

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries



No. 107

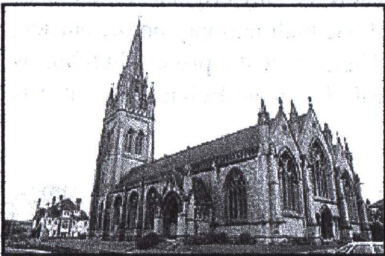
October 2014

LEYS, ENERGIES AND PATTERNS ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Network of Ley Hunters Moot, Isle of Wight, September 2014

Ley Hunt, Isle of Wight, May 1966

In the first three days of the Moot, a week of beautiful weather, we were led by Gary Biltcliffe and Caroline Hoare, authors of *The Spine of Albion*. That book describes their research into the long-distance ley called the Belinus line which runs from the Isle of Wight through the Midlands and North of England and on into Scotland. Like the St. Michael Line, this also has serpentine male and female currents running round it, which have been named Belinus and Elen.



All Saints' Church, Ryde

On Friday, 12th September we began with a visit to All Saints' Church, Ryde, where the male Belinus current comes in from Binstead, which we were to visit later. Here Gary and Caroline gave us a brief outline of the Spine of Albion, originally found by Guy Ragland Philips running from the old city of Winchester to Carlisle, and seemed to be associated with kingship. Winchester was the Iron Age capital, and there may have been stone circles there. To Henry II Winchester

and Carlisle were the Camelots of Britain. The line also goes through Birmingham and Manchester, the Rollright Stones, the Uffington White Horse and the stone circle at Shap. At the base of the line is this special island - the base chakra of Britain, shaped like a coccyx bone. The currents have 32 nodal points, where the male and female serpents meet, and there are 33 vertebrae in the human spine, thus it has been called The Spine of Albion.

The Isle of Wight was a Druid island, and the Solent was fordable at low tide in Roman times and previously. Remains of wooden tracks comparable to the Sweet Track in Somerset have been found, connecting Quarr Abbey with Lee on Solent. Brading was then the major port - there were none on the north coast as the sea was too shallow.

All Saints' Church, where we then were, is a very large church, nicknamed "The Cathedral of the Island", and is visible from all the hills on it. Designed by Gilbert Scott, it has the

proportions of a Norman church. It is a grand Gothic structure on the highest hill overlooking the Solent.

We then walked to the Norman-founded Church of the Holy Cross at Binstead, which contains a number of symbolic carvings. The first we saw was above the gate - a sheela na gig known as "the idol of Binstead". It is seemingly hermaphroditic as it is



Green Man and pillar

bearded but with female genitals, and standing on a muzzled creature which is probably a bear. This may represent the northern stars. There is said to be the grave of a giant at Binstead (eight feet tall) - there are allegedly a number of these on the island.



The Binstead Idol

On the west end of the church, under the bell-cote, there is a foliate Green Man head with alchemical symbols, below a representation of a pillar. This is a nineteenth century reconstruction. There is another Green Man as a boss in the ceiling of the chancel. The bell is from Quarr Abbey nearby. The chancel is the only original Norman part of the church, and it has herringbone built masonry on the outside, more typical of Saxon work. The rest of the present building is nineteenth century Gothic revival. The male Belinus current was

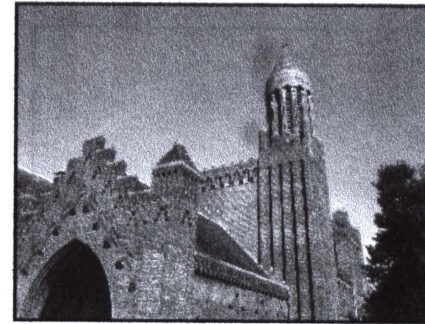
dowsed coming through this church.

The Tinners' Way, one of the oldest tracks on the island, goes from here to Quarr Abbey. We walked along it and through what has become known as the Poetry Gate, the site of one of the gates into the Abbey grounds. The female energy of the Elen current may have been the inspiration for this. We passed along a path the current follows, past the remains of the original Abbey, associated with Eleanor of Aquitaine, who is responsible for bringing the romances back to England. Although historically she is buried in France, there is a legend that her body was removed and brought here. There were archaeologists working on the site as we passed.



