



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

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TRAINING INVESTIGATION AT BISHAM ABBEY



NIC Bill Eyre Reports...

March 3rd saw 23 facilitators, trainees and other investigators gather at the thirteenth-century Bisham Abbey, a manor house so named after the abbey that used to stand adjacent to it, near to the River Thames in Berkshire.

From the word 'go', a fast pace of instruction and practical exercises took place during the evening, led by Nicky Sewell and Dave Wood, with assistance from Bill Eyre and Wendy Milner. This included the opportunity for participants to interview 'witnesses' who, whilst role playing, did provide details of the actual reported haunting phenomena associated with the building. The investigators were split into teams and each team designed its own style of investigation. All the designs were presented and a vote taken on the 'winning' design.

In the latter part of the evening into the early hours of the morning, a vigil was held along the lines of the methodology thus chosen. This involved the four teams

revolving around four rooms where phenomena had allegedly taken place, with a 'lock off' infrared camcorder being placed alternately in two further rooms. A few minor anomalies that had occurred during the vigil were reported during the debriefing, including the battery of the camcorder in the Sonning Room losing its charge after 45 minutes, despite initially having 120 minutes of charge available and despite the full 2 hours of usage having been obtained the previous time that it had been charged. This observation corroborated a witness report of battery drains in that room.



Although it is well known in ASSAP that 'orbs' are usually caused by dust or condensation particles in the air, what was a little unusual was that Liz Knights actually saw an 'orb' immediately before successfully photographing one. Also, voices were heard in the Henry VIII Room and anomalous lights were seen in the Vansittart Room.

Despite the absence of significant phenomena during the night, those attending found the structured approach of the event helpful in terms of showing



them how to go about organising their own, future, investigations.

All photographs
courtesy W Eyre.



Editorial

Mike White

So, just as I'm going to press, astronomers at the Geneva Observatory using a telescope in Chile announced that they had discovered the most earthlike planet to date orbiting a red dwarf star in the constellation of Libra at a distance of a mere 20 light years. (Of course that is still 120 million million miles in real money but space is, as the Hitch-Hikers Guide observed, 'really big'). Speculation has been rife but the facts are pretty much as follows. The planet, which delights in the catchy name of Gliese 581c*, orbits within the habitable zone where liquid water could exist on the surface, has a mass of 1.5 times that of the Earth and, in theory at least, could support life. Of course, *could* is not the same as *does* but just suppose that life has evolved on Gl 581c (which I suppose makes the inhabitants Gliesians)?

Gl 581c is actually likely to be slightly younger than the Earth but since it is very close to its star it will be subject to strong tides in its possible oceans and so I would expect evolution to throw life onto the land much more quickly than here. Consequently, the Gliesians should be considerably more technically advanced than we are (the contrast will be even more obvious when you consider that they will currently be receiving our 1980s TV broadcasts of Miami Vice and Multi-Coloured Swap Shop...)

So, is the Earth in imminent danger of invasion or, worse still, rectal probing from these advanced and (possibly) evil Gliesians? Well, and don't forget you read it here first, any inhabitants of the planet are almost certain to be peaceful. Remember that Gl581 is in Libra? Well, according to my brief Google search Librans 'do not like to hurt anyone and will work as hard as they can in a diplomatic way to keep this from happening'. So, that's all right then. Of course if the next planet discovered is in Aries we may have a problem. Sleep safely but keep watching the skies...

*The planet is so called because the parent star is the 581st entry in the Gliese Catalogue of stars within 25 parsecs** of the solar system.

A parsec is 3.26 Light Years.*

Astronomers swap units fairly casually. If it helps at all consider that a chain (1/10 of a furlong) is made up of 4 rods. *

**** A rod is also known as a perch or a pole.

Ghost Writing

Last time? *Visions of Johanna* by Bob Dylan of course.

This time see if you recognise the surprisingly perceptive poet who wrote:

One need not be a chamber to be haunted,
One need not be a house;
The brain has corridors surpassing
Material place.

And, as Monty Python might have said: No prizes!

