that, in consequence, scientific investigation is not simply futile but irrelevant.

EM research in 1993

Argus was funded by several donors from the USA, Germany and the UK, with CCCS prominent among them. Its report (£5 + p.& p.) is essential reading for anyone seriously concerned with scientific investigation. Several earlier articles in **The Circular**, written by specialist participants in the project, have already revealed the existence of anomalies in the electro-magnetic area which were considered of sufficient importance and oddness to warrant a more thorough coordinated research operation this year; and this has duly emerged in the form of operation *Relate*. A report on that will not be so seriously delayed, or so long and costly, one trusts, as the 115-page Argus report, the compilation of which had to await completion of work by a number of volunteer experts, all of them obliged to give priority to their own pressing professional duties. However, there are some valuable and fascinating contributions, not least those dealing with luminosities (again evi-

dent this year, especially around the prime Wiltshire territory), and the mysterious flattened porcupine formations in Canada described by Chad Deetkin.

Argus's remit

The bulk of the report deals with what were the project's main objectives - to follow up the preliminary indications (reported in the CCCS's booklet: **1991 Scientific Evidence for the Crop Circle Phenomenon**) that a number of short-lived radio-active isotopes, of a kind not occurring naturally, and hence virtually impossible to hoax, had been discovered in earth samples from certain 1991 formations in the Marlborough-Devizes region; and that several anomalous features in the crops themselves had been revealed through painstaking laboratory work by the American biophysicist Dr W C Levensgood, of Michigan, on samples received mainly from English crop circles.

A good deal of the money, painfully raised and generously contributed, had to go on assembling the specialists together with easily accessible equipment for gamma-spectroscopy. We had to see whether the rare isotopes were a distinguishing if mysterious feature common to all genuine formations or just some sort of processing error. The team tried to concentrate on circles which appeared genuine. But they could only make informed guesses.

Effects of Hoax Claims

None of the many formations from which samples were taken along with their controls confirmed the earlier isotopic findings. In the following months it became clear that some, perhaps most, of the formations had been man-made. Not only did this result in a tragic waste of money, time and resources but by clogging the data with fraudulent material it effectively undermined theories which attempted to relate the formations with topographical, geological, seismic, aquiferous, sacred, magnetic or mineral features.

The point deserves emphasis, since many (including recent contributors to this **Circular**) who have argued that we were wasting our efforts trying to distinguish the phony from the real, clearly failed to recognise the untenable position in which this contention would place the CCCS. By giving hoaxed formations the status properly accorded to those deemed genuine, we

would be subscribing to the view that all who made formations were unconsciously acting under the guidance and in accord with the designs of the genuine circle-makers. This would imply that an intelligence widely believed to be seeking to impart a spiritually uplifting message to mankind was using dubious characters like Doug and Dave, or Irving and Schnabel as its unlikely intermediaries. Worse still, we would either have to lump all the obvious hoaxes, however blatant, crude, silly or rude, into the same basket of exalted communication, or devise some arbitrary method of sorting the rubbish from the inspired. It is difficult to think of anything more likely to arouse ridicule on the part of the doubting public and hostility on the part of potentially friendly scientists.

Polyembryony?

We had to proceed on the assumption that at least some of the formations sampled were not hoaxed. The painstaking work of Dr Levensgood was supplemented by investigations by those working in the highly specialised fields of electrophoresis and electron microscopy. Levensgood's preliminary work the previous year had revealed a number of strange features in circles of flattened crops. His samples were by no means confined to UK formations. One such feature was a rare disease or malformation of the burgeoning wheat seed head known as polyembryony. It looked as though this might have been produced by a sudden surge of a microwave-type energy when the crop was at a uniquely susceptible growth stage. But later and closer investigation showed polyembryony to have been a misidentification. This fact, readily apparent from one of Levensgood's earliest reports had been overlooked by some of his champions.

Nodal effects

Many of the reports seem clearly to show that the stomata or minute pitholes in the soft parenchyma tissue of the node-cells were significantly larger than those seen in controls taken from nearby unaffected crops. But this encountered criticism, chiefly on the grounds that similar effects might be seen in crops flattened naturally by wind and rain or by deliberate human action.

To test the assumption that pit-swelling could have resulted only from energy employed in genuine circle-making, the CCCS

invited a German scientist, Suzanne Lenzner, to carry out tests. This she did over a period of several weeks, each week flattening a trial plot of wheat, and then examining carefully the effect on the crop as it grew towards maturity. While she found that the artificially flattened crops did not react in the same way as the circle crops, the changes in dimensions of the pits in the parenchyma tissue were also found in normal as well as bent nodes. However, there arose a dispute, still not fully resolved, over the validity of statistical calculations based on size measurements so minute as to be at or beyond the level of optical resolution (x450) magnification. There is also doubt about the method by which Dr Levengood obtained a truly random sample of pits for examination. Some of these technical issues on which experts are divided remain unresolved.

Methodological difficulties

A further series of tests undertaken by Levengood had appeared more promising and less liable to generate methodological argument: the marriage of pit cell diameter counts with seed growth vigour. Levengood had abandoned the nodal cells in favour of cells in the supposedly more reliable bract tissue surrounding the young seeds. Interesting though the results were, there were difficulties in making valid replication tests. Seeds from different formations were unlikely to be the same variety, struck down on the same night or at precisely the same growth stage, sampled on the same day in the same way, and dried and packed in the identical fashion. And this also gave rise to the criticism that some of the features, e.g. of more rapid germination and growth, were known to be characteristic of seedlings from naturally flattened crops, lodged by wind and weather, albeit to a much less striking extent.

This illustrates the sort of problems associated with examinations of plants when looking for features unique to circles; there are too many variables. It was easy enough to propose that both normal untouched upright stems and those artificially flattened, should be used as controls. But unless the artificially flattened controls are all lodged by the same mechanism and with the same degree of force or pressure, as well as at the same time as the formation in question occurs, then comparisons will be rightly criticised as invalid. Chemical changes in the crop start within hours of

flattening, whether by natural lodging or by human action. That alone justifies a requirement with which in practical field circumstances it is impossible to comply.

This encapsulates the difficulties inherent in the whole crop examination saga. The multitude of variables makes valid comparisons virtually impossible. Like is not being compared with like. And the more remarkable the conclusions, the more demanding are scientists in insisting on rigorous obedience to the rules in order to eliminate all possible alternative explanations. Tests purporting to demonstrate the genuineness of the pictogram would unquestionably be regarded by the scientific community as not merely remarkable but mind-blowing. Hence the extreme but proper caution with which claims are received and methodology assessed.

DNA and carbon tests

Initial reports of suspected changes in the DNA of crop samples have fared no better. The more thorough assessment of samples made possible in 1992 did not confirm earlier suspicions; and one of the samples of what appeared to be carbonisation caused by a reduction process (i.e. without oxygen) turned out on examination by electron-microscopy to be no more than black fungal spores - although there remain unresolved problems relating to other samples.

Project Relate, 1993

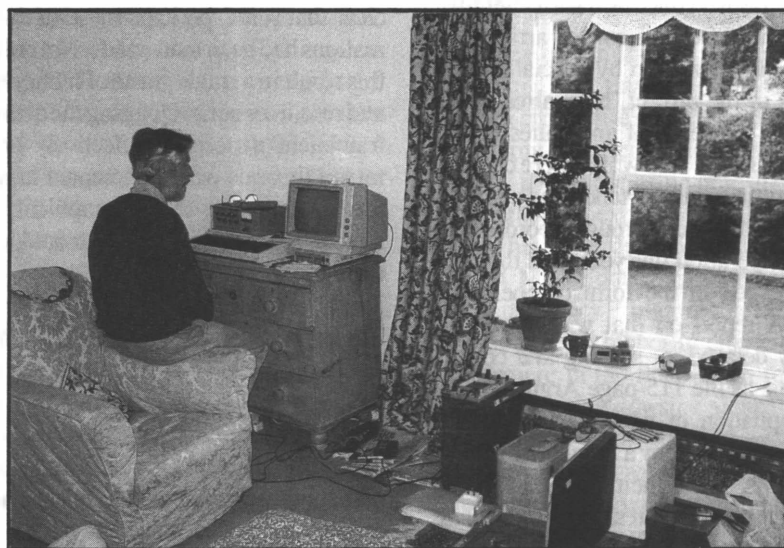
These mounting complications explain the reluctance of specialists in this field to commit themselves to assisting in work in

so unruly an area, and it prompted the CCCS to concentrate its limited resources in 1993, in project Relate, on the range of monitoring or measuring devices which could record for permanent record and detailed examination anomalies in various types of energy, whether geomagnetic, microwave, radio, sound, earth currents or whatever. We sought to liaise with our colleagues from the German equivalent of CCCS and with one or two other groups also operating in Wiltshire at the same time and with much the same sort of objectives. It was unfortunate, and some may consider it significant, that the chosen area around Alton Barnes, last year the scene of a considerable number of formations, was this year almost bereft of them denying us thereby the raw material from which useful data might have been drawn. But a report on the work will appear later

this year.

Other methods of research

Commitment to a scientific approach does not exclude or make inadmissible other less orthodox attempts to glean more information by more direct means. After all, while everyone must be fascinated to know more about the nature and mechanism of the flattening force, what ultimately matters - unless we have all been hoaxed - is the identity of the communicator and the nature of the message. If messages conveyed through mediums can shed light on this mystery, well and good, provided that there are adequate means by which the accuracy of such messages can be objectively established. Experience so far does not generate optimism.



Dr. Roger Taylor monitoring for Project Relate 1993

Lois Horowitz

THE BLUFFER'S BLUFF IS CALLED

Lucy Pringle

The acid test

Saturday 3rd July 1993 dawned bright and sunny in Suffolk, the birds singing lustily as though for a special day. Indeed they were right: Jim Schnabel was going to give an exhibition, demonstrating beyond all doubt that he, as he claimed in 'Going round in Circles', was the perpetrator of the Celtic Necklace, or Charm Bracelet, found near Silbury Hill early on 17 August 1992.

I was prepared to give Schnabel a fair hearing/demonstration, and also to pack my bags and walk away from the phenomenon if he could prove to me conclusively that he had indeed made the formation. I have often done this for a few days before now, only to be drawn back by inconsistencies for which I could find no rational answer. This was going to be a major test for, with others, I believed he was going to attempt to reconstruct the wondrous formation.

Expectations

On May 27th, at a meeting of the Suffolk CCCS, Schnabel had accepted Montague Keen's invitation to perform this feat (or so I had understood) in one of his fields at School Barn Farm. Montague had also invited requests for particular features from this or other formations to be replicated.

I requested a two-inch-wide semi-circular band going ten foot four inches into the crop, each edge starting from a shaft. (If Diana Clift and I had not seen such a band cross a tramline we would never have spotted it as the crop closed over it so completely it was not visible where it met the shaft). Grant Wakefield, having taken many spectacular photographs of the floor pattern of the Celtic Necklace, requested a replication of the special four-layer effect he had recorded on film.

Schnabel chose his own terms

Imagine therefore my surprise when Monty Keen told me that Schnabel was *not* going to reproduce the Celtic Necklace, *nor* the effects asked for. The reason he gave for refusing Grant's request was that it was

impossible to achieve in immature crop. Little did he know that only the previous day I had observed *exactly the same effect* in immature wheat in the Goodworth Clatford formation. Not only this, but I had also seen the breathtakingly complex interweaving of stems as the radially laid wheat burst from the circle, meeting the outside ring and creating elaborate interlacing in the springy undamaged crop. When I later recounted this to him, he brushed it aside and quickly changed the subject for a safer one.

Schnabel the brave

The appointed hour for Schnabel's arrival, 1.30, came and went. Two o'clock also passed. There was a crowd of expectant observers. Many had travelled some distance, to join members of the Essex and Suffolk branches, including the companion who had been with Dr Lester Smith (who, sadly, died last November, aged 88,) when he had a powerful healing experience in 'Brian' last summer. Had Schnabel funk'd the challenge? The consensus was that he would not shun publicity, and indeed at two-thirty he arrived, bravely, I felt, in view of the barely disguised antagonism of the onlookers. He had not endeared himself to us by his scurrilous attack in his book on our colleagues, and now, how could he win? If he produced a formation of immaculate quality which supported his claims some people, severely disillusioned, might vent their wrath upon him. On the other hand, if he made a mess of it, he would be ridiculed.

I won't answer that one

Grant Wakefield put several penetrating questions to him about his reasons for not replicating the Celtic Necklace exactly, as his claim to have made it was so mind-rocking that clearly nothing less than an attempt at a reproduction would be acceptable. Yet though most people had believed he would be doing this, Schnabel told us that instead he would produce one of the same family (Dharmic wheel), but of a far greater complexity, which, once we had seen it would convince us of his claim.

I put it to him that the validity of any scientific test depended on repeatability. While we would have to take into consideration that he would be working in immature crop *the result would need to be close enough to satisfy critical comparison*. Schnabel replied that he had not appreciated the importance we attached to this!

Letter to himself

Another inconsistency which struck me was that in his book he talks of his circlemaking as spontaneous, yet he also claims that, in the case of the Necklace, he went to such extraordinary lengths as making a diagram of the proposed formation, and not only enclosing it in an envelope but going to the trouble of drawing up in minute detail a *replica* of the diagram and placing this version *underneath the stamp on the envelope*, posting the letter (postmarked Oxford) to himself. He puts this forward as incontrovertible proof that he made the formation. Surely, I said, it is not impossible to steam open the envelope, putting in the diagram *after* the formation appeared, and to repeat the process with the stamp? (A friend of mine, not liking her passport picture, decided to replace it with another more to her liking. The foreign office stamp presented no problem to her and she went through Customs quite unchallenged for the next five years!)