Quarr Abbey ruins

We continued from here to the new Quarr Abbey, currently occupied by Benedictine monks (the original abbey was Cistercian). It is a building of intricate brickwork designed by Pugin, which seems to have a rather Islamic appearance. Inside it is a rather sombre structure. Continuing along the Tinners' Way (so named as the island was a centre for trading Cornish



The new Quarr Abbey

tin and Mendip lead), eventually we came to Puck's Pool, a fish pond for the Abbey, but it preceded it. It has a reputation for strange phenomena including balls of light. The Puck name, associated with the mischievous spirit mentioned in Shakespeare, crops up all over the island, and even occurs in Puckaster Cove to the south, which has a legend about Jesus landing there. This could be so, as he is said to have come with his great-uncle Joseph of Arimathea who was said to be a tin trader. There are fault lines beneath the pool which

could cause earth lights, which often seem to respond to human emotion. On Brading Down there are many reports of encounters with Romans, Vikings etc., and possible timeslips.

We went from here to Swanmore Church, south of Ryde, where the male current comes through. It has decorative brickwork inside which may represent the alchemical elements. There is a statue of St. Michael overcoming Satan and one of St. George and the dragon - Gary mentioned that these possibly represent Gemini and the stars Castor and Pollux.



Puck's Pool

On Saturday we began on Brading Down, on the serpent ridge crossing the island, the shape of which is similar to the moon's path in the sky. It also holds Bembridge Fort and the obelisk. Brading Down is the highest hill on the island - ghostly Roman soldiers, Druids, Vikings etc., have been seen here, and strange beasts. The veil seems thin on the Isle of Wight. These could be recordings on rocks. There was one case of a doctor and his wife who saw what seemed to be an Iron Age man on horseback who rode straight through their car.

Bembridge Down was originally another island, shaped something like a foetus, and the Needles were part of another, called Freshwater Island. These three islands mirrored the Druidic trinity; there were groves at the two extremes of the island. Yaverland, a hamlet close to Brading, could have been the same as Avalon - there were apple orchards there. This was the Druids' most sacred site. Centurion's Copse was originally the site of St. Urion's Chapel, associated with Arthur.

We then travelled to a tumulus which is a node point of the Belinus and Elen lines (the only one on the island). It is the base chakra of the Spine of Albion. It dates from 2,500 BC and was probably much bigger. People still meet here and it still seems to be tended - Gary met someone sent from Nunwell House to trim the grass. This was originally the seat of the

Oglanders, kings of the island.

Nearby were a group of Scots pines where Gary and Caroline recently found one of the few megaliths left on the island. This was a large, seemingly recumbent stone which could have been in the shape of a dragon, hidden in the undergrowth in the clump.

From here we went on to St. Mary's Church, Brading, one of the oldest churches on the island. It is on an ancient mound where bones of seven-foot giants are reputed to have been found. It was founded by St. Wilfred of the Culdee Church - St. Boniface of the Roman church had been



The tumulus where the Belinus and Elen currents meet

on the opposite hill. It was the church of the Oglanders and had a chapel with their tombs. It is unusual in that the church is entered from under the tower which is open on all three sides. On the other side of the road from the church is a house described on a plaque as the oldest house on the island - also reputedly the most haunted.



The stone in the clump

St. Helen's Church, on the seashore by the village of St. Helens, was the next place visited. Only the tower is left - the rest was washed away by the sea.

It was a Norman church and the only one on the

island dedicated to St. Helen. The tower has been used as a lighthouse and there has been a tradition for sailors to come here for good luck. It is another place where balls of light have been seen.

The final visit of the day was to the impressive views of Culver Cliff, the white cliffs where the female current goes off the coast. The male current leaves the coast at the adjoining red cliff, then both head for Bayeux in France, which is the next node point. Both seem to have been drawn a distance away from the straight line by the energy of Bembridge Down of which Culver Cliff is a part. Culver means dove, as the white cliffs appeared like one to the sailors approaching it.



The field where Knighton House once stood

Our first visit on Sunday was to Knighton Gorges, the site of a mysterious ghost house.



One of the gateposts at Knighton Gorges

Knighton House, an ancient majestic medieval mansion, was the house of a Templar knight Ralph de Gorges, one of the knights who murdered Archbishop Thomas Becket. The monks of Quarr Abbey cursed the house, and it seems to have been a place of misery ever since.

