



101

July 2004

'You asked me once,' said O'Brien, 'what was in Issue 101. I told you that you knew the answer already. Everyone knows it. The thing that is in Issue 101 is the worst thing in the world.'

The Newsletter of the Association for the Scientific Study
of Anomalous Phenomena

Can You Help ASSAP?

This month sees the launch of a major initiative that we are calling the Talent Trawl.

For many years the most under-utilized resource in ASSAP has been the membership at large and it is hoped that the Talent Trawl will give us a way of rectifying the situation.

One of the major problems facing ASSAP as an organization is that we simply don't know a great deal about our members; not so much your views and opinions (these tend to get expressed quite forcibly at times!) but the huge and hitherto untapped reservoir of expertise in areas that you might not have previously thought relevant to investigations of the paranormal.

Included with this issue of ASSAP News you will find a questionnaire which aims to

help us get a better idea of who we, as an organization, can turn to for various types of technical advice.



Creaking house? Where can we find someone with surveying experience? Damp spots appearing on the walls? Who can find out about changes in the level of the water table? Doubtless you can think of many more such examples. Don't worry if you aren't an expert - you may still know more than anyone else!

So, please don't just throw the sheet away: We need your help!

Editorial

Since this is Issue 101 I decided to rip off the BBC TV show, did a quick media trawl and uncovered some things that I would like to see banished to the eponymous Room 101...

Most Hunted

Derek Acora is forced to don a fox costume and is then chased across the countryside by Yvette Fielding and a pack of baying, slaving, rabid hounds.
Living TV: Weekdays 9pm

Most Taunted

Celebrities reveal the anguished secrets of how they were bullied at school.
Running as part of BBC 2's 'Shut up, you Nerd' season.

Most Horned Ed

A one-off documentary in which Simon Schama traces the bizarre story of the strange growths on the forehead of Edward VIII and how this led to the abdication crisis.
BBC2: Sunday 8pm

Host Haunted

SPR lecture by Prof Archie Roy. Prof Roy tells of his investigations into the strange recurrent demonic possession of Michael Parkinson and Jonathan Ross.
Usual SPR Venue, London

Most Shorn Ted

Searing exposé of what can happen to favourite toys when small girls experiment with their fathers' razors.
Caution: some scenes may be disturbing.
C4: Thursday 11pm

Toast Haunted

On-going webcam spectacular. 24-hour on-line coverage of an alleged poltergeist outbreak from a kitchen in Hammersmith. Organised by the Hanger Lane Paranormal and UFO Investigation Cabal.
www.wowthisisspooky.com/itreallyisaghosthonest.htm

Most Haunted

Credulous D-list celebrities over-react to odd noises in dark rooms in the presence of a brain-dead audience.
Paranormal TV: Weekdays, Weekends, Bank Holidays.
24-hour showing (unless replaced by Most Haunted Uncut, Most Haunted Revisited or Most Haunted High-lights).

Mike White

See your name in print

The deadline for the next ASSAP News will probably be around early August. If you would like to see your name in print you can send letters or articles to: Mike White, ASSAP News Editor, PO Box 230, PLYMOUTH, PL1 2ZR or by email to assapnews@assap.org (you can pick your format as I am very accommodating).

About ASSAP

ASSAP is an educational charity involved in the investigation of anomalous phenomena. We publish ASSAP News bimonthly and our journal *Anomaly* twice a year. ASSAP was formed in 1981 to bring together disparate strands of research and encourage a cross-disciplinary approach. We organize experiments and occasional study days through our publications and website. Our President is the well-known cleric and Fortean researcher the Rev. Lionel Fanthorpe.

For general enquiries, contact us at our PO box:

ASSAP, PO Box 230, PLYMOUTH, PL1 2ZR

Just prefix the address with the name of the office you want to contact. We will forward all mail to the individual officers. This way your letters won't go astray when one of us moves house or moves on.