However, questioning Schnabel about anything which he is not happy to discuss is very difficult. He took the line that this issue was beyond his terms of reference. He is a master of evasion, side-stepping issues and going off on a lateral tack which interests those who have not appreciated the significance of the question. They start asking questions about the side issue which Schnabel has introduced! To return to the original question, it is necessary to display enormous resolution - but I am not a Taurean for nothing!

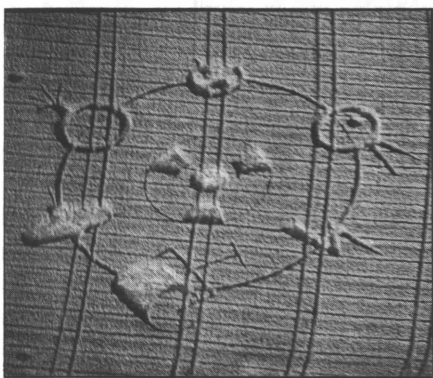
The technique of circle-faking

Meanwhile, Schnabel unloaded his equipment, comprising a two-foot-wide garden roller, several long white poles, two sticks with an attachment, a narrow plank, a ball of rope and a pair of scissors. He proceeded to cut two equal lengths of rope from the ball and he attached these to either end of the plank (the Doug and Dave technique). He then carried this equipment, together with a black bag, into the field, entering via a tramline, and proceeded along it until he reached the brow of the slope. At 15.12 hours he inserted a pole into the ground (with difficulty, as it was hard) and started to make a formation, using another ball of rope which he took out of his black bag and on which were marked the different lengths he was going to require for the radii, etc. Even from a fifteen foot platform it was not possible to follow exactly what Schnabel

was doing, but - surprise, surprise - he was constructing the formation from a diagram and referring to it regularly! (Could this be another preposed plan?).

As the formation took shape it was clear that he had made a face or radiation symbol (according to your interpretation) in the centre, with seven symbols sitting on a connecting ring (the ring being the last element to be laid down). Swish, swish went the crop as Schnabel worked quickly, using his feet as well as his tools to flatten the wheat, treating the crop harshly and roughly.

The result



The Schnabel 'demo' 3/7/93 Jeff Holland
[Included in the above were: a grasshopper warbler, with note, a garden roller, a flying saucer, a lightning symbol, etc.]

At last he was finished and left the field some three and a half hours after he had started. I was the first to enter (apart from Peter Sorenson, who videoed the experiment from near Schnabel throughout and Busty Taylor, who entered the semi-completed formation to take pole shots). I went into the centre first, and examined the floor pattern, which was rough, untidy, clumsy and mechanically flattened. I examined all around me carefully and noted part of a foot print. (There is a natural thin, grey film-like bloom on immature crop which if disturbed rubs off). Schnabel wore trainers with a distinctive ridged pattern on the soles. Continuing, I found one example of an 'up and under' effect, a good attempt, but clumsy in comparison with the wondrous interlacing I had seen the previous day at Goodworth Clatford. What guardian angel had pointed me in that direction, enabling me to make such a clear comparison between its simple shape and subtle complexity, and this chaotic bouillabaisse? I went through every element of the formation and felt more and more dissatisfied the further I travelled.

Finally I examined the ring linking the seven symbols and found that it was not joined onto the satellites evenly and was rough, jagged and untidy. As for the symbols, it was hard to make any sense of them, apart from a space ship, a crescent moon and a garden roller. To me they were a mixture of a 'something' here, and 'something' there. It was not even a thing of beauty, it had no flow, or artistry (apart from the portrait of the garden roller). *All* the rotational lay was anti-clockwise. I did not enjoy the look of the formation and nor, it appeared, did the others present.

In my assessment I had to ask myself how much I was influenced by the knowledge that the formation was man made, but I still believe that had I walked into it anywhere else I would have reached the same conclusion. It simply did not fulfill the many criteria we now have to take into account when trying to establish the 'formula' of a genuine crop formation.

A let-down?

'To think we have missed the Women's Final at Wimbledon just to see Schnabel make this mess', was a comment I overheard. There seemed to be a degree of embarrassment among certain observers. How could we ever have been so stupid to have been taken in by Schnabel? Are we really so gullible?

However, I feel it was a most valuable experiment. It is essential to improve our diagnostic skills. If we are not going to waste time and money taking samples from hoaxed formations we need to learn as much as we can about what features can be hoaxed and which cannot.

Cross-examination

Despite his obvious failure, Schnabel was only too happy to answer questions. He was quizzed about the tangential geometry of the Celtic Necklace and what equipment he had used to achieve such exact results. Had he used a compass? . . . No, he had not needed one, and any tangential geometry was purely incidental as was the rich symbolism which most people recognised in one form or another.

When had he made the formation? . . . On the sixteenth of August. (Why was it not spotted until the morning of the seventeenth?)

Had he carried a torch with him in order to see what he was doing and to follow his

diagram? . . . He had no need of one as the moon (full on August 13th) was bright enough.

Did he plant to incorporate the water trough in his design? . . . NO, HE STUMBLED INTO IT BY MISTAKE. (Maybe the moon had been switched off? If the water trough was unintentional, I wonder what design takes its place on the original diagram?) How does the angle from the dumbbell/female-symbol line up to the symbol on the opposite side? asked Colette Dowell. . . What is the symbol on the opposite side, replied Schnabel?!!

No matter how long or how hard he thought, it turned out that *he could not remember the order of the symbols.*

For a man who is no slouch intellectually; who, quite contrary to normal habits, goes to the trouble of making not just one but *two* diagrams of the formation; who then goes to the even more elaborate lengths of posting a letter to himself containing these diagrams; who spends five hours making the formation; who writes about it in his book; which has a photograph of it on the back cover - DOES HE REALLY EXPECT US TO BELIEVE THAT HIS MEMORY IS SO BAD? No, Mr Schnabel, please wink the other eye.

Spotlight on Schnabel

This was the moment when, for me, his house of cards fell around his ears (they had been on a wobble the minute he declined to replicate the Celtic Necklace). At the same time I realised that the concern I had felt for him earlier was evidently misplaced. He was relishing every moment of this question-and-answer session. *He* was the centre of attention, *he* was the focal point. He was in his element, clearly enjoying the side stepping, evading and sparring.

Schnabel then offered to demonstrate the art of making 'grapeshot'. A number of us went back into the field with him. Schnabel did two demonstrations and then it was my turn. The result - an exquisite Pringle Peak! (photographs to prove it) though it made me feel extremely dizzy. Being small I had to take more steps and go round in more circles than someone bigger. Stanley Morcom was next, then came the turn of the 'professional' circle-maker, Mike. Yes, I shall now have to reconsider my assessment of all 'grapeshot'. A useful demonstration, but whereas these are quite easy to

make them this way in immature crop so long as the conditions are dry, it would not be possible to do so in wet weather: the crop would be covered in muddy marks. Nor would it be possible to enter mature standing crop without leaving some telltale trace.

Useful lessons

What else did I learn? I learnt that it is crucial to realise and understand not what *can* be done, but what *cannot* be done, the questions which *can* be answered and the ones which *cannot*. Schnabel's effort in the field and the discussion session were an excellent demonstration of the latter two.

Why?

Finally, what can we say of Schnabel's motivation? Maybe I was correct in my earlier diagnosis and we *should* feel sorry for Schnabel. What sort of childhood trauma has resulted in this desperate need for attention? Like Doug and Dave he courts publicity but when it comes to establishing their claims all three provide no substantive proof whatsoever.

"We never are but by ourselves betrayed, By frantic boast and foolish word".

To give Schnabel his due, he *did* make an attempt at a formation, but I do not think he realised (or cared?) how it would backfire on him.

Schnabel has offered to send Montague the envelope including the diagrams. All will be tested forensically to establish that they were not tampered with and are of the same period.*

Evidence slight - list promised

He also told me that he would submit a list of formations at the end of the summer, either hoaxed by him or others, enabling those of us carrying out expensive research to eliminate certain formations. But, and this is a big but, since we have *no evidence that* (apart from his entry for the 1992 circle-making competition), *Schnabel has made any other formation than this*, in my opinion, overall incompetent one, how will we know whether the list is simply a figment of his fertile imagination or not? And how can we believe him when he says he has no wish to undermine serious research?

Positive outcomes

This experiment has, in my opinion, not only called Schnabel's bluff, conclusively

laying to rest his claim to the Celtic Necklace, but exposed him for the trickster that he is. Our diagnostic skills and research are also considerably furthered. And I am now a dab hand at the 'Pringle Peak'!

Comments from Montague Keen

This authenticity of the Dharmic Wheel appears to have become a litmus test of the entire circle phenomenon. May I add some comments?

Shedding of seeds relates to dryness

When I inspected the formation just before it was combined, I found no shed seeds, even where the ring met or flowed into one of the subsidiary designs. I pointed out that this contrasted with the abundance of spilled corn in the pictogram made by the Argus team, a few days earlier, for experimental purposes.

This, however, is not one of the more reliable reasons for doubting Schnabel's claim: the Argus formation was made during the day, when moisture content was low and the grain more likely to shatter when pushed down. Combining rarely starts before 11 am because the greater, dew-induced, moisture content of the seed at night is recognised. I have experimented on my own winter wheat by pushing and treading it down, without apparent damage to the seed heads.

The Schnabel demonstration

I invited Schnabel, on behalf of Suffolk CCCS branch, to demonstrate his skills on my farm. I did not challenge him, nor require him to make a Dharmic Wheel. He volunteered to do so, but added that he would include novelties and modifications of his own. He later declined my request to include specific features, the manual construction of which therefore remains open to doubt.

While all the guests who watched his performance agreed that the result was messy and totally unlike the Silbury Hill flow, other important differences, apart from the moisture content, make comparisons dangerous. The wheat was green, much less mature, and my heavy boulder clay was not only hard and dry but very bumpy, thanks to drainage works which

left deep cuts in the land. Schnabel did produce a more impressive lay at last year's circle-making contest.

The jury is still out on the Dharmic Wheel claim. On Schnabel's return from the USA, I hope that forensic tests can be done on the envelope post-marked August 15, which he claims contained the design (plus a miniature version below its stamp) which he planned to execute three days later.*

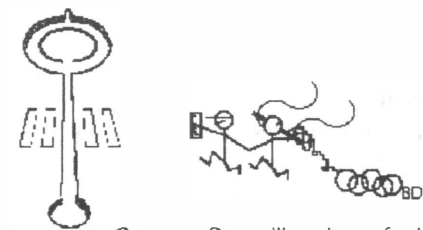
Some crop-laying facts

While referring to misleading deductions from crop appearances, may I also warn against the statement that mechanically flattened crops do not recover, and are invariably broken or buckled at base. This is simply untrue. Also, Doug and Dave's protest that they were unfairly criticised for making a mess in their public demonstration could be justified: the wheat, in September, would be a fortnight over-ripe, with curling seed heads making a smooth lay impossible.

**To date of going to press, this envelope has not been received - BD.*

But, as Lucy Pringle has pointed out:

We must not dismiss Doug out of hand, for despite being sixty plus, he and Dave are Olympiads of the finest order. Both were nimble enough to JUMP together over wheat 3 ft. high and make a rectangular box 4 ft. wide, which was placed 8ft. away from the 11 ft. path and THEN JUMP for the second time from the 4 ft wide box over still more 3 ft. high wheat into another rectangular 4 ft. box, 8 ft. away. Not only that, but they had to JUMP back and repeat the exercise on the other side of the shaft, creating two more boxes of similar dimensions. Run-ups don't matter for athletes of that quality. You try it. I cannot do it even on the lawn.



o Come on, Dave - it's a piece of cake

CROP CIRCLES: THE FINAL SOLUTION? Omar Fowler

Part One (1991):

The Significance of Bent Stems in Crop Circles, and the Evidence of Microwave Activity

The disclosure that 'bent stems' in Crop Circles may hold valuable clues to the source of the energy involved has been publicised for the benefit of all researchers.

After studying Crop Circles since 1985 and collecting and analysing plant stems from incidents up to 150 miles apart, one common denominator emerged. This was the discovery of single standing stems, with top sections bent over at a height of 55cm (22") in an otherwise flattened circle of Wheat or Barley. It was also discovered that a number of these single stems also showed a number of other common features. These were small 'crease' or 'burn' marks at similar points on the stems.

It is believed that the 55cm stem measurement is indicative of H/F wavelength (Microwave) activity. The 'crease' marks and small bent areas which appear at regular intervals in the stems could be consistent with Microwave action during the formation of a Crop Circle.

The 'crease' and 'burn' marks were noted in September 1991, when 'bent stem' crop samples were being studied. The 'burn' marks at the node points of the stem showed up in a distinctive dark brown colour. It was then that a closer inspection of the sample stems revealed the 'crease' marks.

It is likely that the 'burn' marks on the stem are due to High Frequency radiation heating the water concentrated at the node points. The result is a brown scorch mark at each node point, while the stem itself retains its normal colour, although some warping or splitting of the stem may also result.

