



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

Issue 108 September 2005

Croeso y Training Day!

This year's Accredited Investigators Training Day will be taking place in the land of the 6 Nations Grand Slam Champions – Wales! This is the first time that it has taken place in Wales, and I can assure you of a true welcome in the hillsides at Margam, which is located just outside of Swansea in South Wales. Set in 1000 acres of glorious parklands, Margam Country Park offers beauty, history, wildlife...

and a few incidents of alleged paranormal activity. It has surprises around every corner, from its impressive Tudor-Gothic style Victorian Castle, the magnificent 18th-Century Orangery and the 12th-Century Chapter House – not to mention the ghosts!

The Castle was built by the Talbot family between 1830-1839, with work continuing on the terraces, outbuildings and lodges into the 1840s. The Talbots were pioneers in the introduction of railways to South Wales and had involved themselves in industrial enterprises, granting numerous leases on their lands for iron and copper works and the extraction of

coal, iron and limestone. The last Talbot of Margam died in 1918, with the estate being left in trust. By order of the Trustees, the contents of Margam Castle were auctioned in 1941. Shortly afterwards, the major part of the estate was sold to local businessmen. Afterwards followed the gradual decay of this once proud edifice, with the lead stripped from its roof by thieves and its interior falling prey to vandals

and the weather. It then became the property of West Glamorgan County Council, but was severely damaged by fire in 1977. However, restoration of the north wing of the castle and outbuildings is largely complete. It will therefore come as some comfort to those who can remember last year's Training Day, that it will be a little warmer inside this year! All that is left for me to say is that

you shall have a wonderful time in the Land of My Fathers, and if you are in any doubt - Y Ddraig Goch ddyry gychwyn!

- Dylan Jones

(See leaflet enclosed for booking details etc. - Ed)



Photo: Dylan Jones

Editorial

Mike White

I'm afraid that this is likely to be a bit of a rushed editorial column this issue since just before I came to the point of writing it I discovered that my wife had run off to start a new life in Spain, managing a beach café with the chap next door apparently. Now obviously I'm not so much concerned about ASSAP News at the moment as worried about who is going to water my plants when I go on holiday next week...

Ah, the old ones are the best ones...

This issue features further details about applications to our Research Grants scheme from NRC Hugh Pincott, who has spent the year since he vacated the ASSAP Chairmanship working feverishly away at a variety of research-related projects. We hope that offering financial research grants will be a way of encouraging scientifically-based research and experimentation into the area of the paranormal as well as promoting ASSAP as a serious body in this area.

While the decision was taken to offer grants to non-ASSAP members if they were to propose interesting and genuine ideas and needed assistance, I would sincerely hope that enough of our existing members would want to take advantage of the scheme to make sure that our investment stayed, as it were, in-house. So, get those requests in, er, asap.

And, to finish on a lighter note, the picture below is a genuine photograph of a new-age shop in Yorkshire which I took on a recent visit. Last issue Steve Parsons wrote about...unprofessional...elements making paranormal research increasingly difficult and perhaps the shop below has hit on a way of discouraging casual visitors. (I have expanded the road sign on the wall just in case.) Would it work for us? Well, don't expect ASSAP to be changing its PO Box any time soon!



EVP Experiment

Paranormal Awakening have asked me to thank all those who have taken part in the audio experiment described in the last ASSAP News. By the way, don't worry if your results are negative as there are NO correct answers – it is an experiment not a competition! For those of you who haven't yet had a go there is now an on-line version at:
<http://evp.linc.ox.ac.uk>.

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

CHAIRMAN: Mike White

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Martyn Taylor

Terry Hewitt

Justin Cowell

Michael Lewis

Steve Parsons

Ian Percy

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

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Website

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

The Fanthorpe Column



The broadcasting side of our work has had the throttle wide open for the past few days – culminating in a fascinating discussion on GMTV with a nun, Sister Mary Michael, about whether it was OK to film *The Da Vinci Code* in Lincoln Cathedral. Sister Mary, a devout traditionalist, held a protest prayer vigil to demonstrate that she didn't think it was OK. While we admire her faith and courage immensely, we disagree with her profoundly. As an academic, liberal theologian, I thought filming in Lincoln Cathedral was fine.

It seemed to us in retrospect that our ASSAP attitude to anomalous phenomena in general is in harmony with my theological stance – and it highlights the gulf between traditionalism and liberalism in all walks of life.

