



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

Issue 107 July 2005

Ghostfest & APIS: A Conference Pair?

Ex-NIC Mike Lewis Reports from Ghostfest '05:

Ghostfest '05 took place on June 4th in a distant corner of Warwickshire, accessible only by car from the nearby motorway exit, and I had therefore given up any hope of attending. However, the diligent secretary of APIS, Carol Greenall, invited me to fill a last minute vacancy helping to man Nigel Brockwell's Brotronics stall and I eagerly stepped into the breach. The venue was the Heritage Motor Museum which had a wide range of facilities for visitors. The stallholders provided an eye opener for me, as I had not realised there were now so many commercial ventures catering for ghosthunters, ranging from EMF meters at a reasonable price to nights in haunted locations and psychic party evenings. While some of us



Flying the flag... Photo: M Lewis

may bemoan the cost of such activities and the lack of an objective, scientific approach, it nevertheless does indicate an upsurge of interest in parapsychology which overall must be a good thing.

A series of lectures was offered in an adjacent hall, although I was rather puzzled as to why attendees had to sit behind rows of unoccupied reserved seats. These seemed to be aimed at newcomers, rather than the old hands who comprised most of the audience.

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APIS (the Anglia Paranormal Investigation Seminar) took place in Biggleswade Leisure Centre on May 28th. Rather than being a commercial exhibition APIS consisted of a morning of talks from various speakers including Denny Lock and Iris King on why they believe preparing a psychic defence is crucial before any investigation, ASSAP Chairman Mike White on perception and, undoubtedly star of the show, self-styled Dream Detective Chris Robinson.



A Damien O'Dell seminar on hauntings.
Photo: M White

Chris's impromptu talk, not the one he had originally been planning to deliver apparently, was a wonderful mix of invective and serious comment and covered some of the less-savoury aspects of skeptical (sic) scientists 'investigating' the paranormal. Chris is a lively and engaging speaker and he touched on irregu-

(Continued on page 3)



Denny Lock teaches psychic defence.
Photo: M White

Editorial

Mike White

Coincidences are curious things, they spring up around us almost as if trying to shake us out of our preconceived notions of how the world works, pointing out that *sometimes stuff like that just happens, ok?* Although synchronicity is the accepted term for this kind of thing, I tend to refer to coincidences that affect me personally as *ideosynchronicity*, a cosier and more personal form of interaction with the forces of probability, chance and my own personal psychological delusions.

This issue of ASSAP News falls somewhere between the general and the personal. For example Lionel's President's Piece mentions Raudive Voices and strange electronic phenomena. Not unusual perhaps except that, almost as if it had been planned Paranormal Awakening, an ASSAP-affiliated group from Staffordshire, are launching a major research project into EVP-type phenomena such as Raudive Voices. All in the same issue as NRC Hugh Pincott explains our new Research initiatives. Not planned (wot me? Hardly) but timely nonetheless.

All of which is eventually leading up to a serious point. (Sorry, anyone after a light-hearted editorial had better try again next issue.) At last year's AGM at Woodchester Mansion one member asked why ASSAP didn't organise more events and activities for members. The answer is simply that we do our best with limited resources. As a nationwide association it is difficult to organise events which more than a small percentage of the membership can attend, hence the listing of local groups on the back page of ASSAP News which I hope will allow members the opportunity to meet others in their geographical area. Of course there are honourable exceptions; Training Day and UnConvention are our regular two of course but I could also mention the site visit to the Ancient Ram Inn earlier this year and previous Research Days. Incidentally, we are also planning a 25th Anniversary event next year so watch this space for details.

However, don't forget that ASSAP also has an active research arm which Hugh discusses later in this issue. A few months ago James Clark ran a dream experiment for example and results were published in AN 106. Sadly, despite calls for ASSAP to do more to involve the membership the actual number of people who took part was disappointingly low.

Anyway, I don't want to lecture (not without a fee anyway), just please, please, remember ASSAP is only as good as **you** make it. Not everyone is interested in running experiments but taking part can be surprisingly good fun, especially if someone else has done the hard work beforehand! So, please go straight to page 5, contact P.A. and get involved with their experiment. Let's run them ragged and overload the post. And then we will really have something interesting to talk about next year.