The Executive

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

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New Address

Please note that ASSAP has a new address! If you need to write to anyone please use:

ASSAP
27 Old Gloucester St
London
WC1N 3XX

Feel free to mark the envelope FAO any particular Executive member (in fact this would be a great help as it will save Kev having to open all the envelopes) but please don't include this as part of the address itself or you will confuse the redirection company computers!

ASSAP Website:

Don't forget that you can access the Members' Area of the website using:-

Username: *assapmember*
Password: *haunted*.

The Fanthorpe Column

The Allegedly 'Cursed' Car of Sarajevo

We were recently invited to lecture on unsolved mysteries in Fakenham, Norfolk, to members and friends of the Fakenham Automobile Club. They asked especially if we would include riddles, enigmas and anomalous phenomena relating to strange events connected with roads, cars and motorbikes. In the course of researching the lecture, we came across the strange tale of the allegedly 'cursed' car in which Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his beautiful, pregnant wife, Duchess Sophie, were assassinated in Sarajevo on June 28th, 1914. (By an odd coincidence, that was the day that Lionel's mother, Greta Garbutt, was born. It was one of her favourite reminiscences to claim to have been the unwitting cause of the 1914-18 War!)

The assassin who killed the hapless Sophie and Franz was a fanatical nationalist named Gavrilo Princip: a member of the notorious Black Hand organisation. Born in 1894 as one of nine sickly children (six of whom had died in infancy) Gavrilo was already terminally ill with the tuberculosis that finally killed him on 28th April, 1918. Feeling that he had little or nothing to live for made him an easy target for terrorist recruiters. He and the other would-be assassins assigned to kill Franz Ferdinand were each given two bombs, a revolver and a capsule of cyanide - to be taken after their work was done so that they could not reveal that they had been sent by the dreaded Dragutin Dimitrijevic, Chief of Intelligence in the Serbian Army.

After the deaths of Franz and Sophie, the car passed into the possession of General Potiorek. He was subsequently disgraced when his Austrian troops were routed by Serbian forces early in the 1914-18 War. He died later in a hospital for the mentally ill. The car passed to a Captain on what had been Potiorek's staff: he died a few weeks later in a horrendous crash that also killed two farm workers.

After the war, the car was restored and became the property of the Governor of newly independent Yugoslavia. He had several accidents in it - one of which necessitated the amputation of his right arm. He got rid of the car to a doctor friend - who died when it skidded into a ditch crushing him underneath it. The next owner was Simon Mantharides, who committed suicide a year after buying the car. A Swiss racing driver also died in the 'cursed car' when it crashed into a wall. A Serbian farmer was the next owner. When it failed to start one morning, he was on his way to fetch help in a horse and cart, when the car suddenly started on its own, crashed into the cart and killed the



Hope Diamond. Photo copyright L. Fanthorpe.

farmer.

The last recorded tragedy associated with the car was an accident involving a garage owner who had restored it. He and four of his friends died when it crashed yet again.

It is currently on display in a museum in Vienna, where, like the 'cursed' Hope Diamond in the Smithsonian in Washington DC, it now appears to be harmless! We had a chance to get a picture of the Hope Diamond when we were working in Washington in February. We also got a photo of one of the stone statues from Easter Island: that awesome carving also stands in the Smithsonian.

Pres and Lady One



Patricia Fanthorpe plus head. Photo copyright L. Fanthorpe.

Science Watch

According to recent reports evolution may not work quite the way we have been led to believe as up to 10% of all animal species and a quarter of all plants are now thought to be able to successfully hybridise, ie cross with other species to produce viable offspring.

Traditionally, the evolutionists' view of hybridisation is that it is, in the words of biologist R A Fisher, "the grossest blunder in sexual preference which we can conceive of an animal making" but recent discoveries would seem to overturn, or at least temper, that point of view. The main problem is that to interbreed two species need to be sufficiently genetically (and physically!) similar for some sort of fertilisation to take place. Not only that but once the new hybrid exists it also needs an ecological niche for which it has a particular successful adaptation as well as some sort of separation to prevent its genes being subsumed back into the main population.

There are suggestions that Homo Sapiens may owe some of our own characteristics to this unusual evolutionary method. Of course anyone looking for examples of the theory in practice need look no further than the Scottish Kellas cat but, so far at least, it is not being used to explain Bigfoot!