The Executive

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ESP: Terry Hewitt

FORTEAN PHENOMENA: Justin Cowell

HAUNTINGS & POLTERGEISTS: Michael Lewis

HEALING, RELIGION: Michael J Rush

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PHOTOGRAPHIC ANOMALIES: TBA

PK & PHYSICAL MEDIUMSHIP: William Eyre

UFOS: Ian Percy

NOTE: ASSAP has no corporate views. Views expressed are those of the authors and individual members concerned.

Thanks to Jim Clark for proofreading this issue.

haunted

The Fanthorpe Column



Among the many mysteries we've investigated over the last 40 years or so, the cryptozoological enigmas in feline form that reliable witnesses have reported from the Dartmoor region are among the most persis-

tent. Recently, Granada TV's 'Good Morning' programme asked us to investigate.

There's no shortage of evidence. Experts like Trevor Beer and Danny Bampling have been among the foremost investigators, and their evidence would be hard to discredit. Victims of big cats, pictures of big cats, corpses of big cats and footprints of big cats point unerringly to something big and wild with credentials naming it as a bona fide member of the big cat family.

So there's no real doubt that they're there, and they're almost certainly a thriving breeding colony. Being unbiased and impartial investigators, in the best objective ASSAP tradition, we had to consider the wildest and least probable theories as well as the rational and probable ones -- and, anyway, the bizarre explanations are always the most interesting ones -- even when they have only a nodding acquaintance with verifiable truth and scientific fact!

It has been argued that the Dartmoor cats' ability to come and go so mysteriously (rather like Nessie) is phenomenological: they have a sort of quasi-reality midway between dreams and solid, quantifiable objects. Other theorists believe them to be the ghosts of cats that lived and died on Dartmoor millennia ago -- long before the last Ice Age. It has been postulated



Lionel and Trevor Beer with puma skull

that they are time travellers, or that they have drifted through from another dimension. It has even been hypothesised that they are highly intelligent extra-terrestrial aliens whose appearances coincide with UFO reports from the Dartmoor area.

Almost certainly, the prosaic and mundane explanations are likely to be right: they escaped from zoos or circuses, or were abandoned on the moor when changes in the law in the 1970s made it very difficult to keep exotic and dangerous pets. Being very fond of animals, and believing that humanity's duty towards the flora and fauna who share our environment is to help them, heal them and do all we can to preserve them, I'd like to make the point that unless someone is as rash and intrepid as Stanley Holloway's infamous Albert, who poked his "stick with the horse's head handle" into a lion's ear with predictable consequences, the Big Cats of Dartmoor deserve our sympathy and protection. Having filmed quite cheerfully with a puma, who didn't seem to mind my sharing his cage in the least, I can vouch from personal experience that the one I met at close quarters was amiable and totally disinclined to attack.

Warmest wishes,
Pres and Lady One

Ghost Writing

Not exactly paranormal but relevant anyway. Who was:

'a lonely ghost uttering a truth that nobody would ever hear'?

The author of last issue's mystery quote was Scottish philosopher and (presumably) sceptic Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)

Weim's Weird World

All praise to our beneficent Editor for allowing me such a generous space in which to enthrall and entertain. (*That's two lines wasted - Ed*) Which just about allows me to squeeze in the following gem:

In Oxford, Ohio, it's illegal for a woman to strip off her clothing while standing in front of a man's picture.

Which begs the question, not 'why?' but how do they check up on it and how can I get a job as an inspector? It's good to be back.

Keith Weim

A Series of Northern Reports from **Chris Huff**

Weardale's Ghosts 1: The Bonny Moor Hen at Stanhope: The Most Haunted Pub in Weardale?

In this first article on the Ghosts of the North East of England we visit, as it were, my backyard and venture into Weardale in County Durham. Weardale remains today much as it was in the past, a quiet unobtrusive dale that is rich in both ecological and mineral wealth and for the most part unknown to the British at large. The same applies to the ghosts and folklore of the dale, with "dalefolk" being somewhat secretive about paranormal occurrences. But some tales have filtered out, one of which concerns the Bonny Moor Hen public house in Stanhope's Market Place. The Bonny Moor Hen was the location for an intensive investigation from 1998 to 2001 and an abridged article on the phenomena witnessed there is presented below.