In some instances, there may even be twisting of the plant stem. An example of a similar reaction is when an inert vessel containing water is placed inside a microwave oven. The water will

absorb the microwave energy and heat up, while the vessel itself will remain stable. The possibility that Crop Circles are being formed by a High Frequency beam could answer a number of questions that have been puzzling researchers for some time:-

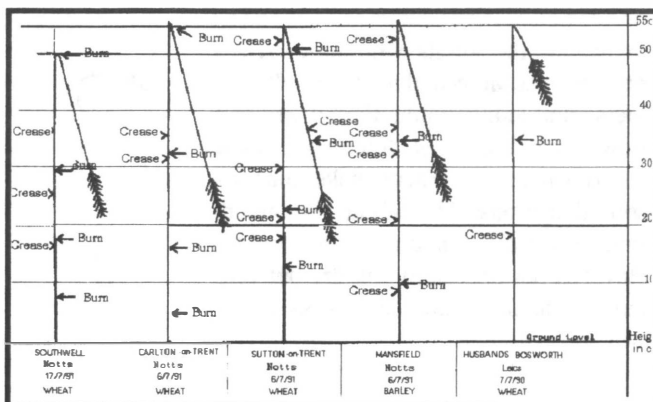
- 1) What force, normally invisible, is capable of such action within such a short duration of time (possibly 20 seconds?)
- 2) What can account for the 'Plasma Balls' photographed by Japanese and British scientists over the wheatfields of England, where Crop Circles have later been discovered?
- 3) How can Crop Circles occur either during the day or night and without detection by local radar or night vision cameras? With or without any wind, for instance in a mist at night - e.g. Wiltshire 27th June 1991?
- 4) What can account for a 'mist' often seen shortly after the formation of a Crop Circle?
- 5) What could be responsible for the chirping and tweeting sounds recorded in Crop Circles, thought to be caused by HF radiation?

The fact that there exists a means of identifying an authentic Crop Circle event (i.e. 'bent stems') is a step forward in discovering the nature of the force that is responsible.

There is some evidence to suggest that there is a gradual build-up of energy over several days, until the actual forming of a Crop Circle. However a great deal of work remains to be done in respect of this theory. If a microwave beam is responsible for the formation of Crop Circles, the outstanding question must be, is it a natural phenomenon? If it is not, then who or what is transmitting the beam and for what purpose?

[Part 2 (1992) of Omar Fowler's studies, of this high energy source, involving the use of a 'Microdet', will appear in the next issue.]

Single standing stems found in crop circles -1990-91



At the AGM in March, Steve Clementson was asked for technical details about his Gizmo and his multi-dimensional theories. He writes the following:

THE GIZMO: ITS CAUSE AND EFFECTS Steve Clementson

The 'Gizmo' resulted from tape-recorder interference [reported in the June 1993 Circular] in crop circles. A strange signal which followed me home on 13th June 1992 turned out to hold the key to a whole new theory for the nature of the universe.

I have now spent over a year researching this phenomenon, which Colin Andrews referred to as the 'Electronic Sparrow'. This/these signal(s) do not relate to any terrestrial transmission source: they are localised (very local - they can double in strength within the space of one yard), variable content, multi-frequency (illegal on such a band). They often track individuals - e.g., if there are four of us there may be four tracking independent signals, each with its own base frequency; if two people leave, only two signals remain.

History

Continuous research and development have resulted in 15 variations of the 'Gizmo' (I am at present working on Mk 16) which uses the 'direct ultra-sonic kicking' method of detection (required by the '4th dimensional' nature of the signals). It is also possible to 'drive' the input coil by magnetic coupling to the input line, via inductors, from the local oscillator. The early 'Gizmos' were fairly crude affairs, not containing the same degree of ultra-sonic/long wave suppression that they do now. Stability has been assured as a function of the design and development 'learning curve' (no-one has ever built one before me). Linearity is good.

Theory of reception

It appears that these signals are actually microwave, but in another universe with a zero-time relationship. They have been twisted away from right-angles by a tiny fraction of a degree, to enter our field of perception, frequency shifted by the $\text{Cos}^2 \theta$ law.

Technical findings from 'Gizmo' experiments

These are based upon abnormal/paradoxical signals found in the VLF/ELF region. They appear to emanate from very localised areas and:

1. Form vertical columns from several feet wide to only a few inches.
2. Form horizontal lines ('ley lines').
3. Can be dowsed (with dowsing rods).
4. Move around, follow people.
5. Can swing from vertical to horizontal polarisation.
6. Do not correspond to any signal source or harmonics therein.
7. Appear to 'cut through' normal signals within the band. (Do not add/subtract by mixing).
8. Will swing through 360 degrees to avoid hoaxed circles.
9. Will stay outside hoaxed crop circles (signal stronger outside the circle).
10. Vertical signals have distinct sharp edges where they cut through background radiations.
11. They cannot be heard if there is no stimulus from the receiver. This implies that they are 'blocking' electron flow, not stimulating it. This effect is called 'Reversed Magnetic Flux'.
12. Will track 'real' crop circles and can also be used as a 'crop-circle-finder'.
13. The number of signals, strength and orientation may be altered by shining torches into the night sky.
14. Detection can be achieved by:
 - a) regeneration by magnetic feedback coupling;
 - b) regeneration by A.C. coupled 'bootstrapping' to receiver coil;
 - c) 'Kicking' via ultrasonic local oscillator and magnetic feedback coil (so explaining tape-recorder pick-up in crop circles).
15. All systems above are unusually affected by 'earthing' far more than is usual for this band.
16. Signals vary greatly in content, but tend to have a wide spectrum and some link to 'fractal'-like patterns (multifrequency encoded).
17. For reasons given in statement 16, they cannot relate to any transmitter or mains-borne noise.
18. They can appear to come from any angle over 180 degree hemisphere.
19. The signals are unaffected by large structures, e.g. motorway bridges or tunnels.
20. The very same transmission type causes the 'close encounters' style electrical failures in motor vehicles. According to my theories, this is usually confined to the 'reversed universe'. See 11.

Fundamental Aspects of Super - Relativity theory

The theories I have been working with actually explain gravity and magnetism,

unlike current physics which can only describe effects: one rational system replacing another. The 12-dimensional theory is based on the assertion that all matter is linked via subatomic quantum particles by 'relative aspect' dimensional 'crush'. These particles are constructed of even smaller twelve-dimensional foci, or micro-universes. The theory partly stems from my research; partly from 'channeling'. 'Space-time' theory becomes 'mass-time'. I expect much criticism from the conventional scientific community, but I think that 'space-time' was a misleading attempt by Einstein, as was 'infinite mass', to explain the speed of light barrier.

EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION RECEPTION Chris Maxfield

Let me start by saying that I have never knowingly seen an Alien or a Flying Saucer or for that matter, mysterious lights. However, I have read a good deal of the literature, and have seen so many reports written by those who claim they have had personal experiences of these that it seems unlikely they are all mistaken. Furthermore, I note a great many reports mention strange things happening to time while the events are being witnessed. From this it would seem the aliens have a quite different experience of time to us. They may even be able to control or manipulate time in much the same way as we manipulate other aspects of nature - i.e. switch on the lights when it gets dark; put up an umbrella to avoid getting wet; move somewhere else when we need to, etc., etc.

This brings me to consider the information that may be gained by Alien beings from our own civilization. At first sight, there would seem an almost unlimited amount of information about us freely available from our television services. These are free to all forms of creation that have the technology to receive them. Consideration of the last point prompts me to make several observations: -

1. Perception of television relies on human persistence of vision to build up a perceivable image in our minds. This fact can be

verified by taking a photograph of a television picture with a camera. For British TV an exposure of one 25th of a second will be needed to capture a complete picture. One 50th of a second will give an image which will appear to be complete, but in fact is made up of every other line, and so, while understandable, is imperfect. However, exposures of less than 50th of a second will show only part of a picture. In fact, the whole picture never exists on the screen in the same instant of time. For this reason, I wonder if TV would be intelligible to a being who does not share our experience of time.

2. While it would appear that TV signals are broadcast to our homes in a free and unfettered way, in practice broadcasters have to undertake a lot of consultation, regulation and forward planning to prevent transmissions from one transmitter interfering with services received from another. One essential strategy is the use of the earth's curvature to screen one region from another, so that the limited number of frequencies/channels can be reused elsewhere. Without this helpful earthly feature, the number of terrestrial channels would be impossibly restricted and some countries would not be able to have their own service at all. As it is, certain meteorological conditions cause the UHF radio waves to 'bend' and go beyond the horizon. We then have the 'Met. men' telling us not to adjust our sets because of the possibility of interference. From outer space, the earth's curvature screening effect does not exist and what appears to us clean and orderly would be a permanent cacophony of interfering transmissions that would be beyond our ability to straighten out. This means that extra-terrestrial broadcast TV reception would be impossible except by intercepting those satellite transmissions which are not 'scrambled'. In practice, this would mean either receiving the signals sent up to the satellite or intercepting them on the way down.

3. Of course, it may be possible for Aliens to see TV by reading our minds directly as we innocently sit watching our favourite programme, but I cannot comment on this as it is outside the scope of my experience.

**EUCLIDEAN or FRACTAL
WHICH GEOMETRY
CIRCLEMAKERS?**

James W Lyons
YORKSHIRE CCCS

Background

Each year more and more enthusiasts descend upon cornfields not only to admire the crop formations but also to measure their dimensions with great precision, representing a return to the fundamental meaning of the word 'Geometry': - 'measure of the earth'.

The first crop-circles were just that - circles, possessing all the simplicity and elegance most admired by the ancient civilisations of Egypt, India and Greece. The shape does however possess a trait of great concern to the Greeks in particular and the one thing we can all remember from our schoolday geometry: the ratio of its circumference to its diameter, the enigmatic number π , of a value near enough 3.1416... How dare the Gods let this not be a whole number? It is implicit in all those crop circles that have been formed over the last decade. Even when they evolved into annuli, Celtic crosses, quincunxes etc., this number still lurked there somewhere. The culmination of this style was no doubt the magnificent Barbury Castle formation of July 1991 surely representing the pinnacle of the Sacred Geometry design which is constructable with a ruler and compass. But, barely one month later, a new evolutionary trend had occurred -- the Mandelbrot Set at Ickleton.

The Circlemakers go back to School

Here for the first time was a break not only in style but also the underlying geometry employed. No more the classic shapes of Euclid, but indications that the Circlemakers had been back to school within the last ten years. The shape has become a symbol not only of the now fashionable Fractal Geometry but of that new topic, Chaos Theory. How good are the Circlemakers at this new science? In what follows, I will indicate a few things that so far have not been touched upon by previous authors and which adds yet more intrigue to this fascinating phenomenon.

Cardioids, Fractals and Chaos

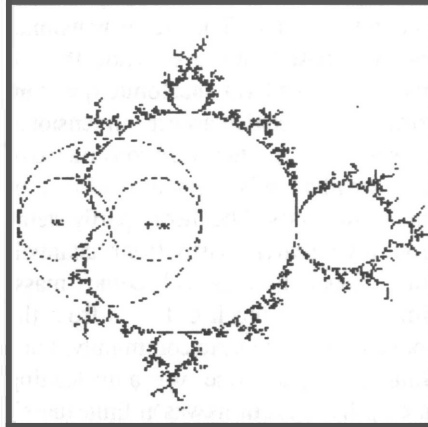


Fig 1 Mandelbrot Set with generating circles

The Mandelbrot Set is characterised by a large heart-shaped pattern, christened a cardioid, first studied in the 17th century. How could the Circlemakers generate such a shape? One answer, and perhaps the most sensible, is that they used, of all things *circles*. Fig. 1 shows how this can be done, on the modest assumption that they can do arithmetic. A combination of a larger circle in which are inscribed two smaller circles of half its radius, forming a figure of eight, yields, on summation of its intersections along any radial from the origin, the cardioid. The remaining smaller circles are added at appropriate points around the perimeter. What is worth noting here is that this way of generating a cardioid is employed by current day engineers in the design of radio antennae and audio microphones. Both electromagnetic and acoustic effects occur time and again in the Crop Circle Phenomena. Are we being told something?

Elegant though the Ickleton pattern is, as for truly representing the Mandelbrot Set, it has a long way to go. Although the algorithm for its generation is classical, it is not quite Euclidean. Where, ask the mathematicians, are its fractal characteristics? Where indeed? To attempt to deal with this point, it is first necessary to return to the origins of Fractal Geometry. I first came across Mandelbrot in my student days, through his work on the unpredictability of electrical spikes in telephone networks. This led by a somewhat convoluted path to his interest in the 'geometry of the ragged line', as I like to call it. Thus, when you look into your garden from the comfort of your lounge with its Euclidean-based furniture, what you see is something quite different. The clouds, trees

and plants are distinctly ragged at the edges. Mandelbrot's first book on this type of geometry '*Fractals; Form, Chance and Dimension*' (1977) had for me a total fascination. It was here that he coined the word 'fractal' to describe a line's broken appearance, and a good choice it has proved to be.

Meanwhile, others were investigating the difficult topic of non-linear dynamics, going way beyond the Newtonian laws we learn at school. A very significant result emerged from a simple exercise done on a humble programmable calculator by Feigenbaum. He iterated a function of the form, $x_n = k \cdot x_{n-1}(1-x_{n-1})$. This simply means -- choose a number between 0 and 1, insert it in the right hand side of the equation to calculate x_n , insert this number in the equation and calculate another value of x_n . Repeating this for a whole range of values of k yields the curve shown in Fig.2.