Rather more scary is the recently-revived idea of *retrocausality* or the ability to directly influence the past. Physicist Richard Feynman first popularized this idea through his interpretation of quantum mechanics (which differed from the 'standard' Copenhagen Interpretation in that he proposed a permanent two-way information exchange between the past and the future) but the idea is now being tested by John Cramer of the University of Washington at Seattle using the now standard toolkit of an interference slit and photon stream.

The experiment works like this. Two entangled photons (ie linked at the quantum level so that they exhibit the same behavior) are passed through two interference slits and produce either a spot or an interference pattern. (This can be altered by moving the target recorder). Due to entanglement both photons will produce the same result which is recorded. Now, suppose one photon is delayed by routing it through a few miles of fibre-optic cable? The recording of the first is not viewed until after the second has arrived at the target and if the target is moved in the intervening period to change the predicted result from dot to pattern then the recorded pattern must change too due to the entanglement of the two photons. Retrospectively! In effect, an action in the present (moving the target) has changed the past (the recorded result).

So, is this a paradox? Well, not if you accept that information can pass backwards in time or if you accept that all actions are pre-ordained and so nothing has actually been changed at all. Or if some of the assumptions of our current understanding of quantum physics are just plain wrong...

One, possibly momentous, implication of this research relates to the Anthropomorphic Principle: the realization that the Universe is incredibly finely tuned to allow life (and even matter as we know it) to exist. Rather than believing the Universe to have been Created or just randomly come into being could intelligent beings somewhere in the future have reached back and tweaked the settings to allow themselves to exist?

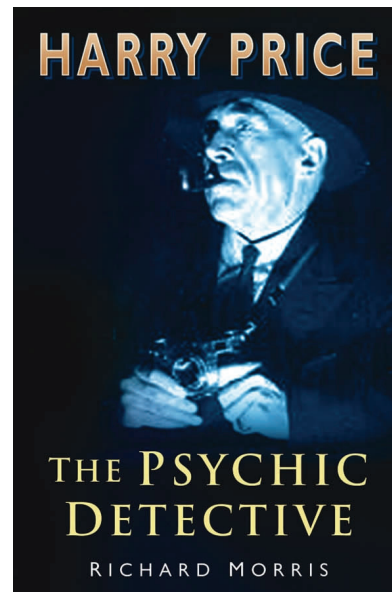
Links:

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v446/n7133/full/nature05706.html>
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/01/21/ING5LNJSBF1.DTL>

Review

Harry Price: The Psychic Detective

by Richard Morris.



Published by Sutton Publishing. 2006. £18.99.

Hardback. 239pp. ISBN: 0-7509-4271-1

Reviewed by David Taylor

Think of a ghost hunter, and you probably conjure up an image of Harry Price. Born in 1881, Harry Price was to become for many the archetypal paranormal investigator – the enthusiastic amateur,

throwing himself completely into the role whilst holding down a day job (a paper bag merchant in Harry's case).

Harry Price is one of those great conundrums – appearing at the same time to be both a believer and a sceptic. He courted fame and famous people, including Houdini, Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and C.E.M Joad amongst others, but he was also easy to temper and quick to fall out – something he seems to have done on a regular basis. If Harry had been alive today, he would have been a contestant on 'Celebrity Big Brother' – and he would have loved it! In the 1930's Harry was always in the news – usually chasing some wild story of ghosts or unmasking yet another fake medium. It is perhaps for his involvement with mediums and Spiritualism that Harry will be remembered. For this purpose he established the National Laboratory of Psychical Research, a self-funded project that was a huge financial drain on his resources. His investigation of the famous Icelandic medium Rudi Shneider was a cause celebre of the time, with dark mutterings about Harry faking evidence to discredit the young medium. He was also involved in the investigation of perhaps one of the most celebrated mediums of all time – Helen Duncan. There have been suggestions (curiously omitted here), that Harry was biased about Helen from the off. At the same time he was investigating the medium Stella Cranshaw. He found Stella's psychic abilities to be more convincing than Helen's. Could this have had anything to do with Stella being young and beautiful, whilst the same could certainly not be said about Helen?