The "Hen" was originally known as the Black Bull Inn, famous for being the establishment kept by Mr Vickers in the Battle of Stanhope. In 1818 the Bishop of Durham's bailiffs had caught the Siddle brothers, both Weardale miners who had been poaching on the Bishop's lands, at St John's Chapel. Poaching was common in the dale for work was periodically scarce, and to get food for their families the miners would be forced to turn poacher. As the bailiffs descended the dale to Stanhope they were followed by a number of Weardale miners, who, learning of the arrest, had assembled at St John's Chapel. It was at Vickers' Inn at Stanhope that the party stopped for the day and where the miners caught up with them. This resulted in a brawl in the kitchen of the Inn. The Battle of Stanhope ended with the bailiffs being scattered and the Siddles temporarily rescued. In a few short years after this event the thatched roof of the Inn caught fire and the Black Bull was consumed. Mr Frederick Fenwick of Stanhope rebuilt the Inn in 1830, and, based upon his "Phoenix in Flames" coat of arms, he renamed it the Phoenix Hotel. This name stayed with the Inn until, towards the end of the 20th Century, it was renamed The Bonny Moor Hen in commemoration of the Battle of Stanhope mentioned above.

Evidence from locals and former landlords strongly suggests that the pub has been haunted for some time. The catalogue of ghostly happenings has included hearing screams from the cellar, beer barrel taps switching themselves off, the sound of someone knocking at the door, unidentified coughing and the sound of someone whistling. The Bonny Moor Hen had, as its most commonly reported occurrence, the phenomena of the beer tap opening on its own, which resulted in about one half of a pint of beer pouring into the drip tray beneath. This has not happened since the beer taps were changed from an electric switch to a hand-operated lever. No longer having a problem with beer taps being opened, the mischievous behaviour has been transferred to the soft drinks device in the cellar. This has been found, on a number of occasions when no soft drinks have issued from the dispensers at the bar, to have all the pipes mysteriously disconnected.

Objects in the pub have gone missing, only to later mysteriously re-appear. In the back bar this happened to the 6-inch long cylindrical plug in the glass washer. Following an intensive search the missing plug was eventually located, back in the glass washer although this was the first place that everybody had looked. Another incident, again in the back bar,

occurred when darts were taken out of the glass, where they are usually kept, to replace their flights. Using the bar top to rest the darts on, one of them managed to roll off the bar and fell to either the shelf below or to the floor beneath. Despite a search the dart was not found until it later re-appeared back in the glass.

The pub can claim to have a number of long term residents, for ghostly figures have been seen in the area of the downstairs passageway and dining room at the end of the lounge. These un-paying guests have only usually been seen late at night after closing time. On one occasion a male figure was seen crossing the lounge doorway although the lounge was empty at the time. On another late night occasion, this time during the Stanhope festival, a second sighting of a solid black shape, about 6 ft in height, was seen to walk around the far corner from the bar and enter into the kitchen. A visitor to the Bonny Moor Hen has seen the apparition of an old woman sitting in one of the chairs in the area where the above apparitions were observed. But it is not only human figures which have been witnessed in the building, for a large black dog has been seen in the corridor upstairs.

The phenomena witnessed at the Hen have included the following examples of paranormal phenomena, the list is not the complete range demonstrated:

Screams from the cellar.
Barrel taps switching themselves off.
Knockings at the door.
Coughing.
Whistling.
The soft drinks "Postmix" device was often found in the mornings to have had all the pipes disconnected.
Lights turned on by an unseen presence.
Pool table messed with by invisible entity.
Hoover turned off at the wall socket; once plug physically removed.
A darts trophy launched itself from a shelf located high on the wall of the back bar.
Invisible hand, rubbing slowly up and down right arm of barmaid.
A haunted bedroom (no 3): guests complain of broken nights sleep and a sense of general unease.
As waitress watched a tin of cream in kitchen was moved by an invisible entity.
Coffee maker turned off but within 15 minutes the machine had turned itself back on.
Lastly in this list, apparitions have been seen.