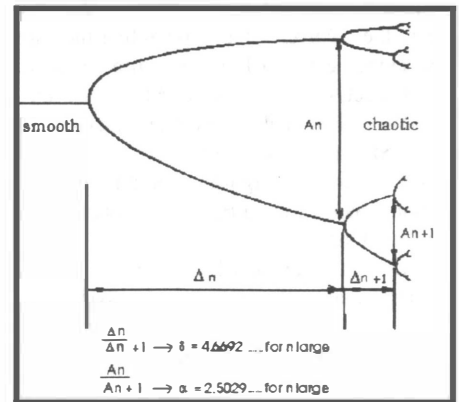


Fig 2 Feigenbaum Bifurcation

The result shows how, although things start off smoothly, soon the curve bifurcates, then bifurcates again until a totally chaotic result is achieved. Randomness is generated from a deterministic equation! The transition to chaos, however, followed a well defined process involving the ratio of distances between bifurcations. As shown, two numbers emerged, unknown previously, $\delta=4.6692...$ and $\alpha=2.5029...$ These turned out to be numbers just like π , constants of nature. Mandelbrot took on board this result, extending it to two dimensions. In March 1980, in a dingy basement at Harvard University, appeared for the first time the pattern we now know as the Mandelbrot Set. Although not immediately apparent, Feigenbaum's numbers were embedded in this 'Gingerbread' man. His first number, δ , is simply the ratio of the length of the cardioid along the x-axis to the size of the adjacent largest circle. Thus Chaos Theory and Fractals were welded together!

Musical Circles

Several Crop Circle investigators have spotted that the ratio of various dimensions of certain of their features appear to coincide with the diatonic scales used in music - see for instance, Gerald Hawkins's article on the Ickleton Mandelbrot pattern in *The Circular* Vol 4, No 1. How can music encroach into this apparently unrelated topic? To clarify this point we return to the Greeks, to Pythagoras, who studied the pitch of notes of vibrating strings in terms of their relative lengths. Later investigators refined his results so that, by the time the piano arrived, J. S. Bach could promote the Scale of Equal Temperament, a classic compromise in establishing musical intervals acceptable to most ears, in all keys. In numerical terms, this means that the smallest interval or ratio used in Western music is the twelfth root of two, $2^{1/12}$ i.e. 1.0594. Now the piano keyboard contains 13 notes per octave, counting both C's. It has 8 white and 5 black notes.

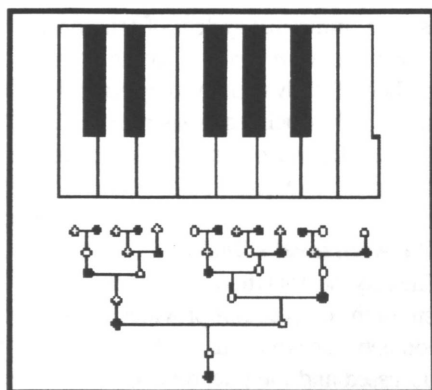


Fig 3 Fibonacci Bifurcation

Fig. 3 shows how these relate to another bifurcation tree very like that of Feigenbaum. This pattern arises from the numerical series 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13 ... each number being simply the sum of the previous two: the Fibonacci series. An important consequence is that the ratio of consecutive numbers of the sequence converge to the Universal Number 1.618034... (Even $13/8$, which is 1.625, is not a bad approximation). Now, this number was well known to the Egyptians and Greeks, though they derived it using a ruler and compass. So, like π , it achieved special significance as ϕ , The Golden Ratio. In such reverence was this number held that it became a standard ratio in architecture, in for instance, the Parthenon and the pyramid at Giza. Even in this century, Corbusier developed an architectural scheme based on its use, and it still regularly turns up in Physics.

The Marriage of Euclid and Fractals

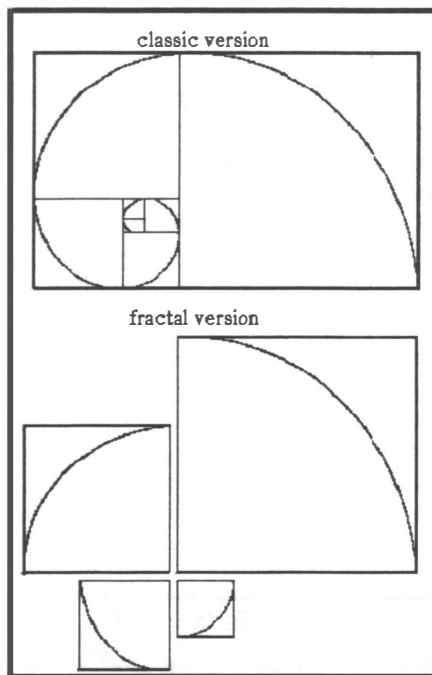


Fig 4 Golden Rectangle and Spiral

The rectangle shown in Fig. 4 consists of a set of adjacent nested squares inscribed with a Golden Spiral not unlike a crop lay pattern. Each square is ratioed in linear dimension by the factor ϕ . A classic shape, but how does it relate to Fractal Geometry? Committing sacrilege, we now break up this piece of Sacred Geometry into contiguous quadrants, as shown, producing a discontinuous spiral not unlike that seen at Barbury Castle (though there the ratio is arithmetic not logarithmic as here). Thus, even the most classic shape has hidden fractal patterns. The problem in making the transition from Euclidean to Fractal Geometry occurs, not unexpectedly, at the interface, much like the bifurcation plot demonstrated by Feigenbaum. In the mid '80's, I started to investigate this problem with no inkling that it might be of use in the study of Crop Circles. No matter how I tackled it, although I could achieve good agreement between the various constants involved - i.e. π , ϕ , δ , α - there always remained a small but significant error. I reluctantly came to the conclusion that this characteristic was inherent in the basic problem. Out of all the results I derived, I will quote just one simple algebraic equation: $\delta = 2/(\phi(\pi/2 - 1)) - 1$. Here we have Fractal Geometry, Sacred Geometry and Chaos Theory, linked together by their fundamental constants. The error involved in the equation is 0.004% - remarkably small and certainly more than accurate enough for the Circlemakers to work with.

Mathematical Meanings

While most investigators analyse Crop Formations for their mystical meaning, now we are in a position to comment on the Circlemakers' mathematical capabilities. The Ickleton Mandelbrot, regarded as a true fractal shape, is sadly lacking: there are no fractal spikes akin to sparklike lines emerging from the cardioid's perimeter and not all the peripheral circles are present except intriguingly only those that demonstrate the diatonic ratios). Nevertheless, the pattern reveals a clear indication that the Circlemakers have been reading their scientific journals of late. Their use of Classical or Euclidean algorithms for generating the approximate shape has inspired at least one person (myself), to re-examine the fundamental relations between the two geometries. Additionally, it has suggested that we look again at an earlier geometry of nature before Fractal Geometry came on the scene. This was used in the 19th century to describe the ratios of dimensions found in the positioning of leaves on plants, and other patterned objects such as pinecones and pineapples. It is the topic of *Phyllotaxis*, the fundamental constant of which, believe it or not, is our old friend, the Golden Ratio ϕ . Once more we have seen that nature links together, through fundamental constants, all its diverse properties, giving us an integrated picture of the world. In this case however, the need to integrate fractal and classical shapes suggests a jigsaw puzzle whose pieces clearly fit well enough to present an overall picture but which nevertheless have sufficient slack between them to allow the geometries to co-exist.

Chaos in the Brain

There is one further factor: human consciousness, which as we all know from our individual experiences is very much a part of the Crop Circle phenomena. My own recent investigations, both theoretical and experimental, into certain aspects of dowsing have shown that, when dowsing any object, the brain generates not just one frequency associated with that object but a whole sequence of them, very similar to the bifurcation points in the Feigenbaum diagram. However, in this case it is not the number δ that arises but our other old friend, in slight disguise: the fundamental ratio of the diatonic scale expressed as a whole tone, i.e. 1.0594^2 . What is more, there are strong indications from this work that the brain, during dowsing, is making use of the same processing system as used

by the hearing senses. As well as other aspects of the human body being representable in terms of The Golden Ratio (various proportions associated with limb sizes: internal organs such as arteries are definitely fractal in shape), perception studies indicate the presence of chaos in the brain.

The Circlemakers Compromise

Nature, including us, is well described by only a handful of fundamental numbers. The Circlemakers appear also to abide by the rules derived from them and these constants ought to be detectable in the measurements we make. What is particularly comforting to me is that they have just the same trouble as me in consolidating Sacred and Fractal Geometries and have to make do with various approximations. Is this, I wonder, a sort of Uncertainty Principle of Nature that can possibly account for their impish behaviour? The mathematics hint that this might be the case.

DISCOVERING THE REAPERS OF THE FIELD Mark Styles

'Men trust their ears more than their eyes'
Herodotus

The Visual Key

Many attempts have been made to decipher the symbolism of the 'Crop Circles', some more plausible than others, for many feel that the nature of the symbolism used could be the key to gaining a knowledge of what entity or force we are dealing with and what outcome or change may be involved.

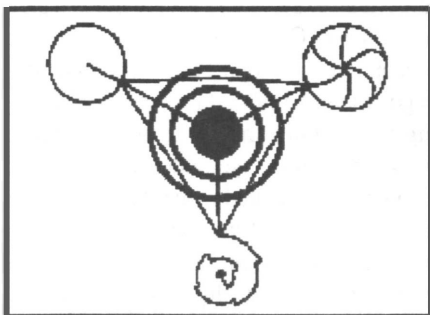


Fig 1 Barbury Castle Formation

I think the Barbury Castle pictogram of 1991 (fig 1), combined with the Milk Hill glyphs of the same year (fig 3), gave a vital clue here: together they can be interpreted as forming the lower part of the **Kabbalistic Tree of Life** (fig 2a/b).

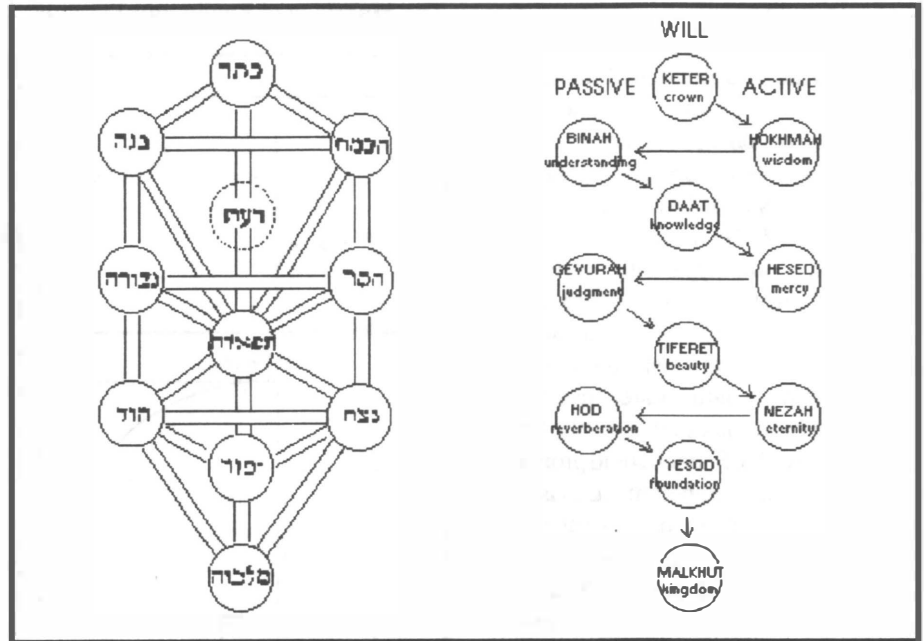


Fig 2a The Tree of Life Fig 2b

This Tree represents to scholars a system or model which operates at all levels - i.e., microcosmic to macrocosmic, - and the basis of all existence from the attributes of the divine to the nature of the Universe and the destiny of all mankind. The earliest names for Kabbalists were 'Those who Know' and 'The Reapers of the Field'.

The design of the Barbury Castle pictogram closely resembles the lower part of the Tree which deals more directly than the rest with the Earth (Malkhut). In the top left hand corner we see Reverberation (Hod), hence the rod protruding into the circle, indicative of a tuning fork. In the right hand corner we see Eternity (Nezah), hence the 'spiral of time/ wheel of fortune'. Below these two sephira lies Foundation (Yesod), Yesod is the final messenger of divine eminence to the earthly plane and we see this emanation occurring in the Barbury pictogram, reverberating like a raindrop in a pond. Finally at the bottom we have Kingdom or Earth (Malkhut). This is most ingenious of all: the divine emanation occurs in the form of a lightening flash, and here we see the spiral form of that flash resounding a powerful 'Do' as it strikes Malkhut.



Fig 3 Milk Hill Glyphs

The connection mentioned above with the Milk Hill glyphs is that these strange looking letters recall Hebrew, although, in the tradition of texts of a religious or magical significance, they have been re-

orientated in what could be called mirror-imaging. The text represented in (fig 3) is written not in word form, but, I believe, using a numerical system of relationship known as Gematria, a contemplative method of study employed by Kabbalistic scholars. Not being an expert in this field I will refrain from suggesting possibly invalid translations.

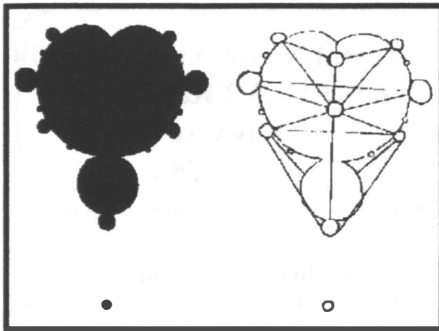
The Archangel's Book

The very fact that there is so much symbolism in the crop circles provides a connection between what I have already discussed and the phenomenon itself. To quote Z'ev ben Shimon Halevi in 'Kabbalah: Tradition of Hidden Knowledge' (Thames and Hudson):

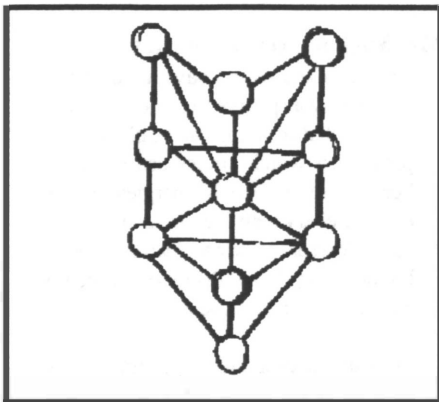
"It is said that God took compassion on Adam after he had been banished from Eden, and so he sent the archangel Raziel, whose name means 'secrets of God', to give him a book so that man might not only regain entry to the Garden of Paradise, but that he was, as the image of God, the onlooker into the mirror of existence wherein he would perceive the divine face"

Enter the Mandelbrot Tree of Life.