But like all larger than life characters, he wasn't above a little fakery himself. His most famous case was the

haunting of Borley Rectory in Essex in the 1930s. Whether there was ever any genuine phenomena to the reports is probably now hard to prove (though many have tried). What appears beyond doubt, is that amongst all the stories of ghostly nuns, spectral coach and horses, poltergeists and the like, old Harry was not above embellishing and 'adding' his own unique touch to things. Many of the people who accompanied Harry on his investigations to Borley claim to have caught him in the act of faking evidence. Of course the media of the time loved all of this, and you cannot help but feel that this goaded Harry onto some of the ridiculous cases of the period – like Gef the talking mon-goose or black magic rituals in Germany! Richard Morris has also uncovered evidence in the Harry Price archives that he may have met Hitler or at least sought financial support from the Nazi Party.

Whatever you end up feeling about Harry Price, there can be no doubt that he has left a huge legacy for those of us interested in the serious issues raised by psychical research. And despite some of his more 'exaggerated' claims, one of them at least is certainly still true today in our 'Most Haunted' world – "...so many people prefer the 'bunk' to the 'debunk'!"

For all its minor faults – and thankfully there are only a few – this is a worthwhile addition to the bookshelf of any serious researcher.

Obituary

The passing of Philip Royce-Dexter from cancer in February at the age of 35 was a major loss to both his family and to ASSAP. Philip had become an AI in 2006, had thrown himself enthusiastically into investigations of spontaneous phenomena and had been involved in ouija research. His involvement in psychical matters, including hosting spirit counselling sésances at his house, had led him to such conviction of a life after death that he expressly wished there to be no mourning at his funeral.



Philip in characteristically ebullient mood.
Photo: W Eyre

Thus Dronfield Parish Church was packed with friends and family dressed casually and many of those attending drank to celebrate his life afterwards at a local pub.

Philip leaves behind his wife Nicola (also a member of ASSAP) and a young daughter, Alisha.

William Eyre

Conference Alert

Just a heads-up on two forthcoming events which may be of interest to ASSAP members. Firstly, this from Damien O'Dell:

'The third APIS Seminar will be happening on Saturday 20 October at The Weatherley Centre in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. It will cost £16.50 to individuals or £14 each if booked as a group of ten or more. Cost of a space/table will be £30 plus £5 for lunch (additional helpers will pay £10 each). A hot buffet lunch and soft drinks are included in the admission price and parking is free. Lionel Fanthorpe is our star speaker and John Spencer will be giving a talk in the afternoon. There will be workshops on remote viewing, dowsing, electronic ghost detection etc. In addition we have exhibitors from all aspects of the paranormal, from auric photography to tarot card readings. I hope that this may be of interest to some other ASSAP members and other paranormal groups are particularly welcome.'

More details in ASSAP News as they come through you could also try online at <http://www.apisteamspirit.co.uk/mainsite/seminar2007.html>.

[Editor's note: You can find a review of the first APIS event in ASSAP News 107. Rumour has it that ASSAP will be among the exhibitors for this event though I don't think this has actually been confirmed yet...]

I have also been sent details of the third Paraquest conference on Saturday 28th April 2007, 10am to 5:30pm. The venue is Sale Masonic Hall, Tatton Road, Sale, Cheshire and tickets cost £12:50 in advance £15:00 on the door. Guest speakers include Alan Murdie the ex-Chairman of the Ghost Club. For further details see <http://www.paraquest.org.uk/>.

For those of an academic bent the 31st International Annual Conference of the SPR will be held at Cardiff University from 31st August - 2nd September 2007. Details are still being finalised but information, as it becomes available, can be found at <http://www.spr.ac.uk/index.php3?page=conf2007call>.

And finally, something sure to be of interest to anyone who has ever experienced one of the Fortean Times Unconventions. The 2007 Weird Weekend, run by the Centre for Fortean Zoology but featuring speakers from across a range of unusual topics, will be held in Woolfardisworthy in North Devon over the weekend of August 17-19th. A quick glance through the list of talks reveals such potential treasures as: Dinosaurs in the Congo; William Reich and UFOs; Crop Circles; Alien Mythologies in Modern Music; The Ghosts of Marsden Grotto. Tickets are £20 for the weekend (£10 concessions) and children under 12 are free. Full details from www.weirdweekend.org.