The word *scientific* in our Association's title means that we welcome (and try to apply) the scientific attitude, and – despite all our human failings and shortcomings – we do our best to live by it. The essence of science is to collect and arrange data, to put forward tentative hypotheses that may explain some or all of that data, and then to test those hypotheses as rigorously as we can. Theories that pass all the tests we can think of in our present state of knowledge are eventually promoted to scientific laws and principles. When a theory fails a test, however, it falls by the wayside – like the concept of a flat earth, and the phlogiston theory of early chemistry.

We try to take those scientific weapons with us when we attack apparently anomalous phenomena, and mysteries that are currently classified as unsolved or unexplained.

That's the way that we approach the fascinating *real* problems underlying Dan Brown's excellent *fictional* narrative. We first visited Rennes-le-Château in 1975, and we've been chewing away (with the good old scientific attitude!) at the mystery of Bérenger Saunière's inexplicable wealth ever since. One Rennes theory involves Dan's background ideas of the Priory of Sion as a clandestine society guarding the 'secret knowledge' about Christ's supposed marriage to Mary Mag-

dalene, and their children eventually becoming part of the Merovingian Dynasty. That theory opens a genuine historical mystery that's well worth open-minded, objective investigation.



Science is synonymous with problem solving and progress. Fundamentalism and traditionalism – in any walk of life – lock the doors of enquiry that should always be wide open to fair, honest and open exploration. Accusations of blasphemy and heresy can discourage potential seekers after truth – and that's a great pity. Truth can never be harmed by the most penetrating questions – nor by honest, objective research. The more rigorously truth is scoured and polished by investigation the more brightly it shines.

Pres and Lady One

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Every year, the longest-serving third of the elected members of ASSAP's Executive retire. They are then eligible for re-election. In addition, any Executive members co-opted during the year are also eligible for election. Any Executive member who falls into one of these categories and who does NOT wish to stand for election should tender their resignation to the Chairman.

Any fully paid-up ASSAP members not currently serving on the Executive are also welcome to stand. They should send in a nomination as described below.

You should send in the following details, preferably typewritten, to arrive no later than 31st September 2005. Send to: ASSAP Nominations, ASSAP, PO Box 230, PLYMOUTH, PL1 2ZR.

- 1) your name and address;
- 2) a short account of your interests in the field of anomaly studies (about 75 words), stating why you are a suitable candidate for election to the Executive, including any relevant experience and any previous posts in which you have served on the ASSAP Executive and the ruling bodies of other similar organisations;
- 3) the name, address and signature of your first proposer;
- 4) the name, address and signature of your second proposer;
- 5) a declaration that you are willing to take part in the elections to ASSAP's Executive, signed and dated.

Chairman's Note:

Please do consider putting yourself forward and joining the Executive. Any organisation relies on volunteers willing to help with the various aspects of its management and ASSAP is no exception. The various members of the Executive are a friendly bunch and it really can be both enjoyable and worthwhile. Oh, and one day you might find yourself as ASSAP Chairman – but don't let that put you off!

Conference Report

DPAE: A Conference Triple?

- William Eyre, National Investigations Co-ordinator

ASSAP News (Issue 107) led with 'GhostFest & APIS: A Conference Pair?'. Well, not to be outdone, Liverpool Hope University College obviously decided a conference triple would be more worthwhile by staging 'Developing Perspectives on Anomalous Experience' (dpae) on June 4th (coincident with Ghostfest) at their Everton campus.

The day consisted of a series of presentations by a number of university academics, reporting on their respective research projects. Despite the academic nature of the conference there was a number of amateur psychical researchers in the audience, including some members of ASSAP, and so the level of the presentations was pitched accordingly.

Prof Richard Wiseman led with his research into audience behaviour in darkroom séances. Once the noisy air conditioning had been switched off, the audience were able to hear (and see on video) how easily some people perceive fraudulent activity as being actually paranormal. Of course, proving that some people can be fooled by trickery does not in itself disprove that such phenomena can be produced genuinely.

As the day progressed, a wide range of topics was covered, ranging from Dr Ciaran O'Keeffe's observations on hauntings, through Prof Daryl Bem's demonstration of computerised precognition experiments to Dr Robin Wooffitt's study of the significance of language usage in experimenter / experimentee relationships.