It also seems to me that a possible catalyst for the crop circle phenomenon, which also casts a new light on the Tree itself, is Benoit Mandelbrot's rediscovery in 1979 of the system of nature in mathematical terms. The wonderful computer-enhanced images of the periphery of the fractal 'Mandelbrot Set' have gained something of a cult following when seen as mandalas or icons. It does not take a great deal of imagination to see how similar are the two images of natural systems represented here. (figs 4a.b&c).



Figs 4a, b & c



The Mandelbrot Tree of Life

Order in Chaos

You may be thinking that the Mandelbrot Set does not contain the uppermost 'Kether part of the Tree - surely this is an important part of the cipher? Could not the reason for this be, as Kabbalistic teaching tells us, that 'Daat' (Knowledge), thenon-sephira, is the point where Kether (the divine will of God) can enter when the time is chosen to interfere with existence? It is quite possible that discovery of the Mandelbrot Set, in an attempt to recreate the order observed within the apparent chaos of nature's systems, has actually caused Kether to enter Daat and communication of the angelic kind to begin.

As we can see, once the Tree is in this interference mode, it resembles the Mandelbrot Set precisely (figs 4a,b&c). The Mandelbrot Set could be described as demonstrating the order behind the apparent chaos of nature. The same is true of the Tree of Life, and that order is 'God'. Kabbalism tells us that we are all part of that supreme order and collectively are 'God'.

The Universe in Ourselves

The Tree is also the basis of Man. Recognition of this arcane truth provides the greatest clue to our existence and that of everything in our material universe. Everything exists so that we can experience everything, and likewise everything gave us existence. The crop circles visually remind our selves

of the true nature of our existence and of the 'secrets of 'God' of which we are all an integral part.

Mystical Marriage

During the season of 1992 we saw a whole new chapter unfold in this enigma. In late July 1992 I discovered a formation just outside Tewkesbury which combined the planetary glyphs of Mars and Venus (fig 5). The hieroglyph therefore symbolically represented the 'Chemical Wedding' of the Alchemist's final stage in the 'Great Work' of Unification: the aim of achieving synthesis of dualities, in this case **Animus** and **Spiritus** (conscious/unconscious), leading to a Super-Conscious state of illumination, represented as the hermaphrodite.

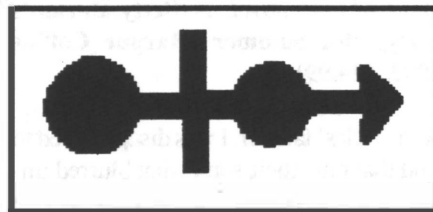


Fig 5 Tewkesbury Crop Circle

Earlier in 1992 a strange formation, later known as the 'Dodman' appeared in the shape of a Snail, one of nature's few true hermaphrodites. Could the enigmatic Silbury Hill nearby, hub of crop circle activity, hold a clue in its androgynous design? It is constructed on a layer of crushed snail shells and could be likened to a shell itself. On the 18th August the formation which occurred there (the 'Charm Bracelet' or Dharmic Wheel) strongly resembles the eight phases of the moon. It is reasonable to see a solar eclipse, which unites Sun and Moon, with Earth as the androgynous progeny, as an expression of the 'Chemical Wedding'. Elias Ashmole in 1652 showed astrologically that the final operation of the 'Great Work' takes place during a solar eclipse at 19 degrees Leo. Such an eclipse occurs on August 22nd 1999, and is visible from Southern England.

Return to Eden

To conclude, the objective of all Hermetic studies, including both alchemy and Kabbalism, has always been to unite the microcosm of Man to the macrocosm of the Universe, or the 'return to Eden'. a doctrine which was instrumental in creating philosophy, science and religion. It now seems instrumental in creating crop circles.

BOOK REVIEWS

If you really don't care whether what you read is true, kind or necessary, then you might get some amusement out of Jim Schnabel's Round in Circles (Hamish Hamilton 1993. £16.99). But if you don't want to feel you've overspent, I suggest that you wait a few months until it is remaindered. With some difficulty The Circular persuaded Barry Reynolds to review it. He writes:

I flatly refuse to give this book any more lines than it deserves (it has already had too many) as it is full from beginning to end with faction - fact picked from other people's conversations mixed with [the author's] own blend of rubbish to give an easy-to-read attack on every researcher who has ever been worth his weight in salt.

What this book does give us, though, is a great insight into how the likes of Mr. Schnabel actually function. All that is required is for the police, National Farmer's Union and the landowners to follow up his, D & D's and others' ludicrous admissions of guilt and fine them heavily. If they have the gall to admit in print that they have caused criminal damage they deserve to be prosecuted for it.

If you have nothing better to do on a Friday night, then borrow someone else's copy, settle back on the sofa with a beer and read it for the laugh that it really is (I feel sorry for all the poor sods mentioned in the acknowledgments).

Barry Reynolds

Barry last remark pin-points the most insidious aspect of the book: Schnabel contrives to give the impression that every researcher in the crop circle world has betrayed all the rest by confiding to the author their suspicions and grudges. The subjects, however, although annoyed by the offensive insinuations and the multitude of careless - and not so careless - inaccuracies, have jointly decided that the public impact of the book is likely to be so slight that a libel suit would be to take it too seriously. (However, Schnabel's sense of humour deserted him over Michael Glickman's restrained review of it: he is threatening to sue the Guardian!)

Peter Sorensen's review, *Circles of Deceit*, patiently analyses the formula and the inconsistencies of Schnabel's book in more detail: [extracts]

... Pouring out essentially true information, then mixing in even a few plausible distortions and outright falsehoods is an effective propaganda ploy - for such tampering is invisible to those not intimately involved.

In a disarmingly light style, Schnabel portrays everyone involved with the phenomenon (except his fellow counterfeiters) as inept, quarreling eccentric mystics - except for the scientists, who are merely inept, quarreling eccentrics. He digs up and displays dirty laundry for all to see, gloating over philosophical and even legal confrontations between the researchers. One of his aims, clearly seen through, is to exacerbate the rifts between various parties by rubbing salt in old wounds - while attempting to open a few new ones for good measure.

Every now and then, Schnabel implies that *Something Sinister* lurks beneath the joy and beauty that circle researchers foolishly, as he sees it, focus on. Near the end of the book, he fleshes out his black insinuations in wild detail. He devotes an entire chapter to his speculation that the circles are made by people engaged in 'cosmological terrorism'(!). He alludes to anonymous letters written in blood, animal sacrifices in circles, people ritualistically intoning Latin incantations backwards (!) and to others who, presumably because of their involvement with the circles, are "spreading the word of the coming Antichrist". To lay it on still thicker. Even the Mandelbrot set formation is linked to the black arts in his fear-riddled mind: he suggests that this pattern is a part of some kind of "chaos magic" which he sees as a plot to "undermine orthodox religion".

Then quite suddenly, Schnabel banishes all this Evil with a - RETURN - of his word processor. . .

If the reader actually makes it all the way through to the last few pages, it is there that s/he learns that Schnabel views . . . most crop circle events as practical jokes, while he actually claims to believe that several (the Barbury Castle formation, for example) are in service to **Darkest Eevil** . . . But wait! Forget that whole chapter on Black Magic! in the Epilogue he suddenly says he didn't really mean all that about

crop circle people being Agents of the Devil. . . "As far as I know, [CCCS researchers are] completely benign."

While some might think that this book is, simply, a waste of a good tree, it appears as though the publishers considered that at least some of the text might actually be *libelous*; hence the above 'disclaimer' appears to have been tagged on at the last moment - in fine print, yet. Rather than rewrite the chapter on magic, Schnabel allowed his innuendoes to stand, despite (doubtless, *because of*) their possibly being construed as irritations by several dedicated crop circle researchers.

It is a novelty, after all this, to find the Hampshire crop-circles of the earlier '90s acting as the backdrop to a romantic, family-drama novel, in Betty Burton's Long, Hot Summer (Harpur Collins 1993. £14.99).

As a circles' fancier, I was disappointed to find that only their somewhat blurred images are suggested, and mainly just to provide 'atmosphere' for this novel. The idea is that, together with the prehistoric monuments in the local landscape, they have something to do with the reawakening in the main character, an elderly farmer, of the grandeur and sexual vitality of his ancestors, but a more direct encounter with at least one formation would have rendered the effect less hazy. I felt that the circles (like the quotations from T.S. Eliot), were never quite integrated with the main story.

The book however achieves a well-managed interplay of several different cultures: for prehistoric / legendary Wessex provides the ground-base for a very recognisable Hampshire-in-the-20th-century, with 'Newcomelatelies' invading the territory of traditional farming folk, whose latent dragon energy is stirred up by an exotic stranger. . .

The novel has humour and realism, and is unusual in theme: all credit to the author for realizing that there is fine material here waiting to be tapped **Barbara Davies**

Corrigenda: In Roy Dutton's article in the June edition of the Circular, the unlabelled graph on p. 17 should have been labelled Fig 2; 'Fig 2' was Fig 3, and 'Fig. 3' was Fig 4. Also, p.16, col 3 the end of the first sentence should have read "Ref 3 and then superimposed upon Fig 3". Apologies to Roy.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH CIRCULAR READERS

Ray Cox
Letters Editor

Close Encounters is certainly a suitable heading for this first letter, as I know this correspondent from letters, telephone conversations and meetings.

Mr. Michael Newark writes:

Crop Circle dowsers have a hard time trying to sway people to come around to the fact that dowsing can really help to prove just which circles are genuine, because of the earth energies which exist at every genuine circle site. Yes, some dowsers have got it wrong before but dowsing skill with circles has come a long way since those days.

From the earth energies that crop circles imprint in the fields, some of us have already found these same patterns and energies at many ancient sites. Also, within old churches the same energies exist, which might explain why some Christian churches were built on ancient sites, so as to include the earth energies unique to that position. This must go some way to explain why dowsers feel that the energies at circles have religious strength of purpose, and are not merely earth energies. Since both crop circles and some churches share the same pattern of earth energies at their centre, powerful emotions and feelings experienced by people can be explained.

West Kennet Long Barrow is such a place, where energies and leys meet, and who cannot but be moved to walk inside this place? It is thousands of years old. It held over 300 skeletons until around 1938, when they were removed. Ancient man placed his dead at this very special place. I cannot think of a more loving thing to do. We have much to learn from him. He depended on the soil and knew the seasons. Planting at the right time meant life or death to him. And he must have understood earth energies and uses, more than we do today.

The Perton dumbbell, June 1992, SO 855996, gave me first-hand experience of Michael Newark's dowsing ability. I arranged to meet Michael there, or at least in a convenient place in the vicinity, on the

day following a report by a pilot who was uncertain of the exact location. We missed each other at the proposed meeting place, whereupon my colleague and I proceeded with some difficulty to search out the location and correct field, only to find upon our arrival that Michael had just arrived too. His dowsing had led him there!

M.N.

Feedback on the dowsing element is welcome. Michael Newark seeks to compare the findings of other experienced dowzers. He can furnish lists of crop circles and circle sites, dowsed throughout the year during 1992 and 1993.

For a number of reasons the Argus project had to exclude a number of studies, one of which was the testing of the validity of claims made on behalf of dowsing. Michael Newark lives at 12 Trevoze Ave., Coventry, CV7 9FP

Please send any letters for the *Close Encounters* column to Ray Cox at 4 Lulworth Close, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 2UJ

I want to thank Michael Newark for the frequent and detailed reports he has sent to the data-base during the season. An article from him will appear in the next number, together with other dowsing experiments. Diana Clift had a most interesting result from hers - did anyone else try it?

B.D.

LETTERS FROM AMERICA

from Erik Beckjord

I suspect that the line-up of authors is great for publication so I will briefly summarise some of the research I did in 1991 in Wiltshire, so that it is read now, and not later, if ever.

Just as one American group had *Project Argus*, I organised in July of 1991, *Project Alpha*, for the purpose of cutting out an 'outgoing message' to the alleged circle makers, in hopes of getting a response and perhaps a dialogue. Jim Schnabel has published a 90% correct version of what we did in his book *Round in Circles* but he left off the responses which it looks as if we got back.

On July 24th, Arthur Mills (of Wilts),

Thierry Pinvidic, Yves Choisson, Gilles Munsch (all of France) and myself rented a large weedcutter in Swindon, drove to John Hussey's Hackpen Farm, and cut out a large 80 by 8 metre English language message saying "TALK TO US!" With Yves' help we had created a basic drawing the night before on graph paper which included two rings, one at each end. During the cutting this proved too much to add at the end, so only the words were left to be seen from the air.

Now, what results?