A visiting psychic has commented upon the presences that she felt in an upstairs room, the cellar and the dining area that was formerly the kitchens. In the lounge, the current landlady, has commented upon the sudden drop in temperature that she often feels, which she described as: "*As though someone has stood behind you*"

The Bonny Moor Hen is clearly the most haunted pub in Weardale, unless of course, any of you readers know differently. I would be pleased to receive communication either via the usual ASSAP channels or alternatively Email me at Christopher@Huff1048.freeseve.co.uk.

Chris Huff, County Durham

Chris Huff is currently working as a Theatre Nurse while saving toward the cost of a part-time PhD in archaeology. To this end he recently bought a Triumph motorcycle and uses it to visit allegedly haunted sites in the north-eastern counties. His research interests include archaeology, riding motorcycles, documenting haunted locations in the Northeast and Kent and, of course, drinking Real Ale.

Conference Report

A Unique Contemporary Investigation of a Reputed Haunting

Val Hope



Muncaster Castle - photo: Val Hope

Trailblazing Dr Jason Braithwaite and ASSAP's Northern Group are showing the way forward for investigators of hauntings. For over ten years now, the team has been gathering evidence at Muncaster Castle in Cumbria. They have conducted interviews, carried out research *in situ* and organized vigils to get to the bottom of what is happening.

What makes this case unique is that the owners have given Jason sole access to the witnesses and the on-site database of strange experiences. The Muncaster case has therefore not been contaminated and promises major revelations about what lies behind reports of hauntings.

Painstaking preparations have resulted in a scientific protocol for investigating a haunting in its natural setting. The long-term project is expected to reveal similarities and differences in reported experiences over time, which may have a sociological or cultural explanation. As Jason asked at the conference, where have all the Grey Ladies gone?

Jason's presentation examined common ideas about ghosts. These included the notion that some component of ghosts might exist externally, thus allowing them to be photographed; the concept of the hallucination, which suggests that the truth might lie in the brain; and the interactive account, in which an external component triggers an experience. The study of apparitions may lead us to revise our current notions of how the world works.

Jason pointed out that many famous haunting cases had been compromised beyond the level of usefulness. A good example of how not to do it was Borley. Decades after the destruction of the Rectory, heated discussion still raged about the events and protagonists. By restricting the number of investigations and controlling media exposure, it should be possible to distinguish between the truth and anecdotal evidence.

Do strange experiences need a strange explanation?

The Muncaster Paranormal Conference also acted as a showcase for MADS, a new kit developed by Jason in collaboration with ASSAP's Maurice Townsend and other scientists. ASSAP also made a financial contribution towards the purchase of the equipment, which is described in more detail in the next issue of *Anomaly*.

In Jason's laboratory at Birmingham University's Behavioural Brain Sciences Centre he has access to the sort of equipment most ASSAP researchers can only dream of. Using brain scans, he can examine questions such as what changes occur in the brain during an altered state of consciousness and what stays the same. Electromagnetic fields induced in the laboratory have been seen to cause a shift in the neurophysiology of the brain and a shift in consciousness. At the conference, Jason showed slides of his own brain being zapped by magnetic fields to induce haunting-type experiences.

However, it is the effect of naturally produced electromagnetic fields on the brain that lies at the centre of MADS research. Jason believes that people genuinely have strange experiences and that these are worth investigating seriously. Researchers need to examine whether there might be environmental factors specific to 'haunted' locations. It might turn out that there is some truth to the link between the full moon or thunderstorms and ghostly experiences. The lesson is to take legends seriously, but not literally! Looking at



Jason Braithwaite at work - photo: Val Hope

the individual, there might be something about the neural mechanisms in the brain of people reporting strange experiences that can shed light on the phenomena.

Jason gave several explanations for how electromagnetic fields might influence the brain, involving cause and effect in enough permutations to satisfy the entire ASSAP membership. However, the important thing was to follow the scientific protocol in order to gather the evidence.