ASSAP AI Dr Simon Sherwood gave a talk on apparitions of black dogs, making the point that although most people associate the term 'apparition' with the ghostly image of a human being, a scientifically valid study of the subject is not complete without including other types of apparition, such as black dogs (known in some areas as 'black shucks' or 'barguests'). Simon provided examples of a 19th-century sighting, in which the dog grew in size, and a 21st-century sighting, in which the dog suddenly disappeared.

As with the Ghostfest and APIS events, the day also provided the opportunity to meet and exchange views and experiences with other like-minded people. All in all, this was a good day out, with the theme of scientifically examining anomalies making a good match with ASSAP's scope.

Cross Correspondences?

Wendy Milner writes:

This hobby of ours...is it doomed? (Steve Parsons, Just a Thought, Issue 107 ASSAP News).

I share your concerns, Steve but I think maybe you're a wee bit paranoid....

Ghost-hunting sounds cool. Not surprisingly, the world and his wife want to do this one, since a style of it has been made popular with the appearance of certain TV programmes and the availability of those programmes with the onset of digital TV.

I think that quite a few of us have had the wind up us regarding the proliferation of ghost hunting groups formed recently which is not indirectly related to this TV programme. With that comes a huge number of 'haunted' venues wishing to jump on the bandwagon, charging extortionate prices for groups who are willing to pay for playing at 'Paranormal Investigators With Scientific Equipment', to the dismay of long-time investigators who previously didn't have to pay a penny for the privilege. It has become a form of entertainment, and the entertainment industry is a vast, many tiered cake and lots of us want a big slice, thank you very much. Remember what happened after the X Files was broadcast? We couldn't move for UFO groups. The difference there (amongst others) was that there was no competing for venues or duplicity because nothing was entirely 'owned' by anyone and there were no charges for using a hilltop.

Without wishing to sound flippant, the phenomenon as I see it here is that there are lots of Most Haunted type fans and only just enough 'haunted' venues to fit them all in – with all the emphasis on the night-long vigil at the moment. Call me a sceptic, but I don't believe that this is necessarily a long-term problem. Our favourite pastime is certainly not all about rigging up huge amounts of expensive equipment in an old historical piece of architecture and waiting until the early hours for some celebrity revenant to show us what it's capable of... is it?

Many of the newbie groups formed in the last couple of years seem generally only to be interested in getting 'the ultimate proof' of something paranormal caught on recording equipment and having, like, an Amazing Experience with an Orb. Much of the time is spent shivering and getting bored... and ultimately, I think they *will* get bored. On a positive note, for those who are worried that their hobby is being destroyed by less than scrupulous self-styled investigators, we can all do something to help, as Steve Parsons suggested in Issue 107.

ASSAP has always prided itself on the training given to

our Accredited Investigators, although as an approval scheme, this is not infallible and never has been. So if people want to form an unassimilated internet group and be an investigator without the training, we may kick up a fuss and criticise all we like, but we can't stop them and they will be autonomous. We need to have the acronym ASSAP synonymous with good and thorough practice. However, as an investigator myself, I'm going to leave the science to the scientists, the photographing to the photographers and carry on with some recording and research.

What we can all do is to encourage interested people to join already established, ASSAP affiliated groups wherein they are educated as to the practices followed by ASSAP members regarding conduct during vigils and encouraged to make reports.

Another useful thing we can do is to help raise the profile of ASSAP and its affiliated groups so that it and they are recognised as professional organisations with many years of collective experience. We don't need to investigate haunted hotels, pubs and country houses for sheer entertainment value or publicity. Can anyone remember what we used to do before the venues started charging £200 or more for the privilege? There were no 'venues'! There were people in pubs, hotels, theatres and houses who seemed to have had experiences. I would suggest that we don't encourage this business by taking the emphasis away from the all night vigil somewhat. There are also many existing events and phenomena which still need researching and as an organisation with the emphasis on education I do believe that this is where we should be concentrating our efforts.

We didn't need the world's best EVP, the orbs on film and a spot on the local news to enjoy the hobby before. Why do we need it now?

Wendy Milner
ASSAP Deputy Chairman and Groups Co-ordinator

Steve Parsons had a few comments to add about the last issue...

Dear Ed.