Write for ASSAP

No, not another initiative from Bob Geldof but a plea for material for ASSAP News and Anomaly. ASSAP publications tend to be filled with contributions from a dedicated and talented group of ASSAP members - but a small one! Come on, give the usual crowd a break (after all they deserve it) and send me random articles, book reviews, comments, letters, abuse... Well, perhaps not the abuse as I get plenty of that already. Anomaly, as our journal of record is always looking for articles detailing research or investigations, either theoretical or practical, see any issue for further details.

See your name in print: you know it makes sense.

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.

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You can log in to the ASSAP website members area with the username 'ASSAP' and the password 'haunted'

The Fanthorpe Column

Like the majority of ASSAP friends and colleagues, we find ourselves working with several computer kits – one we use for our tutorial work, another for re-researching and writing our books and articles. Some are in our two home-based offices; others are



in outside work locations: all are slightly different – some seem much tamer, more tractable and user-friendly than others. Just occasionally one of them gives vent to a series of demoniacal laughs, and/or the very loud mewing of what sounds like a cat that's just been trodden on accidentally. It actually happened about five minutes ago as we started to put this ASSAP article together. Some words of Thomas Alva Edison sprang to mind:--

If personality exists after what we call death . . . if we can evolve an instrument so delicate as to be affected . . . by our personality as it survives in the next life . . . such an instrument ought to record something.

Edison said that back in 1920, and recording technology has moved on commendably since then!

The next big step was made by Friedrich Jürgenson who apparently recorded a lot more than the bird-song he set out to get when he left his tape-recorder out in 1959. His *Voices from the Universe* published in 1964, contained some very interesting evidence for the apparent existence of inexplicable 'voices'. Professor Hans Bender, a leading parapsychologist in Germany got interested, as did the famous Latvian psychologist Konstantin Raudive. He, of course, bequeathed his name to whatever the weird phenomena really are.

So back to square one, and the wild laughter/ injured cat noises erupting in their Raudivesque way from our computers. We've hit them with Trojan removers, assorted spyware, computer washing and bleaching kits of the most reputable and recommended types – and still laughing boy and his injured feline companion reverberate from the speakers.

Two points to conclude:-- Have any other ASSAP friends had either of these two computer noises, and

have you found a virus-cleaning programme that will silence them? Are the Raudive voices, perhaps, what Edison thought of so long ago? If they are, another ASSAP investigation in that area might be a very good idea!

Best wishes to all and happy investigating,

Lionel and Patricia
(Pres and Lady One)

Editor's Note: Naturally, an AI has been assigned to this case and hopes to do some investigating as soon as Lionel and Patricia's schedule allows. Watch this space?

(Continued from page 1)
APIS.

larities in recent studies of Natasha Demkina ('The Girl with X-Ray Eyes') and firewalking as well as his own trip to Arizona to be tested for abilities in remote viewing and precognition. Chris has clearly become badly disillusioned by some of the current directions in paranormal research but I was pleased to hear that he is not opposed to a genuine and open-minded scientific approach to the unexplained. After all, that is what ASSAP is all about!

After an excellent lunch the afternoon was given over to a series of seminars on such varied topics as psychic defence techniques, electronic monitoring equipment, remote viewing and signs to look for if you suspect your house is haunted. I noticed that the psychic's corner was most crowded throughout which perhaps reflects the nature or interests of the attendees but I was also pleased to see that a significant number of visitors were interested in EMF and motion-detection equipment produced by Nigel Brockwell of Brotronics. My main regret was that I couldn't attend all of the seminars...

The APIS event was aimed at a general audience but was also intended to act as a forum for local groups to network and share experiences. Certainly most of those present were members of the public with nothing more than a casual interest in the subject but there were enough serious researchers (not to mention substantial numbers from APIS - the group - as well) to ensure that APIS (the event) succeeded on both levels.

I must congratulate everyone involved in the conference, especially when one considers that this was a purely locally-organised conference as both the organisation and execution were excellent. Event organiser Damien O'Dell is already planning APIS #2 for 2006: if you are in the area I can wholeheartedly recommend attending.