In the early twentieth century, a walker heading for Ryde passed a house where a wild party seemed to be going on. He reached an inn and told the landlord about this and the reaction was "What house? It was demolished fifty years ago!" Then two old ladies on a New Year's Eve saw the house, but the roof seemed to be beginning to fade. There were a number of other reports, but each time less of the house was seen. Recently only one window was seen, but the party noise was still present.

It was on the Greensand Serpent Ridge crossing the island, near the tumulus where the male and female currents meet. There is iron rich rock here, and a geological fault and huge natural spring. So the mental activity of the monks' curse could have been assisted by these things, causing the bad luck. One owner, Thomas Dillington, had loud parties but lost all his money through gambling, then his wife died, and, distraught, he committed suicide. Another owner, Major George Bissett, caught syphilis from his wife and went mad. The house was then dismantled. He is still said to haunt the area and dislikes people, flattening car batteries and causing energy surges. Balls of light and timeslips are said to have occurred, and even the gargoyles on the gateposts come alive. We visited the gateposts, and saw the bases of the statues there. This picture of orbs photographed at the gatepost is from <http://www.spookythings.iofw.co.uk/spooky-history/the-curse-of-knighton-gorge/>



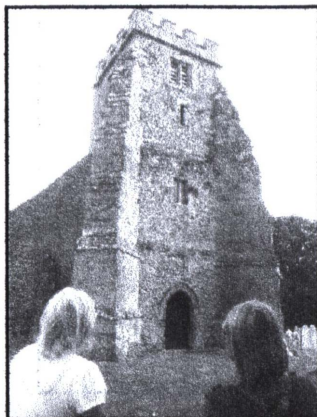
Orbs at the gatepost

Continuing from here, we went to St. Olave's Church at Gatcombe, the geographical centre of the Isle of Wight. Gatcombe means "gateway valley" and the churchyard seems to be haunted by a little girl who dashes around the gravestones. The ancient church is also the site of a strange timeslip legend, that of Lucy Lightfoot, who seemingly fell in love with a knight whose effigy was in the church. She disappeared from the church during a violent storm, and was then discovered in a document about the knight.

Another ancient church, that of Yaverland, is the first church of the male Belinus current in England. At nearby Centurion's Copse there is said to have been a city, and there was

also a Druid's Well and a stone. The French burnt the city in the 1300s and to this day no birdsong is heard there. The foundations were salvaged and the church was built here. It was the only church on Bembridge Island, which Bembridge Down then was.

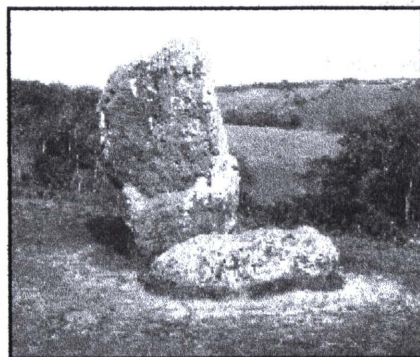
Arreton is the oldest settlement on the island, and the 11th century church could have been the site of a stone circle. It is dedicated to St. George, who controls the dragon of the earth energies (the geo-urge) rather than killing it, pushing the energy to sacred mountains. A wooden carving of George outside the church seems to illustrate this. Behind the church is a great pond, and this with the church and the ridge seem to create a pocket of psychic energy which has



Arreton Church

sometimes caused people to be thrown through the air. We finally visited the church and holy well of St. Lawrence. These wells were put along pilgrim routes, and the energy of the undercliff here seems to create a special neutral zone.

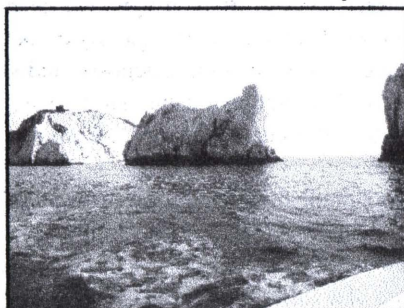
On Monday we travelled and walked to the Long Stone, a huge megalith which was the middle island Druid sanctuary. Everyone felt the place had a very peaceful, welcoming atmosphere. Then continuing along the Serpent Ridge we reached the Five Barrows, where a ley I had found on a previous visit to the island in 1966 passes



The Long Stone

through. It was found to be 16 paces wide, and Laurence spontaneously felt it as a powerful ley when climbing one of the mounds. The line goes through several other tumuli as well as Godshell Church and another in Shanklin.