I must comment on some of Hugh's wise words in the Research Update item in the same recent issue. His addition of an exclamation mark after noting that some groups charge annual membership fees of up to £50 struck a chord as Para.Science charge exactly that amount for annual membership and I would like to briefly explain our reasons so perhaps he can remove the exclamation mark next time...

Initially our membership was free and remained so for the first five years after forming. Membership we noted was strong although the turnover was also extremely high. It seemed that after experiencing one or two nights in 'spooky haunted' places and discovering the mind numbing boredom that objective methodologies demand from the repetitive experiments - they left in

search of more excitement. Also many were unwilling to do anything other than attend investigations, missing meetings, training sessions and anything else that didn't offer the thrill of the hunt.

So, after consulting the membership we decided to make the annual fee high enough to make any prospective new member stop and think and also high enough to make members participate more fully and demand value for their money.

An additional bonus was that we now had extra funds for new research and experimental equipment. Previously the equipment had been provided by one or two more 'obsessed' members! The amount of £50 was agreed by all but in reality we have not yet collected a single penny from any member. Instead we now specify that each member must meet a minimum standard of investigation and personal safety equipment.

The members who purchase these items do not pay the £50 - and so everyone in our team has a usable amount of identical research equipment and that means that we are able to make more meaningful measurements and also that the members themselves make a valuable contribution beyond merely note keeping and observation. Any surplus funds have bought training aids for the team - such as a video projector and also fund monthly training courses and assist with the team's annual week long training 'camp' at a suitably - dare I say - haunted location?

£50 may seem a lot but compare that to the cost for a single night on a Fright Night ghost hunt which can cost over £100 or the cost of other hobbies - golf club membership or football season tickets - and it's really quite cheap.

Since we introduced our £50 annual fee we have a better equipped and better trained team, a more dedicated team and the resources to conduct better investigations.

It may not work for other groups but stinging the troops for £50 has been a good thing for Para.Science - in fact at a recent meeting several of the members suggested that we should consider increasing the fees in future years!!

My exclamation marks...

Steve Parsons
Para.Science

It is always nice to get feedback of any kind... Just prior to publication I received a letter from David Taylor of Parasearch discussing a number of the issues we have seen recently in ASSAP News and raising some further points which I think deserve more space than this issue allows. So, with all due apologies to Dave, I will print his piece next time and, hopefully, the debate will continue. MW

Research Grants Scheme

- More details from NRC, [Hugh Pincott](#)

ASSAP has launched a ground-breaking scheme of research grants which will make funding available to individuals and groups who can submit workable proposals falling within ASSAP's terms of reference. Thanks to the initiative and guidance of Dr Jason Braithwaite, a Research Grants Board has been set up to consider suitable applications. These may be major projects, or funding for smaller efforts costing typically less than £100. The idea is to encourage wider research effort by many small awards. An initial budget of £1000 has been agreed.

In return for such support, researchers undertake to acknowledge ASSAP in any resulting publications, provide a detailed end-of-grant report, and write papers for *Anomaly* or ASSAP News. Peer review of all submissions will ensure rigorous quality. The deadline for major applications is 30 November.

Purpose of grants

Grants could be used for a variety of things, for instance:

- * literature research costs (library, postage, etc)
- * equipment hire
- * expenses
- * overnight investigations
- * expert consultation
- * MADS hire and expenses
- * data analysis
- * conferences, workshops, educational events, training events

Such grants should not necessarily be used for buying equipment as ASSAP already responds to such requests via another route. Instead, these funds should be for a particular project or piece of research.

As an example of a major proposal, a researcher might wish to hire MADS equipment to do a geophysical survey of a building where preliminary evidence suggests a magnetic anomaly may be present. Smaller projects are equally valuable, such as questionnaire-based research, which including printing and distribution, might cost less than £100.

Depending on the number of applications and their quality in any budget period, ASSAP may be able to fund all applications in full, and most applications in part. Possibly only one or two, or maybe none because they are too ambitious. This will depend upon numbers and standards.

If someone puts in a good application, but ASSAP cannot afford all the money requested, part-funding may be offered. The Board will grade grant proposals along a number of dimensions, and those with the highest grades will get the money.

Guidelines for submission

A grant application will include:

- * a completed application form
- * a full expenditure analysis form
- * an abstract of the study (150 words)
- * the research proposal (5000 words maximum)

All successful candidates will be named in **ASSAP News** together with a summary and overview of their projects. A full article for *Anomaly* should follow in due course.