MW

Research Update

National Research Co-ordinator Hugh Pincott explains and elaborates on some recent Executive deliberations and initiatives. I have to admit a debt of gratitude to Hugh for this article since had he not undertaken to write it I would have had to. As you will see....

Where good and bad tidings co-exist, many people prefer to hear the bad news first. So here it is. ASSAP subscriptions are to rise by 20% on average with immediate effect, our standard rate becoming £15.00 per annum. The good news is:

- * We didn't have to do it to balance the books
- * The new rates are still below or comparable to those of similar organisations
- * Every penny of the increase is earmarked to underwrite an exciting new research programme with grants available for qualifying individuals or groups

Unlike ASSAP, several societies and organisations in our field have been feeling the financial pinch lately. This year the venerable Society for Psychical Research (SPR) was forced to raise its basic rate by 43% to £60 to make ends meet. For administering 1001 members (ASSAP has 306) staff costs alone totalled £48,000 last year, with considerable additional help from honorary officers too.

Good for nothing

Like the SPR, ASSAP is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, having similar statutory obligations. Yet dealing with these and other necessary functions costs the Association nothing in terms of paid staff, all administration being undertaken by Executive members in their so-called spare time.

Recently I calculated that the three busiest officers (busiest because they usually undertake more than one function) spend 150 hours per year each on ASSAP work - the equivalent of a full-time working month per person. Other less-loaded officers put in between 50 and 100 hours each per year too. Voluntary effort by Executive members totals 1000 hours a year, which does not include time spent at meetings.

It is hard to value drive and commitment, hard to reduce the quality of our administration to mere pounds and pence, and hard to put a price on the sacrifice of time that could be used for more satisfying pursuits. But let me try.

Even at average national earnings of around £15 per hour, the value of Executive time equates to £15,000 per year, but considering the highly professional ser-

vices most officers render, up to £30 per hour might often be more appropriate, leading to an annual charge of - let's be modest - £25,000, or (gasp!) £82 per member. So managing to balance our own finances for every year since 1996 for £11 per member on average really says something. Oh, we have been buying research equipment too, and at the last count had reserves of £6234 as well.

Other organisations in our field have long realised the cost of living in the real world:

SPR	£60 (which does include academic journals)
Ghosts UK	£30
The Ghost Club	£25
BUFORA	£20 for some years now
CCCS	£15

Even some local groups now charge annual membership fee of up to £50!

So why do we need to raise more money? Our Memorandum of Association requires us to:

(a) Promote the advancement of education by obtaining, storing, processing and disseminating information concerning those areas of human experience and observed phenomena for which there is no general explanation at present.

(b) Conduct research and investigations into these phenomena and disseminate the useful results of such for the benefit of the public.

Research

For the last few years we have been building a formidable, highly professional Investigations team to deal with reports of spontaneous cases, culminating with the recent appointments of Bill Eyre as National Investigations Co-ordinator and Dylan Jones as Deputy NIC. In 2004 the Executive set up a special working party to spearhead a similar initiative for systematic research. The result was the establishment of a team structure with myself as National Research Co-ordinator, and Jim Clark as Deputy NRC with special responsibility for protocol.

In principle, we set-up, administer and encourage a range of separate research projects, drawing support from other expertise within the Association as required. Already, Graham White in South Wales is heading a group engaged in looking at novel aspects of dowsing techniques, and plans are being crystallised for the systematic study of the orb phenomenon (codenamed Orbit).

But more than anything, a research grants system will shortly be put in place to assist individuals and groups finance their projects, and that is why we are looking for additional money. Full details of terms and conditions will be published shortly. The chances for revealing some of Nature's tantalising mysteries are almost

boundless. We would be failing in our duty as an educational charity if we did not grasp this opportunity now.

Standing orders

The new rates come into force immediately for new members, and gradually over the next year as renewals come due. Just over one half of us pay by banker's standing order however, which eases administration considerably. As a token of gratitude for this, standing order members will enjoy six months' grace before being invited to complete a new bank mandate when renewal time arrives.