The idea that haunted locations might be magnetically remarkable relative to baseline locations is not new, but it is only recently that equipment has become available for field-testing ideas from the laboratory. Most current devices cannot do the job, and these include trifield meters and industrial devices that cover powerline frequencies. Jason consulted widely to identify sensors that would do the trick, and you can read more about the choice of equipment in *Anomaly*.

The aim of the research over the years has been to identify hotspots at Muncaster. There has been a certain amount of trial and error as the techniques have been refined. Although many events get blamed on the ghost of jester Tom Fool, many actual witness accounts tell of the sound of a child crying in the Tapestry Room. For that reason the MADS equipment is to be set up in that room to see what readings change when things go bump in the night and look for ghosts among the 'noise'.

The other presentations

Although the Muncaster conference acted as a showcase for MADS, there were a number of speakers in addition to Jason.

ASSAP President Lionel Fanthorpe drove 300 miles with First Lady Pat to deliver a wide-ranging talk on past investigations. And he confessed that he would have driven 600 miles to listen to Jason. Lionel and Pat have an impressive 40 years of investigations under their belt, visiting sites and interviewing witnesses. Serendipity has made a major contribution to their results: *en route* to Rennes-le-Château in France they stopped off at Glozel near Vichy where they bumped into the original witness involved in a controversial case decades earlier. Arguments had raged over the authenticity of the finds in a hole that Emile Fradin's cow had



The hole the cow fell into was this big...Photo: Peter Frost-Pennington

fallen into. Lionel and Pat came to the conclusion that Emile was no fraud. Since their visit, techniques to date pottery fragments have proven that Emile could not have forged them.

Professor Archie Roy examined 'Overshadowing, Obsession and Possession'. Overshadowing often went under the name of inspiration, as claimed by artists and musicians. Writer George Sand described the difficulty experienced by Chopin in getting down the music that he heard, while Robert Louis Stevenson dreamt the story of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Inspiration revealed the incredible hidden depths of the human mind, where it was the job of the conscious mind to act as amanuensis to the genius. Obsession takes this one step further: a person is obsessed to do something and cannot stop himself. In possession the person's normal personality has disappeared, the body being taken over by another personality that can sometimes be identified. This is an explanation of awesome proportions - where is the original occupant of the body? And where has the new occupant been in the interim between his or her death and re-appearance in a new body?

Tricia Robertson, a colleague of Archie Roy's in the Scottish Society for Psychical Research, talked about her favourite subject, Survival. She and Archie were both founding members of PRISM (Psychical Research Involving Selected Mediums) and have jointly published three peer-reviewed papers on evidence for survival. Their repeatable experiment involved 700 participants. This test of mediumship used a quadruple-blind protocol and produced evidence that good mediums can give relevant information. However, the messages did not prove survival. Tricia also referred back to Archie's presentation, discussing the 'lid off' moment that precedes the main event, e.g. a case where a person was poisoned by a snake, 'died' and then was possessed, or poltergeist cases where the experimenter is unhappy and then the strange things happen. An important question was what allowed the intrusion in these cases but prevented it in others.

Philip Mantle gave a slide show on 'Alien Abductions in the UK', with material taken from 20 years' experience as a UFO researcher. He also discussed his involvement in the infamous alien autopsy film. This footage purports to show an autopsy of an alien from a UFO crash at Roswell in the USA. It came to light a few years ago and has been the subject of claims and counterclaims, as well as attempts to replicate the footage using special effects and models.

Dr Hugh Pincott, founder member and currently Chairman of ASSAP, emphasized the importance of amateur research in our field and made the audience examine their 'boggle threshold'. Just where in the examination of the evidence do you accept that something is 'paranormal'? We are all vulnerable to manipulation, and unlikely FOF stories seem more likely to be genuine if we know the witness. Hugh tested our responses with a number of stories, adding information on the reliability of the characters involved in the events and seeing what it would take to persuade us of their veracity.