Grant conditions

Applicants need not be paid-up members of ASSAP.

In return for funding, the researcher undertakes to:

- * acknowledge ASSAP funding in all resulting publications that use the data
- * provide an end-of-grant report detailing where the money went and what was done
- * write an article for **Anomaly**, which might also be summarised for **ASSAP News**
- * sign a form, which is a legal document, committing them to this

Timetable

The normal deadline is 30 November, so that applications for major project funding can be processed and finalised by the year end. More modest ones will be considered by the Board at any time, which will retain some financial flexibility to fund any exciting and promising "urgent" proposals.

Research Grants Board

Members consist of the following people:

National Research Co-ordinator (ex-officio)	currently Dr Hugh Pincott
Deputy National Research Co-ordinator (ex-officio)	currently James Clark
The Chairman (ex-officio)	currently Mike White
The Treasurer (ex-officio)	currently Maurice Townsend
Dr Jason Braithwaite	
Plus a General Secretary	(to be determined)

The General Secretary is responsible for receiving the submissions and handing them out for review to appropriate people. Other members of the board may act as grant reviewers and advisors.

Application forms can be obtained from:

ASSAP Research Grants Board
PO Box 230
PLYMOUTH
PL1 2ZR.

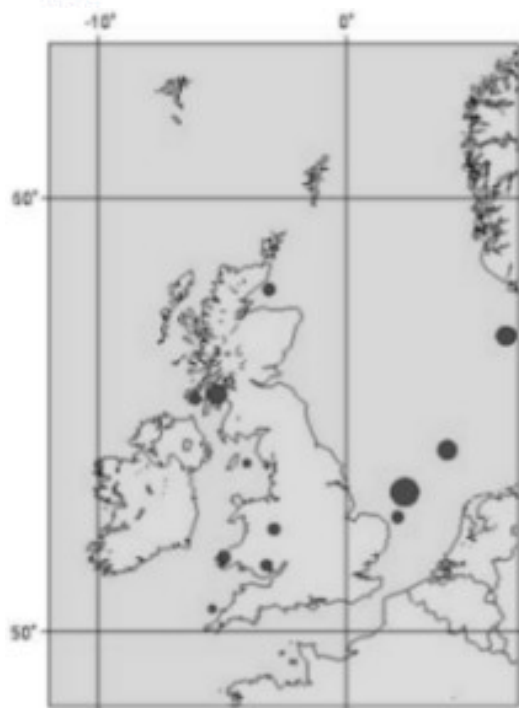


Last issue's description of the sunrise came, of course, from A Midsummer Night's Dream by someone or other. The character speaking was Puck.

Here is an interesting one for your next trip to the pub. But who said it?

'Ghosts only exist for those who wish to see them.'

Answer next time. But no prize, not even for Mike Lewis.



Date	Lat	Long	Depth	Mag	Locality
13/08/2005	55.722	-6.144	5	1.3	ISLAY, INNER HEBRIDES
12/08/2005	53.541	2.381	5	3	SOUTHERN NORTH SEA
11/08/2005	52.893	2.143	5	1.8	SOUTHERN NORTH SEA
09/08/2005	54.198	-4.044	7.5	0.6	IRISH SEA
08/08/2005	50.618	-5.361	12.4	0.9	TREVOSE HEAD, CORNWALL
02/08/2005	54.532	4.088	17	2.8	CENTRAL NORTH SEA
01/08/2005	51.698	-3.178	1.6	1.3	BLACKWOOD, GWENT
30/07/2005	52.58	-2.86	15.5	1	SHREWSBURY,
29/07/2005	51.852	-4.917	3.7	1.6	HAVERFORDWEST,
29/07/2005	58.117	-3.128	7.5	1.2	NORTH SEA
29/07/2005	58.115	-3.143	7.3	1.5	NORTH SEA
23/07/2005	57.111	6.462	15	2.9	SKAGERRAK
23/07/2005	55.845	-5.234	0	2.5	KYLES OF BUTE

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

Lunar Phases

September 2005:

New Moon	3rd
First Quarter	11th
Full Moon	18th
Last Quarter	25th

October 2005:

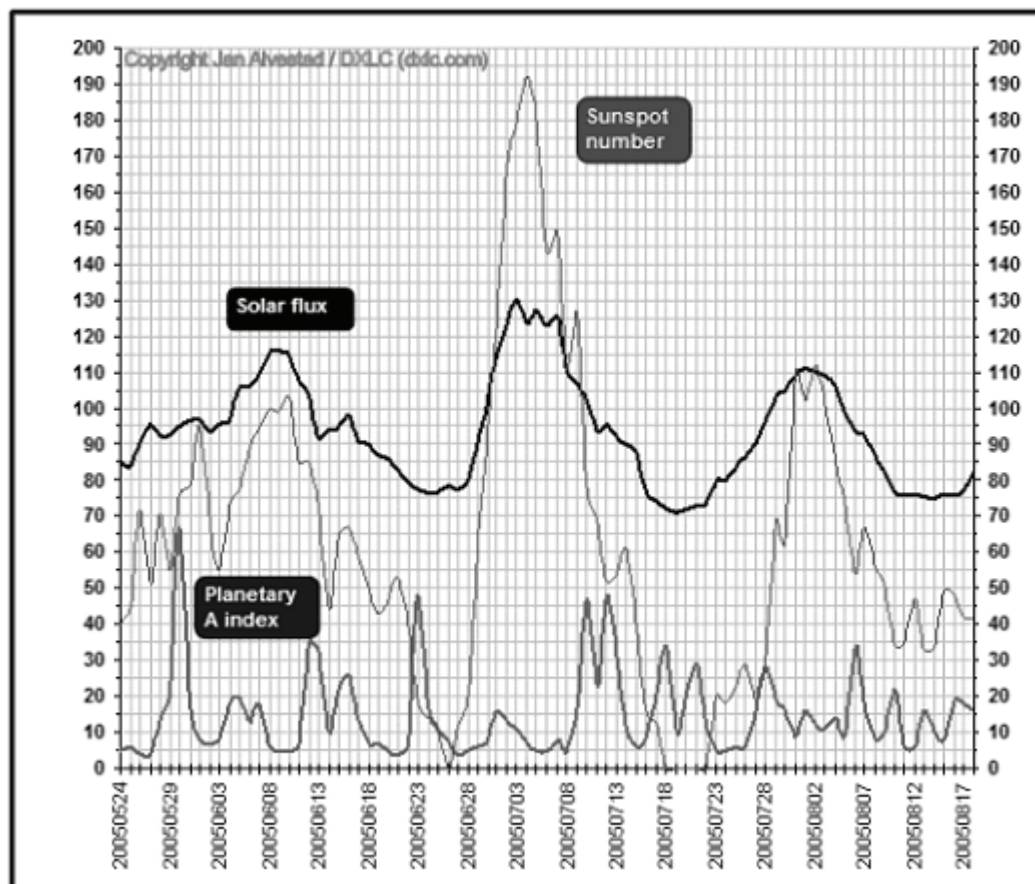
New Moon	3rd
First Quarter	10th
Full Moon	17th
Last Quarter	25th

Astronomical Events

Main event to watch out for this time is a partial solar eclipse on October 3rd. It starts at around 8.45 (BST) and ends around 11.15. Approximately 65% of the sun will be covered but remember NEVER to look directly at the sun!

Venus and Jupiter will be appearing together in the western sky at sunset in September so be prepared for a possible rash of UFO sighting reports...

Solar Terrestrial Activity Index



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. 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. 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)

October 14th 'Emotional Freedom Techniques and Tapas Acupressure' - talk by Kevin Winder

November 11th 'Ouija Research' - talk by William Eyre
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.

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 Func-

tion 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.

Sept 25th Chris Street: 'Earth Stars: The Barnet Triangle'

Mercia Fortean is a 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 garethgdwn@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

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.

Melton Paranormal Research Society

MPRS is a new ASSAP-Affiliated group based in Leicestershire dedicated to all aspects and research of the paranormal. We are genuine people who conduct all night investigations at reported haunted locations throughout the UK, and meet once a month for group discussions.

For more information including membership and website access please contact Christine Hankey on Tel: 01664 569125 or email Caroline Pick on caroline1mprs@aol.com

AGM - Official Notification

The ASSAP AGM will be held at 8.00pm 19th November 2005 at Margam Castle, Margam, Port Talbot, SA13 2TJ.

You can find out more about Margam Castle and Park at <http://www.neath-porttalbot.gov.uk/margampark/index.cfm>