The new rates are:

Ordinary UK membership	£15.00
Concessionary UK rate (i.e. under 21, over 60, student)	£11.00
Joint UK rate	£20.00
Overseas rate	£25.00

We shan't object if anyone wishes to make a special donation earmarked for particular research; for example survival, bilocation, time-travel, and so on, but in the meantime, anything a bit extra for the general research fund would be highly appreciated.

Hugh Pincott - National Research Co-ordinator

Free CD

Sorry about the tag line but it is true... This is a plea for help with a research project.

One of our Affiliated Groups, Staffordshire-based Paranormal Awakening, together with the ASSAP Research Department, are conducting an experiment in audio perception and they are asking for volunteers to take part. Co-ordinator of the experiment, Cherill Penton writes:

'All you have to do is answer some simple personal questions and then listen to a CD and answer a few questions about that. The experiment will be conducted in the strictest confidence and no-one (except myself) will ever know your name or address at any time. Please consider taking part as Britain is now behind the rest of Europe on EVP and other audio-related research.'

Sounds intriguing doesn't it? If you would like to take part, please e-mail Cherill at susan.penton1@btinternet.com with your name and address. She will then send out your questionnaire and CD, together with a stamped self-addressed envelope. *This experiment will cost you nothing* and only a few minutes of your time. I have seen an outline of Cherill and Stefan's experiment and it looks like fun as well as being very professionally organised.

Thank you!

Just a Thought

I have a growing concern for the future of what, for the want of a better term, I am going to refer to as this hobby of ours. Perhaps I am being a bit melodramatic or maybe I am a lone voice in the wilderness but I am starting to have a genuine concern that our hobby is doomed.

The reasons are mainly twofold. First, the proliferation of groups in recent years. Ten years ago when we formed Para.Science there were but a handful of groups around here and not exactly that many around the country. A recent count using the web shows that we now have over 30 (!) groups within a 25 mile radius of Liverpool and over 700 nationwide. A quick scan of a selection of their sites reveals a wide variability in the standard of investigation being offered and some very strange - perhaps even bizarre claims being made for the results. The use of the word 'Science' is noteworthy by many - and for many that means they have a basic EMF meter (or ghost detector as many claim!). Very few even demonstrate the most basic understanding of the rules of physics let alone portray a knowledge of current research methods and practices.

The second concern is perhaps the most depressing - the fact that so many once free venues are now charging for nights spent there. This seems a function of the number of groups offering a 'Fright Night' or 'become an investigator in a single night' experiences - and charging often ludicrous amounts of money for the privilege. Thus now, around here and also nationwide, we have noticed that small pubs and similar venues with barely a ghost to call their own are now asking and getting several hundred pounds for people to spend the night... A local pub we have visited a number of times now wants £200 for us to return and copyright on all images and audio we record. The reason quoted...we got that much off a couple of other groups so it must be worth it...

We now have Conferences, Fests galore too - even comps for the Best Orb or Best EVP.

Perhaps ASSAP needs to move to show the public that there are paranormal investigators and there are paranormal investigators - perhaps introduce some sort of approval scheme or even a 'regulated trade body'.

I have read several times where investigators have placed cameras, etc into children's bedrooms; how long will it be before we get a headline "Paranormal Pervert in Kid's Room Scare"?

I am genuinely concerned that this hobby is being destroyed, that the hard work and dedication of some groups is being undermined by this new wave of investigators. PS have been trying to raise this issue for some time but with no apparent effect. Perhaps ASSAP has the clout and 'cred' to be able to tackle this threat to our hobby.

Or perhaps I am being a bit paranoid.

Wonder what you and others think?

Steve Parsons

The traditional sceptics versus believers debate was not well received, as entrenched combatants hurling missiles at each other achieves nothing, unlike the objective approach favoured by most researchers.

The most valuable aspect of the event was undoubtedly the networking which went on among researchers, many of whom were able to renew old acquaintances. Of particular value to me was a discussion about the merits of different types of equipment for EVP, which culminated in a diagram being drawn by Nigel for another researcher to build! One ASSAP member in conversation with someone she had never met received guidance as to her future spiritual path which she found intriguing and intends to follow up. Links were made with other groups, and invitations to various vigils exchanged. All good stuff!

On the down side, Nigel and I were not best pleased to be located opposite a rock band which broke into a deafening cacophony at various points, ending any networking (not to mention lost sales opportunities) and even disturbing the lectures.