ENERGY PHANTOMS:

The Phantom Monk of Guisbrough

By Andy Owens

There is a theory that children are more open to ghostly phenomena and the general consensus is that this is because children's minds are 'un-corrupted', as it were, by the real world. They just accept some things without question and are therefore more open to the paranormal than adults.

However, Anne Piper, psychologist and founder of GPI, Gateshead Paranormal Investigations, (www.gpi.moonfruit.co.uk) proposes the theory that children have more physical and emotional energy than adults, enabling spirits to appear by drawing on that energy.

Says Anne: "The general subject of energy helping spirit is an interesting one and generally it is thought that the more energy we create during an investigation, then the more activity we'll get.

"When we have attempted the glass-pushing experiment, we have found that if the participants are not focused, low in energy, or non-committal, then the movement of the glass is somewhat less impressive, than when people are really concentrating their thoughts.

"Of course, this then brings to mind whether it is spirit moving the glass, or the people themselves - in which case this brings to mind the question of telekinesis.

"However, when we have investigated the Ram Inn (in Gloucestershire), John the owner has always indicated that when there are more younger people present, there is more paranormal activity. We haven't been able to validate this ourselves, as we don't allow children on our investigations."

One account which seems to lend weight to the theory of children's energy enabling psychic phenomena to occur is the experience of Ken Foster, of Cleveland, who replied to one of my newspaper appeals.

Mr Foster relates an extraordinary childhood encounter in 1967 at Guisborough Priory, Cleveland, at the age of fourteen. He was with Grangetown St Matthews Church Youth Club, hiking in the Cleveland Hills, sleeping in Guisborough Church Hall at night and was part of a group of four boys and three girls all aged around fifteen, lead by Mary Shelley, the youth leader and clergyman's wife.

On their first night sleeping in the church hall they were woken by the sound of birds singing at night, which they thought was coming from the ruins of the priory. In fact, they considered it so odd and, having heard stories in the past about a ghostly monk haunting the ruins of the priory, "we thought it would be fun to go ghost-hunting there the following night."

A report in the local paper told someone had seen a figure about twelve months previously and, according to local legend, the monk appears every time the field in front of the priory is ploughed.

So at midnight on Wednesday 5th April 1967, the group of eight stood in front of what remained of the east window of

the priory. After twenty minutes of waiting patiently they grew restless and had decided to call it a night, when a silvery figure appeared at the left side of the window, moved right, then disappeared.

Mr Foster described it to me as a "fuzzy, silvery-grey colour like the effect you get on a TV when it is switched on, but on no channel."

This continued at intervals until the figure reached the middle of the window, at which point a powerful shaft of light, 'almost like lightening' seemed to sweep around the group and illuminate the figure, clearly revealing it as a monk in a habit.

Mr Foster said that the light was so strong that it perfectly illuminated the figure enabling the witnesses to pick out the cowl and the rope tied round the figure's waist. "This is the most vivid memory I retain of the experience," Mr Foster told me. He recalled that throughout whole episode, the group were experiencing a weird sensation often reported in ghost sightings. "As we all agreed later, it felt like the hair on our heads and bodies were literally stood on end."

The story was reported in the *Evening Gazette*, on Saturday April 8th 1967 and Mr Foster sent me a copy. When interviewed, the youth club leader Mrs Shelley said she could not explain the figure or the 'tremendous' shaft of light they had seen swept round from behind the group to illuminate the monk.

"There was no road behind us," she explained, "so it couldn't have been a car's headlights and the light was far too bright anyway." She put her arms around the children to protect them and then they fled from the priory 'scared to death'.

To get back to the church hall the group had to pass the right side of the window and cut through the church cemetery. While they were making their escape, they all clearly saw the figure appear in the cemetery watching them leave.

Mr Foster's recent photo shows the exact spot in the corner of the cemetery where the monk appeared. It backs on to a wall and to the right is a set of iron railings, though there were two walls there originally, as Mr Foster recalled. From the photo, I should say that the monk was no more than fifty yards away from the group.

"In the cemetery, our view of the monk was very clear and it glowed like the luminous hands on an alarm clock. I remember one of the group saying: 'It's behind us!' to which Mrs Shelley, the youth leader, replied: 'Don't look! Don't look!' So, naturally, I did."