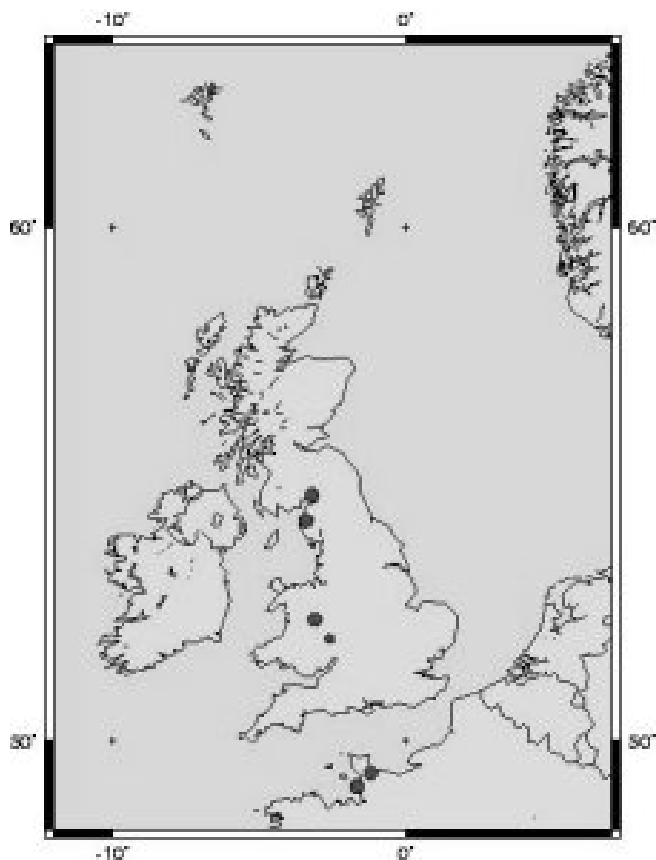
Val Hope is currently trying to bring some sort of order to the ASSAP press clippings collection but if you do have any clippings of interest she would still like to hear from you.



Despite giving an excellent talk Lionel failed the audition for the role of Harry Potter...
Photo: Peter Frost-Pennington

The Reference Spot

Recent UK Seismic Activity



Date	Time	Lat	Long	Depth (Miles)	Mag	Location
04/06/21	15.22	54.568	-3.435	5.8	1.1	Cleator Moor, Cumbria
04/06/21	06.05	49.034	-1.659	5.3	1.4	Off Cherbourg Peninsula
04/06/21	00.44	55.118	-3.211	4.5	1.5	Lockerbie, D&G
04/06/11	23.01	52.202	-2.606	6.5	0.7	Leominster, Her&Wor
04/06/04	11.49	49.329	-1.243	14.3	1.8	Cherbourg Peninsula
04/05/29	10.17	52.642	-3.148	13.1	1.3	Welshpool, Powys

This data courtesy of the British Geological Survey
 - more recent information is available from
<http://www.quakes.bgs.ac.uk/recbrit.html>

Solar Terrestrial Activity Index

Lunar Phases

July 2004:

Full Moon	2nd
Last Quarter	9th
New Moon	17th
First Quarter	25th
Full Moon	31st

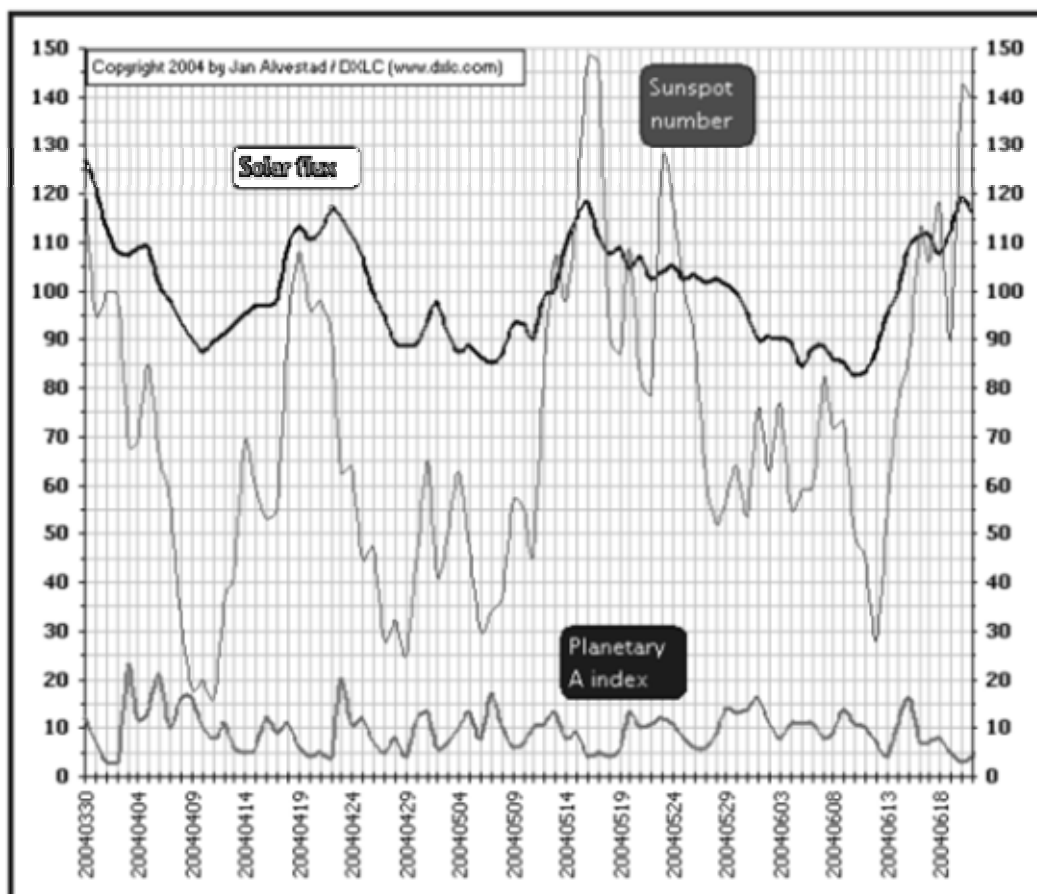
August 2004:

Last Quarter	7th
New Moon	16th
First Quarter	23rd
Full Moon	30th

Note the 'Blue Moon' on July 31st (although see

skyandtelescope.com/observing/objects/moon/article_127_2.asp

for arguments on that score) and don't forget the Perseid meteor shower for two weeks in August centred on the 21st.



What's On and Groups

If you would like your group or event listed here please contact us via the PO Box or send an email to assapnews@assap.org. Please send details in as early as possible as many notices are received too late to be included.

NB. It will help event organizers if you enclose an SAE when sending for extra details. ASSAP accepts no responsibility for late changes to venues, speakers, etc.

Alister Hardy Society (Chesterfield/Northern Group)

The group meets roughly once a month in Chesterfield, Derbyshire for informal discussions on all and any aspects of 'religious' experience. These aspects are often not explicitly religious, sometimes being labelled as 'spiritual', 'transcendental', 'psychic', etc. Past topics have included spirit communication via automatic writing and Near-Death Experiences.

If interested please contact Mike Rush on 07790 757955 or at mike@oddcity.fsnet.co.uk for further info and details of the next meeting.

London Earth Mysteries Circle (LEMC)

LEMC meets in the Meeting Room at the Diorama Centre, 34 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1, beginning at 7.00 pm. Wheelchair access. Fees: £2 for members, £3 for non-members, concessions £2.50. Tubes: Great Portland Street, Regent's Park or Warren Street. LEMC address for all communications: Rob Stephenson, PO Box 1035, London, W2 6ZX. Or email at lemc@ic24.net, and visit the website at www.lemc.ic24.net/

CPSG (Chesterfield Psychic Study Group)

August 13th Alien Contacts - Talk on Interpretations & Possibilities by Clive Ellis

September 10th Magic Numbers - Talk on Numerology by Arthur Norris

Chesterfield Psychic Study Group (CPSG) meets at the Community Centre, Tontine Road, Chesterfield. For further details, tel (01246) 221971 or visit www.cpsg.co.uk.