As a launch event Ghostfest demonstrated a need for this kind of Researchers Moot. Those suffering from tinnitus will be glad to learn that the rock band will not feature at next year's event, as the organisers have accepted our (polite) suggestion that light background music would be more appropriate. Given that this event is not really aimed at the general public, the lectures need to be rather meatier, which does not necessarily indicate a big name speaker, as researchers presenting their findings or demonstrating specialised equipment would be of great interest. The value of networking needs to be emphasised in the publicity, as this is the major benefit for most attendees.

Michael Lewis

Editor's Note: Thanks to everyone else who commented on Ghostfest. In the interests of balance I should say that over-all reviews were generally positive!

Ghost Writing

The story from last issue was 'Ghost' written by Henry Kuttner in 1943.

This time I have a quote which (just perhaps) expresses the reasons why some observers become so sceptical after years of being involved in paranormal research. But who said:

'Like all dreamers, I mistook disillusionment for truth.' ?

Answer next time. But no prize.

Spooky-Bay

More eBay madness, a genuine theory or an excuse to flog off stuff 'rescued' from hapless punters? Only you can decide... I have included pretty much all of the text to highlight both the contradictions and the ethical issues I think this raises. Text is as found.

HAUNTED ANTIQUE SPOON, IT MOVES, ACTIVE GHOST



Current bid: US
\$18.00

Item location:
Houston, Texas

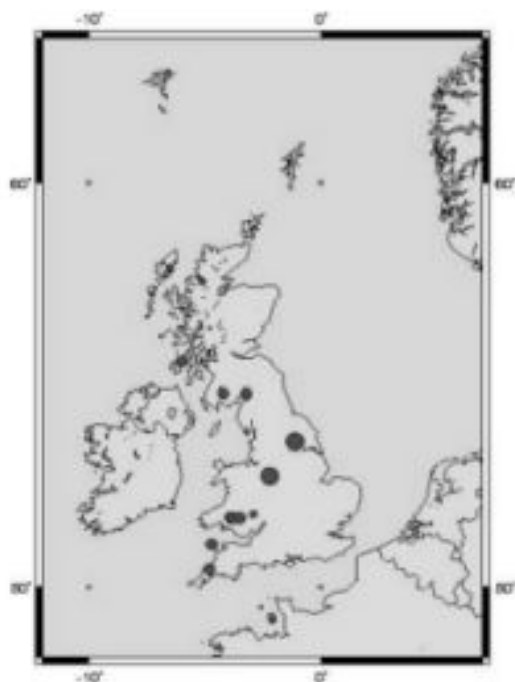
United States

Ghost and spirits can both move objects. When ghosts move objects, the intention is not malicious. They sometimes do it to get the attention of the living, but not always. Ghosts will move objects as subtle reminders of their presence. They might also move an object, like a piece of furniture, because it makes the room look more like it did when they were alive. Ghosts may move around pieces of their favorite jewelry or common household items. There are spirits that can pose as a ghost and move life-like objects such as dolls, stuffed animals, or figurines. Spirits do this type of object moving for the sole purpose of attempting to trick the living into believing that the object is alive or possessed. Dolls can be posed a particular way or continuously moved to different locations to give the impression that they are moving under their own control. This is never the case. Inanimate objects cannot be alive or possessed by a spirit or ghost. ... Typically malicious spirits will disguise themselves as the ghost of children claiming to be inside a doll. Again, this is because the living are much more likely to communicate with the lonely, lost ghost of a child than a spirit. The spirit plays on the feelings of human compassion to get recognition, which will give them power. The more recognition they receive from the living, the more power they get to influence the environment. Eventually, with enough recognition, the spirit can take on poltergeist-like attributes and begin moving other household objects, manipulating electrical devices, and influencing the dreams of the living. Most of the time when I am called into situations like this it is too late. ... The first thing I do is remove the object that seems to be causing the problems. I Destroy it if necessary. When the objects are removed and the recognition stops, it is usually only a matter of time before the power of the spirit diminishes and they look elsewhere for individuals to gain recognition. I have been a professional psychic since 1977 ... this is very interesting, it's an antique spoon from a haunted Texas estate, when I first walked into the estate this spoon stood up on it's end in the kitchen, this ghost can manipulate this spoon, as a psychic I communicated with her and she said she had used it for years... she is harmless but will move this from time to time... her apparition appears late night in the kitchen, she has a connection to it... using it will draw her attention... see my other items, she is harmless and will be a gaurdian figure...