As a result of the newspaper report, the group was visited at the youth club by "an expert in ghost-hunting". He explained to them that the shaft of light had been the ghost drawing energy from the eight people present, thus enabling it to appear. The expert, whose name Mr Foster cannot now remember, added that the appearance of the monk had been so distinct because seven of the eight people present were children. Children, he told them, have more energy than adults, which enabled the apparition to "put in a better appearance!"

Andy Owens has written several books including *Yorkshire Stories of the Supernatural* and *Killer Catchers*. His next titles are *Haunted Bradford* and *Mysterious West Yorkshire*.

Date	Lat	Long	Depth(Km)	Mag	Location
28/4/2007	50.97	1.375	5.0	4.3	DOVER STRAITS
24/2/2007	54.003	-3.466	5.0	1.5	IRISH SEA
23/4/2007	57.028	-5.79	2.6	1.1	MALLAIG,HIGHLAND
23/4/2007	58.627	-5.478	8.0	0.9	THE MINCH
19/4/2007	53.474	-1.275	2.6	1.4	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE
12/4/2007	54.463	-1.264	2.3	1.1	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE
5/4/2007	53.46	-1.268	2.6	1.1	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE
4/4/2007	53.459	-1.274	2.3	1.0	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE
30/3/2007	53.763	-1.17	9.5	2.4	SOUTHERN NORTH SEA
29/3/2007	53.453	-1.223	2.6	1.4	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE
27/3/2007	53.476	-1.212	1.9	1.3	MALTBY, S YORKSHIRE

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

Lunar Phases

May 2007:

Full Moon 2nd
 Last Quarter 10th
 New Moon 16th
 First Quarter 23rd

June 2007:

Full Moon 1st
 Last Quarter 8th
 New Moon 15th
 First Quarter 22nd
 Full Moon 30th

Astronomical Events

Meteors:

η Aquarids: Started in April but reach maximum in early May.

Bootids: June 27th. A wildly variable shower so could be spectacular but equally you might not even notice them.

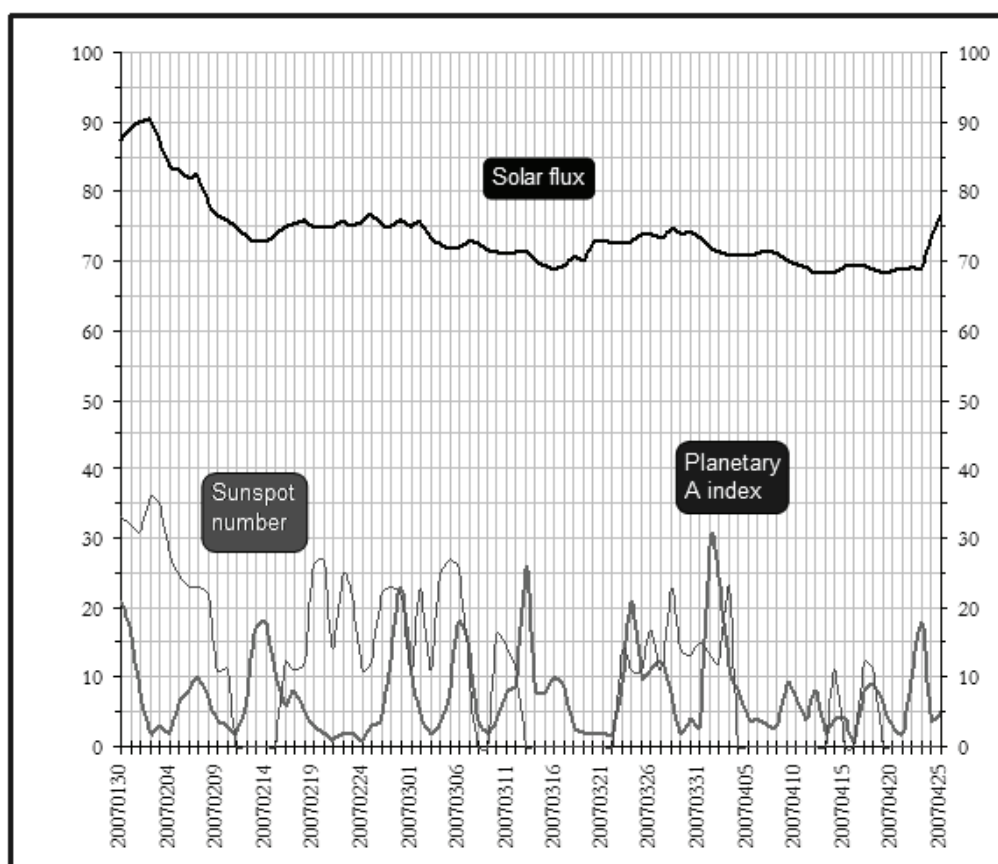
Other events:

On May 20th the moon will be 2° north of Venus which promises to be fairly spectacular.

For those of you interested in precise dates around midsummer:

Summer Solstice: June 21st
 Earliest sunrise: June 17th (4am)
 Latest sunset: June 25th (8pm)
 (figures for latitude 50° north)

Solar Terrestrial Activity Index



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: **ASSAP, 27 Old Gloucester St, London. WC1N 3XX**

Just mark the envelope with the name of the office you want to contact and we will forward all mail to the individual officers but please don't include this as part of the address.

Groups

Have we missed you out? Are your details wrong? Send your groups and events details to assapnews@assap.org today...

If any of these details need changing please let me know!

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. 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.

Anglia Paranormal Investigation Society (APIS)

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at The Tempsford Room, The Anchor pub, Tempsford, Bedfordshire 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 details contact Mark Porter at apismail@ntlworld.com or call 01462 490833.

BUFORA (British UFO Research Organisation)

See www.bufora.org.uk for full details.

CPSG (Chesterfield Psychic Study Group)

Offers a programme of talks by invited speakers on the second Friday of each month at 7.15 p.m. at the Community Centre, South Place, Chesterfield. For further details, tel. (01246) 413217 or visit www.cpsg.co.uk.

Essex UFO and Paranormal Research Group

For details contact Keith on 01255 426274

Ghanon

Paranormal group covering Wirral, Cheshire and North Wales. Membership by invitation. For further info contact emailus@ghanon.org, visit www.ghanon.org or call 0700 341 8495.

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. Visit their website at www.ghostclub.org.uk for details of future events.

Leicestershire Paranormal Association

Leicestershire Paranormal Association (LPA) is an ASSAP Affiliated group based in Leicestershire. As a group we are interested in all the different aspects of paranormal research and hold regular meetings for group discussions. For more information including membership and website access please contact leicestershirepa@aol.com

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: £2.50 for members, £4 for non-members, concessions £2.50. Tubes: Great Portland Street, Regent's Park or Warren Street. Email at lemc@ic24.net, and visit the website at www.lemc.ic24.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

Melton Paranormal Research Society

MPRS is an 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 01664 569125 or email meltonparacub@aol.com

Mercia Forteana 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.

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.

Open Mind Investigations

is an active investigation and research group operating in the Kent and Hampshire areas. If you're interested, please contact Cara via the website on www.omi-uk.org

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.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.paranormalawakening.com

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.

Plymouth ASSAP

Plymouth ASSAP is an investigation group covering South East Cornwall, South and West Devon and Plymouth. We hold meetings at the Fisherman's Arms in the Barbican area of Plymouth on the second Tuesday of each month. For details of how you can get involved, please contact Lee at eustacetuttle@yahoo.co.uk

SPI (Strange Phenomena Investigations)

Meetings are held at The Tournament, 344-346 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 9JU at 3.00pm. Admission £7.00 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.

Spirit-Team

Spirit Team is an investigation group based in the Midlands, with regular meetings in Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Coventry. Their emphasis is on studying hauntings but are interested in the whole range of the paranormal. Contact alan@spirit-team.co.uk or visit www.spirit-team.co.uk

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

Staffordshire Paranormal Study Group (SPSG)

meets monthly at the Potters Bar, Meir Park, Stoke on Trent. They are an investigation and research group with a particular interest in hauntings and Earth Mysteries. Contact Terri Settrington at thespsg@yahoo.co.uk

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.

<http://www.temsgroup.org.uk>