Four or less days later, the Milk Hill symbols formation was found and I in fact saw it (80 by 8 metres) briefly from Milk Hill and asked others to check it out, since I had to fly home. Like our message, it is linear, based on a tramline, used what appeared to be Gothic type block letters, a series of 'I's, 'J's 'U's and 'C's in variable order and position, with TWO RINGS included. These could be the rings we did not use, 'lifted' from our minds, as an 'I.D. tag' to get our attention later. There were also two small grapeshot circles at one end, as is often found in other formations.

What did it say?

[see illustration of this in *The Reapers of the Field*]

Despite one attempt to use a channeled language, I feel that the language that was actually used, a real language, was Korean, and several Korean natives say that the four basic symbols plus the rings, are full and partial characters from their language, and it says nothing, as if written by a child. This leads me to suspect that some sort of mental psychokinesis is going on, done by the human unconscious mind during sleep, during which this unconscious leaves the body in an out-of-body experience, flits along in the form of a ball of light, even if small, creates the formation with all its complexities, using half-digested information found in the conscious part of the mind. In this case, I had Korean symbols in my head from seeing many in Los Angeles' Koreatown area, and they were all meaningless to me. Perhaps then, my unconscious did the job, or else some possible UFO occupant read my mind, and mistakenly assumed I spoke Korean, and tried to pass some back in the form of the Milk Hill symbols.

I feel now that circles are either made by ourselves, mentally, during sleep, or are

made by aliens whose our minds incompletely. More tests need to be made to determine this, and I am sad to see that nobody did any such testing in 1992. One test that was done was the Hoaxing Contest in 1992 which I was first to suggest to John Michell in Sept. 1991 right after Doug and Dave made the news, with the purpose of showing the world how difficult it would be to do layering, etc. in the dark. To my amusement, I now find credit for my idea is being given elsewhere.

The Milk Hill Symbols were not the only responses, I feel, for other formations took the basic design of a long stretch in the middle with rings at each end, and, like a doodle feeding off itself at a boring meeting, went through permutations. I refer to eight formations that are shown in *Spuren im Korn*, by Jurgen Kronig. These are the Lockeridge Whale (which I visited), Firs Farm, an elongation of Lockeridge, another at Firs Farm, which has the rings getting larger, Hungerford and Alton Priors, in which the rings get still larger, then two at Avebury Avenue and Firs Farm in which the body gets fatter and the circles large and fat, ending with the Hungerford Turtle which has lost its rings. Thus we have nine possible responses, one written and eight symbolic.

I am sure many will disagree and are scrambling for typing paper as they read this, but I suspect that most will agree that more attempts at some form of communication are needed. What I said in Schnabel's book is true: more work is needed, and I see from the last issue of *The Circular* that more and more people of all nations are having a go at it.

from Arnold Walter

To all you enigmatics wrapped in riddles: Coming from the central San Joaquin Valley in Central California with our hundreds of sections of wheat, barley, safflower, corn, cotton, etc., I have yet to hear of a crop circle in our area. We are all so dead-centered on the 'real' world that dowsing is laughed at and denounced as quackery. After all, this is the beer, Bible and gun belt of California. As to ley-lines. . . good lord, the word isn't even in my unabridged dictionary (Random House). Reading your books, I had a hell of a time figuring out exactly what you are talking

about Ley-lines, indeed! Besides, the newspapers and television sources, when crop circles are even mentioned, categorically brush them off as hoaxes. In fact, only recently, it was strongly implied that you all had a hoax contest, and the hoaxers won out handily. So are crop circles for real or not? The last I 'officially' read was your most recent book published in 1991, editor Alick Bartholemew.

What's happened since? How do I subscribe to your journal? That is, I wish to subscribe if there is still a good chance that the circles are not all hoaxes.

To indicate somewhat how I feel concerning this enigma, I am enclosing two connected photographs I took last fall of a panel of Anasazi petroglyphs that reputedly were created 900BC-400AD give or take a few centuries on either end. (The archaeologists obviously are very vague on their dates.) However, it's the content that matters. After you've seen the obvious - concentric circles, tabbed circles, spirals, etc. it's the more subtle stuff that starts to sing. Take a good look at the head dress of the figure directly above the green arrow I've drawn. Looking at this panel in the raw, for me, is akin to looking at your photographs of the crop circles: there is a 'drawing' power (pun intended), probably derived from the archetypal imagery.

To my mind, all the speculation in the world regarding Atlantis, symbolic language, pre-technological cultures, prophetic catastrophes, so-called ley lines, etc., is beside the point and reveals more the ego-centeredness of the speculator than it elucidates the crop circle phenomenon. Speaking from a hemispherical distance, it seems to me the crop circles, if genuine, beginning with the plain circle motif and its variations, speak more of an archetypal commonality with us than they speak of anything else; a deep, resonating, reassuring commonality, that has only deepened as they have developed complexity. Beyond this, it seems to me, anything is arrogant assumptions. In like manner, simply to look upon the petroglyphs and to marvel and wonder is enough until more can be known with some degree of certainty, which is not very likely. Until then they remain a mysterious wonder.

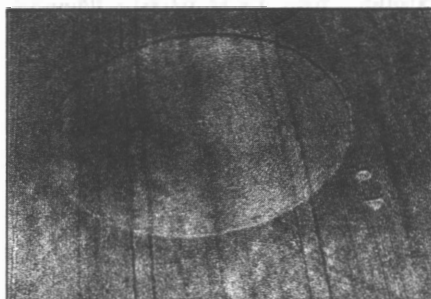
Puzzlingly yours, A. W. .

NEWS FROM ABROAD First-hand Reports to the Database Barbara Davies

These obviously only represent a tiny proportion of what we are *told* is happening out there this year. - which is why Carol Pedersen's account of the Kennewick formation is most helpful. Even so, photographs and some written reports show that if there is a disinformation conspiracy, it is curiously widespread!

Hungary:-

Many rumours of circles have reached us, but Oliver Stummer provides us with an actual photograph, of a 78 metre circle, with two small satellites, which appeared at Szekesfehervar (28th June).



Szekesfehervar, Hungary. Somogy Tamas
28 June 1993

Holland:-

At the CCCS Conference we were shown a video of two formations in the Aachen area, near Maastricht (!). One was a roughly quincunx-shaped pictogram, the other a simple circle.

Switzerland:-

On July 6th, 1993 outside Bern, very visible from a railway viaduct, and near the home of Mahes Abeywickreme, who sent us some fine photographs, appeared a 35' ring, with a pathway of about a diameter-length, extending from the centre, which then bent at about 100 degrees, and ended in a small beautifully-swirled anticlockwise 'Catherine-wheel' circle. After the local newspaper photographed it, and before Mahes did, a short 'box' appeared just inside the ring, of similar size to those which appeared in the Barbury Castle formation of 1991 (and in which at least two people, myself being one, had powerful altered-state experiences). Mahes reports feeling bodily heat, almost like a fever, - but not unpleasant - when standing inside the formation.



Bern, Switz. Mahes Abeywickreme

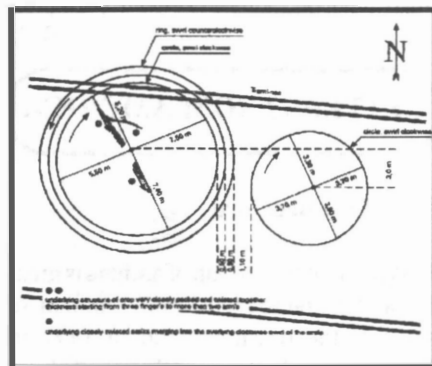
6 July 1993

Germany:-

Overnight 3/4 July, 1993 at Otterfing, Upper Bavaria a ringed, 13m. circle appeared with a smaller circle next to it. It had a tightly twisted, swirling underlay. Human entry and manufacture were most unlikely, as shown by the investigation and report sent to us, together with samples of the crop and soil (*sandy loam*) by Johannes Heimrath:

[Extract. . .

Though already several days old, the formation was still in very good condition. Only in the ringed circle one could see sparse traces of some visitors. (In Bavaria people have great respect of not trampling into a cornfield!). The smaller circle lay absolutely isolated from the tractor lines and untouched in midst undisturbed crop. We did not detect a single bent stalk which could have given reason to suspect someone had been walking through the crop.



Otterfing, Bavaria. Johannes Heimrath

3/4 July 1993

The crop was laid down in the typical perfect way, concentrically swirled clockwise in both the circles and counterclockwise in the ring. After measuring the formation we found . . . an underlying band of crop very closely packed and twisted stretched from the rim of the circle to the centre of the swirl (set off remarkably from the geometrical centre of the circle) and continuing a bit to the other side. A side-sweep of this band turned in the direction of the overlying layer of crop merging gently with it after a short distance. . .

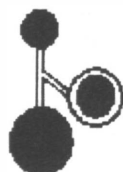
As I am well-informed about the whole hoaxing theme and have some experience with the circles I strongly suggest this formation as being genuine. Besides the impression the formation made itself, and the absolute absence of any detectable trace of someone going or jumping or stealing away through the crop, the mere placement of the formation speaks against a hoax. The field lies in an absolutely flat and rather unattractive surrounding. Unless one knowingly observes the fields the formation cannot even be recognised from the railway passing the field on ground level and in high speed. I doubt that more than a handful of people in the region even know about the crop circle phenomenon. If it were a hoax, the poor guy must have done the lot of work alone for his own delight, as the chance to be rewarded with publicity was very dim.

J.H.

Johannes Heimrath also comments that there were no special features in the landscape: no prehistoric mounds etc. A Roman road, however was some 5km away, and an electric railway only 80m from the formation. Also, until a several years ago, a high voltage lead with five posts ran across the formation area.

Canada:-

Paul Anderson is in regular touch. The latest news is that his team are investigating reported formations south of Calgary, Alberta, where they have appeared before. Apparently, they are (as seems to be the fashion this year) clearly visible, near highways. A newspaper photograph and diagram gives the following shape:



In a future issue Chad Deetkin will tell us about some of the fascinating personal research which he described at the Bath and Glastonbury conferences.

USA Washington State:-

The appearance of the Kennewick pictogram in June caused a wave of excitement and triumph among our American members, especially as Dr. Levengood felt confident in identifying an anomaly in the nodes of the samples sent to him by Carol Pedersen, who also sent us samples, photographs and the detailed first-hand report which follows later in this issue.

USA. New York State:-

Lois Horowitz has given us copies of a newspaper cutting showing a 200ft pictogram in Columbia, NYS, with several 25ft circles, connected by pathways in a random-looking a-symmetrical pattern near a highway.



If genuine, what are the circle-makers up to? If man-made, why something so haphazard? *Did any of our American members visit this one?*

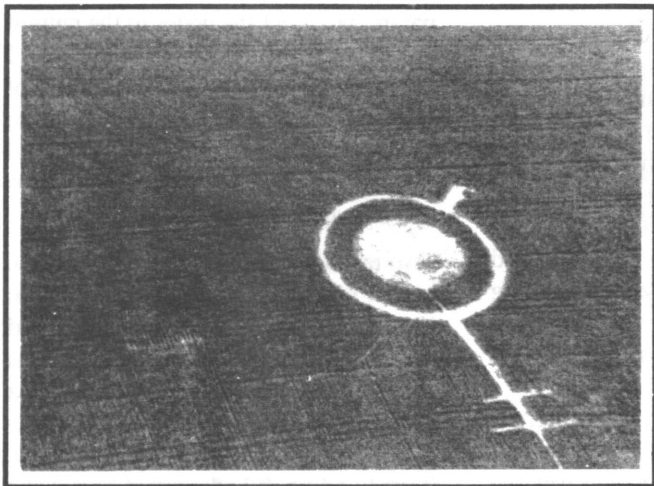
France:-

A jolly pair of antennae giants (one of several formations) are puzzling the gendarmes, according to a newspaper report and photograph. No footprints, but a ball of twine found. Does this sound familiar (see Sussex branch report)?



Again, first-hand news of the French formations would be most welcome.

Branch Reports



Kennewick formation

**THE KENNEWICK
FORMATION
WASHINGTON
Carol Pedersen
Oregon USA CCCS Coordinator**

On Monday afternoon, June 7th 1993, I arrived home to find a message from Ilyes, the US CCCS Coordinator, relating there was a crop circle formation in a field of green wheat about 5 miles south of Kennewick in eastern Washington, about 212 miles from my home. This is the first reported circle in the NW USA. I decided to drive up and see it.

The circle was first discovered Saturday morning, May 29th, by the farmer who owned the field and it was also seen by Cash and Michael Wakefield on Sunday when traveling south on Interstate 82. On the phone Ilyes described the design as an approximately 60ft circle with a 10ft ring. There was an F or key design at about the 2 o'clock position. The circle had a shaft leading to a crossbar at the base (N) with another crossbar slightly above that. Total length was around 185 feet.

I got the number of the farmer and called to obtain permission from Mrs. Bateman to enter the field and take samples and arrived at 3 o'clock, June 8th at the circle formation, ten days after the circle was found. It was a beautiful sunny day. The circle was not visible from the highway traveling north, but after turning to the right and traveling south down the side road I saw it up on a hill well into the field of wheat. I parked alongside the field and

started walking up the pathway towards the circle. Halfway there I realized I had forgotten to take the hangers that I cut into rods to test the energy in the circle, so I returned to my car. On the way back, someone else waved to me. This turned out to be a friend of Ilyes, Jerry Phelps, a MUFON member, who knew I was coming that day, so we returned to the circle together. It was

*Carol Pedersen
29 May 1993*

about a fifteen minute walk to it. I saw no-one else in the circle while I was there either day.