We continued along Afton Down past many tumuli on the golf course, to Freshwater, and then travelled to Alum Bay with its coloured sands, where we took a chair lift down to the beach for a boat trip round the Needles. This was the site of another Druid sanctuary when the land extended this far. We had then visited all three of the sanctuaries (Bembridge Down, the Long Stone and the Needles).



The Needles

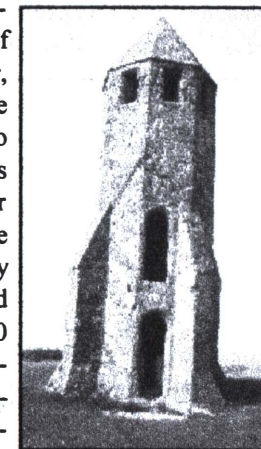
That evening I visited St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Sandown, which is on the



St. Patrick's Church, Sandown

straight Spine of Albion alignment. It is built with a Norman-style porch, and an adjoining tower in the style of Irish round towers. The line seems to dowse as 25 paces wide. Also on it are Christ Church across the road (Victorian, with altar unusually to the north), Bloodstone Spring below Ashey Down (named from reddish algae on the rocks in the stream), earthworks at East Ashey and Kemp Hill.

On Tuesday we began at St. Catherine's Hill in the south of the island, near Puckaster Cove which is associated with the legend of the landing of Jesus. When we reached the "Pepperpot" tower, which is all that is left of the oratory on the summit, Laurence detected a ley going towards the Hoy Monument, which was to be our next destination and was visible on the horizon. This continues through a hilltop ley centre to the north, another near Blackwater, St. Paul's Church, Newport (a ley centre which is the northern point of a diamond-shaped system of leys seemingly mirroring the shape of the island), Whippingham Church and Norris Castle on the north coast. (The last was only built in 1790



St. Catherine's Hill Tower - there is a UFO associated ley going from here to Godshell

but could have been subconsciously sited). I had found another ley from St. Catherine's going to Godshell Church; this was one of the leys with UFO connection found in the 1960s coming from the mainland and forming a right-angled triangle on the island. This ley also seems to go through the site of the Knighton Gorges House. It includes two sightings I made in 1969, a daylight orange light at Hendon and a night one on the Hog's Back near Guildford.

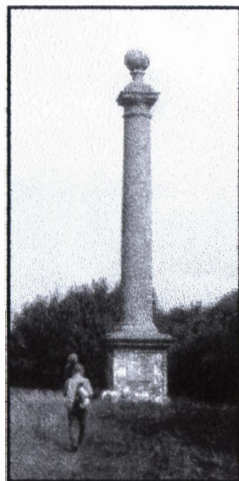


The stone found by Laurence

Travelling to the Hoy Monument, we found it to be a tall pillar with a sphere on top, built to commemorate the visit of a Czar of Russia. There was also a hermitage near the monument, and a memorial on it to William Dawes, who owned it during the Crimean War. There seemed to be a positive atmosphere here too. Along the path leading from it Laurence then noticed what could be another standing stone; although it did have the remains of a gatepost hinge in it, it was substantial and rough hewn.

There seemed to be a ley 12 paces wide coming from it in a generally east-west direction. This goes through a clump to the west and Stenbury Down, a group of tumuli near Nansen Hill and the summit of that hill to the east.

From here we made our way to Godshill Church, a powerful ley centre. The church has an unusual Lily Cross wall painting and a representation of a dragon under the cross of the rood screen. Godshill is one of the ancient parishes that existed before the compilation of the Domesday Book, the first recorded spelling being Godeshulle. The church was given by William Fitz-Osbern, who died in 1070, to the Abbey of Lyra in Normandy. It dates largely from the 14th century and is the fourth on this site. Sir John



Hoy Monument

Oglander, historian of the 17th century, says in his memoirs that the first church "wase bwylt in ye rayne of King Edward the Confessor". The hill on which the church stands was once a place of pagan worship and legend tells that the building of a church was begun at the foot of the hill but that on three successive nights the stones were removed unseen to the site of the present church. Work was



Godshill Church

restarted on the first two mornings but on the third day it was assumed that God wished the church to be built on the hill, hence the name Godshill. We visited the Oracle Gallery of spiritual artist Nicola Gibbs whose work is guided by angels.