ParaScience

Meetings are held on the first working Monday of each month at Bebington Civic Centre on the Wirral, North-West England. Meeting commences 8:00pm. Further details from www.parascience.org.

BUFORA

All lectures are held in the 1st floor function suite of the Sols Arms public house, 65-68 Hampstead Road, Euston, London NW1 2PN - 3:00pm till 6:30pm. Tickets, which can be purchased at the door and include a mid-lecture buffet, are £5 for members, and £7 for all others.

Contact address: B.M. BUFORA, London WC1N 3XX. www.bufora.org.uk

Ghost Club: All lectures take place at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF. This is at the southern end of Edgware Road and the nearest tube is Marble Arch - just 5-10 minutes' walk. Talks are free to Ghost Club members and £2.50 for non-members. The talks start at 7.00pm. Visit their website at www.ghostclub.org.uk for details of future events.

Parasearch is a Midlands ASSAP regional group covering Worcestershire, Shropshire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands. For more details visit: www.parasearch.org.uk, telephone 0121 550 8874 / 0776 1184837 or send an SAE to Parasearch, 15 Brier Mill Road, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 3HA.

SPI (Strange Phenomena Investigations)

Meetings are held at The Sols Arms, 65-68 Hampstead Road, London, NW1 2PN at 3:30pm. Admission £6.50 for non-members.

July 31st Philip Mantle - Alien Autopsy

August 28th Nick Pope - Inside the Project

September 25th Chris Everard - Secret Space: Unseen UFO footage.

For further details contact: Malcolm Robinson, 8 Hale Gardens, Ealing Common, London, England, W3 9SQ. Tel: 07949 178 835 or email spi_spi@hotmail.com or visit www.spiuk.net.

MARA (Merseyside Anomalies Research Association) meets monthly (usually last Friday of month) in the Ship & Mitre Function Room, 7.30 p.m. onwards. The pub is in Liverpool city centre, at 133 Dale Street, near the Old Tunnel entrance. Parking opposite the venue. There's an admission charge of £2.50 to cover the cost. Contact MARA at 18a Parkfield Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 8UJ.

Email: tonyeccles@yahoo.com.

Or ring: Anthony Eccles on 0151 727 4057

TEMS is an ASSAP-affiliated social and research group for those living in the south-east, generally meeting in Hampton. For details of membership or the current programme call Ann Hopkins on 020 8542 3110 or Lionel Beer on 020 8979 3148 or write to TEMS, 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2QY.

Mercia Fortean is a new group conducting investigations into Ghosts, Fortean Phenomena, Big Cats, Folklore, etc, in the Shropshire, Herefordshire & Mid Wales areas. Meetings to take place on the first Monday of the month. Details from Gareth Goodwin 07753 473028 or by email to gareth@goodwin5918.freemove.co.uk

SPR (Society for Psychical Research)

September 9th Evidence for Survival - Guy Lyon Playfair
Details from SPR at: 49 Marloes Road, Kensington, London W8 6LA. Telephone & Fax: 020 7937 8984. www.spr.ac.uk

Essex UFO and Paranormal Research Group

For details contact Keith on 01255 426274

www.esse-x-files.org.uk

August 4th Ghosts - Phil Wilders

September 1st Ghosts - Mark Bell

October 6th How Your Heart Connects to the Universe - Andrew Cook

Mysteries of the World Monthly Meetings

Held on the last Friday of the month at Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes, Wilts. For details email k.blower@btinternet.com or telephone 07761 241276.

Dorset Earth Mysteries Group

All talks are in the Friends Meeting House, Wharncliffe Road, Boscombe at 7:15pm. Entrance £3.00

And, just for those of you who can afford it...

The Fifth World Skeptics Congress. October 8-10, 2004 Teatro Congressi "Pietro d'Abano", Abano Terme (Padua-Venice), Italy. If anyone wants to offer to sponsor me I'll happily force myself to go along and write up a report.

Reminder:

If you haven't already done so please remember to fill in and return the talent trawl sheet!