I approached entering the field with reserved anticipation. Having never been to England to see first hand the various circle formations, I decided to go one step at a time and look for indications that would match the criteria used to judge genuine circles mentioned in the material I had seen. My observations are from the perspective of it being my first circle experience, which is why I was so cautious.

I am not a dowser, nor had I held the rods before, but decided to try. My first test was to hold them (as shown on the circle videos) directly ahead of me and walk slowly forward. When I entered the pedestal bar of the circle the rod on the right swung out all the way to the right: the rod on the left moved to the left, but not so far or fast. I tried this experiment in the circle, and found the same effect. I do not know what this means except that an energy is there.

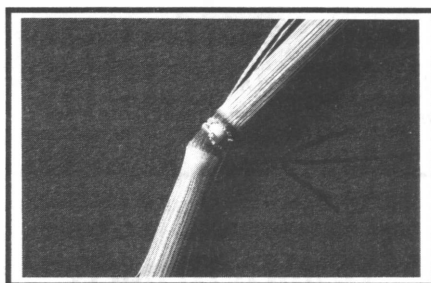
I was disappointed with my first view of the wheat pattern placement in the circle. It was rough all along the edges, no 'cookie-cutter' edges between the design and standing wheat. The wheat was not laid down flat in a beautiful swirled design but looked messy. The pedestal bar, and the bar just above it were not sharply defined and seemed too thin compared to the circle and ring. There were two sloppy indentations into the standing wheat, one by the centre of the central shaft alleyway, west side, and one off the main circle at about 3 o'clock position, west side. The F or key off the right at 2 o'clock was small in comparison to the circle (just like the bars were) and wasn't laid down sharply either.

I was not able to tell which sections of wheat had been laid down first, but there was some layering. The directions of the flattened crop were visible, the centre circle clockwise, the ring counter-clockwise. It seemed a sparsely-sown field. I noticed bare patches in places and some mounding of soil in one spot. There were clumps of standing wheat in the centre circle.

It was impossible for me to tell whether the wheat was 'bent but not broken' at the half growth point above soil, which was the next major piece of evidence to look for.

The true centre of the circle was to the east of the exact centre. I decided to take only a few measurements as I had a 25 foot metal measure and felt I could not be accurate. In addition, measurements had been taken previously. Ilyes asked me to take the compass position of the formation and I did that, finding that it was directly true north as I stood at the pedestal base. I would like to know if this is significant.

Having been disappointed in the swirl design and unimpressed up to this point, I then looked at the next most important criterion, to me, which was finding bent nodes. I was up to date on the nodes article showing close up photographs of the nodes, in the March **Circular** and knew what to look for. This was my most exciting discovery. Consistently around the circle, ring and pathways, I looked carefully at the stalks as they lay partially flattened and I found the bent nodes and noticed some of them were split, but on the inside of the bend. I showed Jerry these bent and split nodes which he had not noticed before. The **Circular** picture showed the splits on the *outside* of the bent nodes.



Bent Nodes - Kennewick Carol Pedersen
29 May 1993

If the circle was found May 29th., presumably immediately after it was made, and I am there ten days later, then how could nature have bent the nodes in the natural process of the stalks rising to the sun? I have heard this process takes a number of weeks. No person could have bent those pieces of grain or split them. The field wheat was straight up and down. I felt this was of major importance.

Two reactions I noted while in the circle were: a) several bouts of dizziness and b) My camera failed to work during a period of time. After three hours of research I was about to leave the circle and wanted a couple more photos but my camera's button would not push down. Back at the car, it worked fine. It had worked fine in the circle up to that point. I have no accounting for this.

The next day I went to the library and obtained the only report the local newspaper carried on the circle sighting and then went to visit Tom Brock, the local reporter covering the circle, at the KBEW 42 news studio. He showed me the TV news video and seemed interested in the situation. I showed him the bent and split wheat stalks I had taken out of the design and the **Circular** article on bent nodes. He had not noticed this before. I asked him whether the soil in Kennewick had any peculiarities, such as the English soil being chalky and containing layers of fossilized material, like shells and he didn't know. The people I talked to in Kennewick about the formation seemed interested in it and didn't know what to make of it.

Then I chartered a flight in a 154 Cessna for half an hour and got some aerial pictures. To me the photos show a design pattern that does not match the perfectly etched out proportional photos of the English formations, although the design does look like a symbol.

While I was flying over the design I noticed a burnt circle area just across highway 82, to the west, in a field of freshly-plowed soil. I could see the tractor lines in the soil and what looked like others in a circle around the burned area. I photographed this. When I got my photos back, I noticed that there were some large shadow circles immediately next to the crop pictogram and in the standing field. Perhaps there is a connection here, between the burned circle and the circle formation. Could this burning have happened in the field where the formation was at a prior time, thus causing the shadow-markings? Was the farmer burning something in the fresh soil - but what would that be in the middle of a plowed field? I am not familiar with farming procedures. It looked to me like the farmer came upon this marking and drove round it, making the circle. Has anyone else noticed a similar occurrence?

I had taken soil samples from within and without the circle, wheat samples and samples of the bent and split nodes to send off for analysis and to show my CCCS Oregon group. I sent my samples to an agriculture and crop specialist at Oregon State University, who is interested in and has seen first hand the crop circles in England. Ilyes sent samples to Dr. Levensgood.

At around 3.30 I arrived back at the circle and spent another hour and a half researching and taking more photos, and then sat down in the centre of the circle and ate some crackers, Wheat Thins (what else!). But I heard only field crickets and no trilling noises as described by Colin Andrews and saw no balls of light or UFO's. A storm was coming up and the wind was blowing furiously, so I left for home at 6pm, June 9th.

I did not have time to find and interview the owners of the field, nor to track down the father and son who also saw the circle, nor find the farmer who had a UFO sighting sixteen days previous, nor to ask about the burned circle.

This circle was located in the Tri-city area of Kennewick, Pasco and Richland, and within a few miles of the Hanford nuclear site. These cities are about 25 miles from the Oregon border and the Columbia river, which this year was listed as the second most polluted area in the USA, because it was becoming increasingly difficult for the salmon, a major industry here, to live in. Kennewick is an Indian name meaning 'grassy place' and the Indians here have become increasingly active in the protection of the salmon. If this is some message of environmental awareness, the circle was made in an agricultural area with increasing concerns. Other crop circle researchers have mentioned already this possibility of an environmental connection with the circle-making activity. Also of interest to me is that the replica of Stonehenge is located about a hundred miles west of Kennewick on the Columbia river on the Washington side. It is the only replica in the USA. It was finished on May 30, 1929. The Kennewick circle was found May 29th. Perhaps there is a significance here, if this circle proves genuine through laboratory testing.

I am not in a position to pronounce on the authenticity of the circle, and I am here listing my observations. I await with interest the OSU crops expert's report [summarised below]. Also I would be interested in knowing whether this formation's measurements match the Hawkins diatonic scale ratio theory. It was exciting to research my first circle. The phenomenon still remains a mystery to me.

Carol Pedersen

The following points are raised by Carol's thorough first-time report (fully supplemented, as it is, by photographs, diagrams and crop samples):

A compass shows magnetic north, not 'true' north, which is the (wobbling) axis of the planet - a varying difference of several degrees.

Depending on weather, growth stage, etc., we have found that cereal stems can start to recover in a few days.

Circles occur in other soils than chalk - e.g. clay, greensand and loam - though chalk is certainly popular.

Carol subsequently sent on to the CCCS data-base the Oregon State University report referred to above. It states that the bending of the nodes was similar to local (West Oregon) recovery effects in weather related events. The cracking, had not been observed before by the agronomist concerned, Russ Karow, but he suggested that it could be caused by the sudden exposure of formerly shaded stems to the hotter sun of East Oregon. Control and circle soil samples were found to be identical. Interest was expressed, however, in undertaking germination tests - British university establishments please note!

A copy has also been received of Dr Levensgood's report on samples from the same formation. He comments that the 'inside-bend' splits would probably be caused by the same mechanism as had caused 'outside' splits in other formations, but that, because more material had been dehydrated in the split than usual, the stem would keel over in the direction of the channel so formed. Otherwise, the sample resembled those from other formations, one of the key questions being how the energy needed to produce this severe lateral node-splitting could be so uniformly and precisely directed over a large area.

He also says "If from all these studies there is one clear statement that can be made, it is - The energies involved in crop circles are extremely complex, randomly interactive and in detail, essentially unpredictable".

Kay Larsen's comments on samples from the same formation and the one described in the following article were similar. "All electrical phenomena are bizarre", he said, as we looked at the twisted bracts of the

Sompting formation. He commented that the path that any current would take depended on many things - lightning, for instance, never has a straight one, and no-one can predict it. He was firm that the Sompting bracts could not have been twisted by hand, and when I looked more closely at them I could see what he meant - they did not twist in a simple spiral - in places this was turned back on itself, and two of the little leaves had twisted tightly round each other.

Barbara Davies

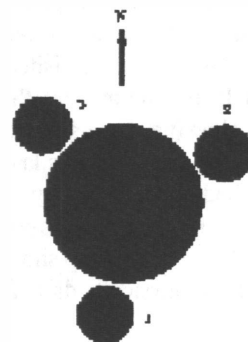


**The Sussex Triangular Triplet:
spiralling bracts.**

*photocopy of sample: Barbara Davies
7/8 June 1993*

**ANOMALOUS FINDS IN AND
AROUND SUSSEX
FORMATIONS
Barry Reynolds
Sussex CCCS Convenor**

[The very active Sussex branch has been presented with a fine crop of both the beautiful and the bizarre this year, in the way of crop formations and associated experiences. The bracts referred to above came from this Sompting triplet, formed between 23.45 on June 7th and 7.45 on June 8th]



(Main circle ~ 65', others ~ 23')

Sompting, Sussex

7/8 June 1993

This formation was discovered by a lady at 7.45am when she drew the curtains of her bedroom window. After first reporting it to the police (!) she contacted David Tait (CCCS member) who contacted Barry Reynolds by 8.30am.

The field was very flat and houses and three storey flats were the only vantage points from which it could be seen. Photographs were taken from the lady's bedroom and another neighbour's living room which was on the top storey of the small block of flats. The neighbour had been sitting in an armchair by an open window (with the curtains drawn back) overlooking the field until 23.45, and had heard nothing. Several other immediate neighbours were spoken to and had also heard/seen nothing. The lady is a healer and had always wanted a formation in this field. Her son sees visions of how it was in Saxon times.

The weather that night was dry and still. The field has no tramlines. The soil was VERY dry and powdery.

There was a fine layer of dusty soil on many of the plants within the formation which did not appear outside of it. If knocked, this dust would fall off the plant. It was as if the movement of the formation had made a small dust cloud rise up and then fall back on to the crop. [see Rick Bushnell's observation earlier in this issue].

There were absolutely no footprints in the formation, when we arrived, neither on the crop nor on the soil. However, as we trod on the crop and soil we easily left our own footprints behind.

Approximately 15% of the crop within the circles remained standing, 15% was completely laid flat on the ground and the remaining 70% was at various angles in between. By the time we visited the formation on 18th June at 6pm the crop was already showing some signs of recovery. Some of the crop that was laid flat to the ground had been pushed up to 2mm into the dusty soil. This crop was not crushed or broken. None of the crop showed signs of having been physically damaged.

A piece of black baling twine and orange nylon string were found in the main circle on top of the flattened crop. The baling twine had obviously been wrapped around

a round object e.g. a pole, four times, very tightly as it still retained the shape. About 15 inches long it appeared to have no use whatsoever, and had a piece of foil tied into one of its knots. The nylon string had a loop at one end and was exactly 8 feet long. One of its loops had been doubled over and was found together with the loop of the baling twine. There was some sort of fish hook tied into the piece of string, the other end of which string showed signs of having been melted. Both pieces of string were very clean, not at all dusty and showed no sign of having been trodden on or having been in contact with the crop. The length of the string had no relevance to the overall size of any of the circles. It was not thought that the string was used in the possible hoaxing of the formation, and may well have been deliberately placed in it during the 36 hours between forming and being surveyed.

The soil in the centre of the circles was very compact and showed no signs of having had something like a pole pushed into it. We even dug out the centre of satellite three and found no signs of it having been already dug up and refilled.

The formation was very similar to the pattern on which CCCS Sussex had been meditating over the preceding three weeks [and identical to the one John Holman (Yorkshire Convenor) had drawn in a meditation up north].



A sequel to this was that on the evening of 29th July, Terry Harrison (one of those who inspected the Triangular Triplet) and his son were visiting another local formation, the Celtic Cross, when they found lying across a tramline a 2ft 1in wooden pole with black baling twine and orange nylon string attached!

The wooden pole was similar to a broom handle but thicker and sturdier. It had been snapped and, at the non-snapped end, someone had gone to a lot of effort to force the black baling twine (6ins long without any obvious use) through a tight hole in the pole attached to which was the 6ft 8ins

length of orange string which had a 2.5ins diameter loop, just large enough to get a hand through, and similar knots to the first piece. Both pole and orange string were dirty and dusty.

There was no doubt that the original two pieces of string were at one stage connected to the pole. They were identical in type, and the two loops fitted neatly over the pole. We then had an original Doug 'n' Dave style 'Stalk Stomper' which would require the wearing of thick gloves as it would soon blister your hands if used.

The length of the pole did not correspond to the widths of any 1993 paths up to the time of discovery, although it should be remembered that the pole was broken. It was obviously meant to be discovered by a vigilant person, as were the original pieces of string.