Photo and text courtesy of eBay site www.ebay.com

The Reference Spot

Recent UK Seismic Activity



Date	Lat	Long	Depth (Mi)	Mag	Location
08/06/2005	53.03	-2.199	2.8	2.6	STOKE-ON-TRENT
08/06/2005	53.933	-1.066	4.6	2.4	YORK
07/06/2005	55.089	-4.199	3.9	1.4	NEW GALLOWAY, D+G
06/06/2005	55.123	-3.211	4.1	1.2	LOCKERBIE, D+G
05/06/2005	51.962	-2.894	12.1	0.8	HEREFORD
31/05/2005	55.929	-5.963	5	1.8	ISLE OF JURA
30/05/2005	51.191	-4.703	21.5	1.7	LUNDY
26/05/2005	58.096	-6.484	2.6	0.9	LEWIS
23/05/2005	50.512	-4.809	6.4	1.2	WADEBRIDGE, CORNWALL
22/05/2005	57.838	-5.066	8.2	0.9	ULLAPOOL, HIGHLANDS
21/05/2005	49.131	-2.12	9.2	0.7	JERSEY
21/05/2005	51.908	-3.864	11.4	1.4	LLANDEILO, DYFED
21/05/2005	51.899	-3.857	10.4	1.2	LLANDEILO, DYFED
20/05/2005	51.894	-3.843	10.9	1.3	LLANDEILO, DYFED
20/05/2005	51.916	-3.539	17.7	1	SENNYBRIDGE, 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 2005:

New Moon 6th
 First Quarter 14th
 Full Moon 21st
 Last Quarter 28th

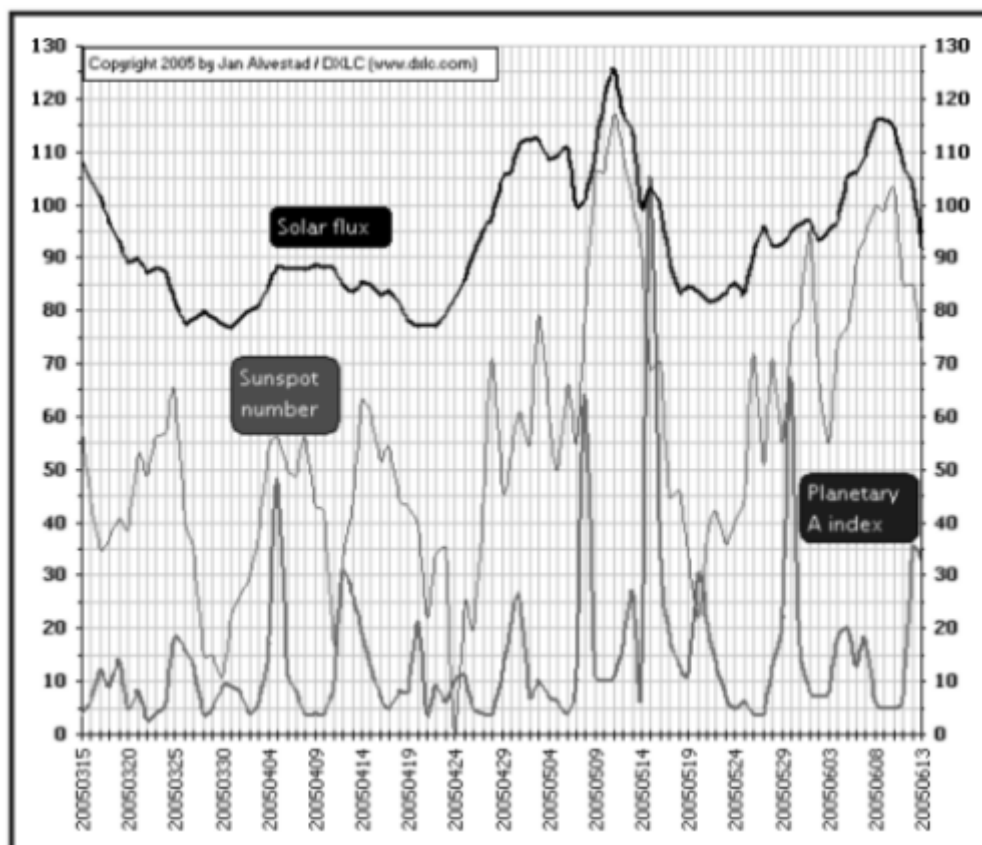
August 2005:

New Moon 5th
 First Quarter 13th
 Full Moon 19th
 Last Quarter 26th

Astronomical Events

The moon will be just squeezing past Jupiter on July 13th which should be impressive if nothing else. It then repeats the whole process a month later on August 10th.

Main meteor shower of the year, the Perseids, will be visible in mid-August, peaking on the night of August 12th.



What's On and Groups

Have we missed you out? Are your details wrong? Send your groups and events details to

assapnews@assap.org today...

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 7.00pm. Wheel-chair 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 12th *Flower Sentience* - talk by Mr & Mrs Patterson
September 9th *Speaker TBA*

Chesterfield Psychic Study Group (CPSG) meets at 7.15pm in the Community Centre, Tontine Road, Chesterfield. For further details, tel (01246) 221971 or visit www.cpsg.co.uk.

Para.Science

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.

August 12th *From Believer to Sceptic, a Life in Ghost Research* - talk by ASSAP's very own Paul Lee.

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, 7.30pm onwards. The pub is in Liverpool city centre, at 133 Dale Street, near the Old Tunnel entrance. Admission charge £2.50. Contact MARA at 18a Parkfield Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 8UJ.

Contact tonyeccles@yahoo.com or 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 0208 5449478 or write to TEMS, 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2QY.

May 22nd Bob Brown: The Story of Chanctonbury Ring

Mercia Forteana 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 on 07947 126055 or garethgdn@supanet.com.

SPR (Society for Psychical Research)

Details from SPR at: 49 Marloes Road, Kensington, London W8 6LA. Telephone & Fax: 020 7937 8984. www.spr.ac.uk
Advance Notice: the 29th Annual International SPR Conference will be held Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September 2005 at the University of Bath. For further details contact as above.

Essex UFO and Paranormal Research Group

For details contact Keith on 01255 426274

Dorset Earth Mysteries Group

All talks are in the Friends Meeting House, Wharncliffe Road, Boscombe at 7.15pm. Entrance £3.00

Ghanon

Paranormal group covering The Wirral, Cheshire and North Wales.

Membership is by invitation - contact Kevin Griffiths-Boden (info@ghanon.co.uk) or see www.ghanon.co.uk

Anglia Paranormal Investigation Society (APIS)

APIS meetings are held twice monthly, on the first Wednesday in the month at Baldock Snooker Club in Baldock, Hertfordshire and on the last Thursday in the month at The Five Bells Pub in Cople village, Bedfordshire, both meetings start at 7.30pm. APIS offers both a spiritual and a scientific approach to the investigation of the paranormal. Talk fees are £3.00 for non-members. For further details contact our Secretary: Carol Greenall email: apismail@ntlworld.com or telephone: 01462 490833

Midlands Ghost Research Society

The MGR is an ASSAP-affiliated group operating in the Coventry area. For details email info@tmgrs.co.uk or see www.tmgrs.co.uk.

Paranormal Awakening

PA is an ASSAP-affiliated group operating in the Midlands area. For details contact Stefan Lobuczek on 0121 353 7622 (admin@navigatortm.com) or Cherill Penton 01543 685913 (susan.penton1@btinternet.com) or see www.navigatortm.com.

Since the listing finished on P.A. I'll take the opportunity to ask if anyone saw Cherill Penton featured in a well-known woman's magazine last month?

And so a final thank you for making it all the way to the end of this issue of ASSAP News. Should I be doing anything different? What would you like to see in future issues of AN? Let me know.

And you knew this was coming... Now go back and send off for the free CD!