Four silver-painted pebbles were found inside the second Celtic Cross, shaped in the configuration of the Triangular Triplet. Inside the triangle of another much-added-to formation, affectionately known as the Mexican Cyclist (who overnight on 29th and 30th June appeared to turn a corner and crash into assorted bollards . . . !), and underneath the lay were found a pair of men's imitation sunglasses. Under them was a slight indentation in the soil. When the triangle formed, the weather was very dry and it would have been impossible for such an indentation to have occurred: it was only several days later that it rained. Therefore presumably someone 'lost' these glasses after the formation appeared and they were then trodden into the ground.

It would seem that these anomalous finds in four of this year's Sussex formations were placed with the deliberate intent of making them appear to be man-made. Certainly, each object was left very carefully where they would obviously be found. To leave part of your stalk-stomper behind once is careless, but to then leave the rest of it next to another formation a few days later and then 'lose' your sunglasses smacks of conspiracy. The field containing the Triangular Triplet had no tramlines - it was possible to enter the field without leaving much of a mark, but was still tricky, as we found. Interestingly, John and Jenny Husband who first reported that formation observed a small helicopter hov-

ering very low over the formation later that day. Could the piece of string have been dropped from a helicopter? It was almost certainly placed there after the pattern appeared, due to the lack of dust on the string, as mentioned above. The pole was left in an 'obvious' place: the tramline, presumably to make it look as if it was 'accidentally' dropped while leaving the field after making the formation. The silver pebbles remind one of the crucifix and the 'Horoscope' board game left in the notorious Bratton Castle hoax in 1991, that attempted to catch Delgado and Andrews out in front of the cameras - the difference being that that was a hoax that also had to look like one for the trick to work. In our case, the Celtic Cross was certainly genuine as far as one can ever be sure, but the pebbles may have been left to make it look like the formation was man-made for ritual purposes (either that, or the pebbles were used for a ritual purpose, with no intention of skuldougn davery). The sunglasses were left very deliberately under the lay of the crop - not kicked to one side as one might expect with a genuine mislaying. One question though: who wears sunglasses at night?

Who could be responsible? A local irate farmer? A Schnabel type? Local authorities? Whoever it was, it was someone who had knowledge of the formations as soon as they appeared, and that would suggest someone in the immediate vicinity . . . or someone with access to satellite technology. . . !

Barry Reynolds

Sussex was not the only area where efforts seem to have been made to give researchers the impression that 'genuine' formations had been hoaxed - it is a lot easier to claim a ready-made formation by accidentally-on-purpose dropping tools of the hoaxing trade where they are sure to be found than by making one of your own! A more theatrical method was tried by a man whom Chad Deetkin and Simon Lackford found creeping up on the East Kennet 'Spaceship' in the middle of the night, attempting to daub the ground with a luminous substance!

DORSET
David Kingston
Dorset CCCS Convenor

[David has run his own organisation, Crop Phenomena Investigations, since 1988. This year he agreed to become convenor of the Dorset CCCS Group. He has built up excellent relations with local media and farmers, and is backed by a strong team. He stresses the importance of branch fund-raising to enable officers not to be too severely out of pocket. This year, as last, the Dorset team has been rewarded by the circumalchemists with some fine formations - and other anomalies. David's report was written in late June, before the many triangles around the M25, and the 'Barbury Castle Mark II' formation near Guildford appeared. - Ed.].

On the 23rd May, this year, Richard Peacocke had an unusual experience. Some nights before there had been a reported sighting by four witnesses of a large luminous sphere at the foot of Maiden Castle. It pulsed light and was at ground level but as soon as the witnesses tried to approach it climbed and flew off at tremendous speed. Richard knew nothing of this as yet.

In the early hours of the 23rd May, at 1.23am Richard heard a noise very similar to the sound we heard in crop circles and which has been recorded by Colin Andrews and BBC TV. Richard's house is quite near to Poundbury iron age fort and at 1.34am he decided to investigate. He drove to where the sound appeared to be coming from and as he approached closer his car died on him. The sound continued until 1.40am when his car functioned normally again. Richard was quite unnerved by the experience and wrote out a report which he passed to me at our local meeting. It was here I told him about the Maiden Castle light sphere.

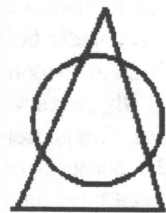
Within one week of this we had our first crop formation - a simple circle in wheat which was not reported to us for seven weeks by the farmer. The crop in the centre was six to nine inches higher than the wheat outside the circle. I found that the nodes in the circle had 90 degree bends. The farmer said that when he had first discovered the formation it was flattened, but it had since started growing up - hence

the difference in height. This put the time of origin at approximately that of the appearance of the light and noise some three miles away. The formation was totally out of sight from any roads or view points and could only be seen from the air. Almost as though to draw our attention to this obscure formation a large ringed circle with three satellites was placed in a field in a valley about a mile away, in full view of the public. It soon caught the local press photographer's eye.

Our next circle was formed on the night of 11/12 June in barley, once again well away from the public view. The farm worker's statement said that it was not there on Friday 11th and must have appeared some time during the morning of the 12th.

Richard Peacocke (our PR officer) and Stephen Langdown (field research) are doing a first class job contacting flying clubs to enhance our early warning system and to increase public awareness. We have set up three hotlines for farmers, landowners and the public and now wait for the circumalchemists to provide the information and associated phenomena.

One of the shapes I feel we shall see this year in England is



I have had this symbol pop into mind several times during the winter and spring. It will also be interesting to see if the shapes of the early eighties, simple circles, are repeated as they appear to be doing in Dorset at present.

LEYLINES and CORN
CIRCLES
Richard Peacocke
(Dorset CCCS)

I have been intrigued by ley lines and corn circles for some years but it was only in the summer of 1991 that I decided to investigate a phenomenon that I had noted but never followed up.

One rainy day I got out two OS maps for my

area and drew a straight line joining Poundbury hill-fort (SY682911) and Maiden Castle (SY666885). Northward from Poundbury, it ran across the mouth of the railway tunnel and then through many road and path junctions (and various buildings) until it passed very close to Piddlehinton church (SY715971) and so onwards and off my map. Reaching southwards from Maiden Castle, the line ran straight through the centre of the Moonfleet Manor hotel. (SY626818) and then out to sea over Chesil Beach. Had I accidentally identified a ley line?

Up to now all I had was a pencil line on a couple of maps and that is where I left it until Friday, 9th August, 1991, when I decided to visit a few of the more obvious intersections and see what there was to see.

The most notable thing about both the Poundbury site and Maiden Castle was the distinct lack of any physical signs, apart from the earthworks: there were no glowing ethereal lines, no whirlwinds playing gently about the fields, and no UFO's following me down to Martinstown. This was a little disappointing so I decided to visit one of the ends of the line: the Moonfleet Manor Hotel.

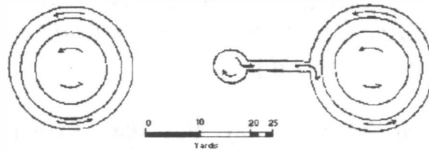
This site has a long history of occupation. Fleet House - reputedly built in 1603 by Maximilian Mahun (Moone) - preceded the present 18th century manor near Westfleet village. This house boasted twelve hearths for the purposes of Charles II's hearth taxes, so it must have been quite a large and impressive building. It once was part of the abbey of Christchurch Twynham. Some of the earliest illustrators show what appears to be a towered church standing next to the manor, and possibly this vanished building stood on the site of an even earlier worshipping-place.

Driving down towards Weymouth, to investigate it, as I approached the entrance to Bagwell Farm Touring Park, I noticed an odd shape in a field of ripening corn to my right. There was the first corn circle I had ever seen. It was of the classic ringed circle design, and some 23yds across.

Back home I plotted the circle's position on my map and found that it fell directly on to my ley line. Also, an overhead power cable ran parallel to the course of the line and some 66yds from the circle. I immediately planned to return for a closer look.

The next morning - Saturday, 10th August - held more surprises. The original ringed circle had been joined by a smaller 6yd circle to the north, nearer the road. The circles were connected by a corridor of flattened corn which appeared to follow the direction of the ley line, parallel to the power cables.

The corn in the new circle lay in a clockwise spiral and flowed outwards along the corridor, which was 2yds wide and 14yds long, with the corn lying in a southerly direction. The anticlockwise ring around the original circle was also 2yds wide with 3yds of untouched corn between it and the 13yd inner circle, which appeared perfectly round, with corn 'flowing' anticlockwise and parallel to itself.



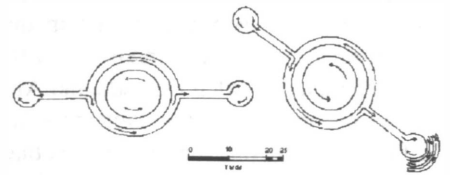
I noticed that at both circles there was no division between circle-pattern and corridor-pattern. Unlike the corn flattened by Dave and Doug, this corn had been laid uniformly flat to the ground, and showed none of the roughness seen in the hoax circles.

I searched in vain for any evidence of people having passed through the field and on to the circles, but all I found was the minor damage at my entry point to the system where I had followed a man-wide path. The corn along this path had been bent outwards, as if someone had wandered away from the circles. I followed it for about 25 paces to where it began to meander and form a small, irregular loop. It was almost as if the wanderer had gone far enough and decided to turn back. It had been at this point that I joined it from a tractor-lane.

I did not visit the field again until the 3rd September. The crop had been harvested but the flattened corn had been too close to the ground to be reaped and the patterns were still clearly visible. Then I was surprised to find a second corridor leading away to the south, connecting the ringed circle with another small circle (in all respects, except direction of flow, identical with the other). It had certainly not existed when I was last there. It was of the same dimensions as the other, with the corn bent

in a southerly direction. I saw again how the corridor-corn had been bent in the direction of flow of the circle, and tended to meld in neatly with its anti-clockwise rotation.

I strolled about the field and found traces of what seemed to be outer rings enclosing this latest circle, although these were not as clearly defined. They were 2yds wide, and spaced at one yard intervals.

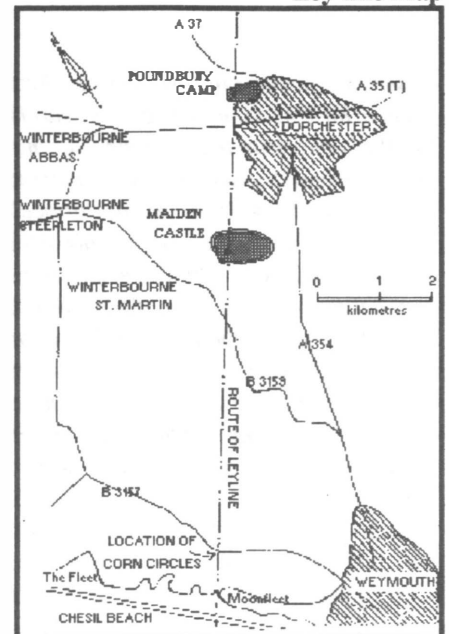


I estimated the entire area at about 400sq yds of flattened, almost ripe corn. It would indicate a large degree of commitment and time for any hoaxer - not to mention the wanton destruction of a large area of corn.

I don't know if these circles are man-made, or if my ley line is a figment of an over-active imagination, all I can say for sure is that it is all very odd.

It is my opinion that the circles are a by-product of the landing of UFOs to take on, or absorb, fuel from the local environment. Ten years ago, New Zealander Captain Bruce Cathie wrote about lines of force which UFOs use as routes, and suggested that the power inherent in these lines can be harnessed using simple apparatus. We hear very little about him these days - have his mysterious World Controllers finally silenced him?

Ley-line Map



CCCS Council and Officers for 1993-1994

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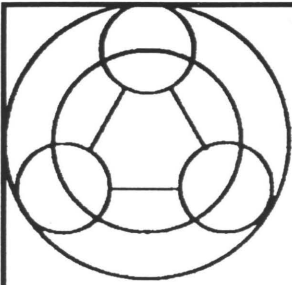
John Martineau The Walk Mill, Discoed, Presteigne, Powys. LD8 2NT (05476 251 + fax)

Names and addresses of Branch Convenors are issued with membership, and/or can be obtained from P. Palgrave-Moore.

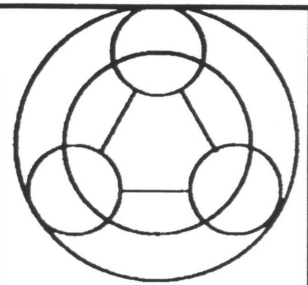


Charley Knoll, Loughborough

Tony Caldicott
July 1993



Centre for Crop Circle Studies
presents
The Crop Circle Enigma



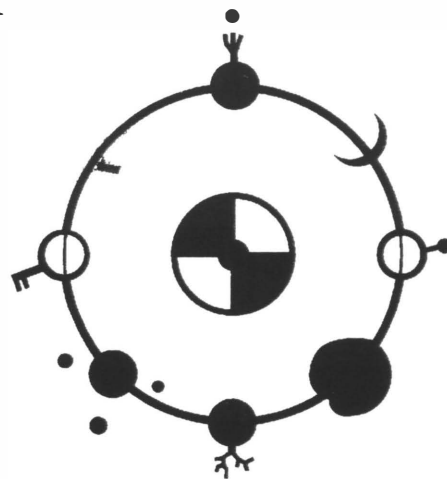
A Talk by

MICHAEL GLICKMAN

Architect, Writer & Inventor

& LUCY PRINGLE

1993 Crop Formations Update



Haslemere Hall, Haslemere, Surrey
7.30 pm. (doors open at 7.00 pm.)
Thursday 30th September 1993

Admission £5.00, CCCS members £4.00

Tickets available at the door on the night

Lucy Pringle 0730 263454