On Wednesday morning we first travelled to Shorwell Church with its medieval St. Christopher wall painting, and walked on to Carisbrooke Castle along a skirting ley found by Laurence. The view from the keep was stunning and covered much of the island, and our visit coincided with one of the Duke of Kent.

The diamond pattern mentioned before, which seems to mirror the shape of the island, was one I found in the 1960s, and visited several of its sites on Sunday, May 21st, 1966, the day after giving a talk on leys and orthoteny to the Isle



Newport Minster - the diamond ley comes south-west through the war memorial

of Wight UFO Investigation Society. The northern point is St. Paul's Church, Newport - Victorian, but on a cross-roads with the name Cross Lane, which is even named on the old one-inch O.S. map. St. Thomas's Church, now Newport Minster, is on the ley from here to Gallibury Hump. I visited it when we changed buses in Newport at the moot, and found the above ley to be 12 paces wide. The war memorial is placed on it.



Gallibury Hump

The western point is a tumulus on a very prominent site - Gallibury Hump. It is a large round barrow on Brighstone Down, positioned at the eastern end of Brighstone Forest near the ancient ridgeway now called the Tennnyson Trail. About 3 metres high, it is possibly the biggest of the many surviving barrows on the Island. There are spectacular views of the Solent to the north, and the southern downs in the opposite direction. In 1966, however, we could not get to it because of thick mist.



Newchurch Church

The eastern point is All Saints' Church, Newchurch, which is medieval, dating from the 13th century. It was built on the site of an older structure which was donated by William FitzOsbern to the Lyre Abbey. Subsequently, the church came under the control of the Beaulieu Abbey. On the west side of the church, the road has a steep descent which gives the impression that the church is on a bluff. The geographic setting has been described by Venables, a poet, as: "To the north the gaze embraces the whole of the vale of Newchurch with the undulating ridge of the chalks down beyond, ending towards the valley of the Medina in the abrupt slope of the St. George's Down." The southern point is not named on the map, but is a hill peak 233 feet high near Roud.

The centre of the pattern is a hill just off the Newport-Godshill road. It is much more impressive than it appears from the map, but on the day we visited it in 1966 it was too misty to see anything from it. There are two leys meeting at it coming from the north to south points, and the east and west points.

In addition to this pattern, there is a right-angled triangle of leys found in the 1960s formed of alignments coming

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from the mainland. These are UFO-related leys, and each of the three was found independently by a different person. One was Gordon Creighton, later to be editor of *Flying Saucer Review*. Another was Ken Rogers, later to write the book *The Warminster Triangle*. The third one was found by me, and includes two UFO sightings I had.

Gordon Creighton's alignment was from 1963, and he noticed that a sighting in Bruton, Somerset and one in Ringwood, Hampshire on the same day (further details were not kept unfortunately) seemed to align with the Charlton Crater, which was headline news in that year. It appeared in farmer Roy Blanchard's potato field, and was thoroughly investigated by *Flying Saucer Review* and UFO groups. Some students claimed to have dug it and received wide newspaper publicity, but they later admitted that the claim was a hoax.

The line also goes through Nyland Hill, a ley centre in Somerset - a rather odd-looking hill protruding from an area of flat land. On the Isle of Wight it goes through Ventnor Church, a 687 spotmark on Stenbury Down, crosses the south-east line of the diamond at a cross-roads, Chillerton Down (547), Gallibury Hump (west corner of the diamond), and a prominent multijunction at Newbridge. There is nothing apparent at the point where it crosses Ken Rogers' hypotenuse line in a wood near Yarmouth.

The hypotenuse ley was called the South Coast Orthoteny by Ken, though its sightings were not all on the same day. There was a translucent dome with a red light seen at Plymouth on January 3rd, 1966, and a strip of light "like two halfcrowns with a gap between" seen at Weymouth on April 28th, 1966. Then there was the only sighting made on the island, a pinkish oblong object at Yarmouth on January 2nd, 1966. Finally there was a sighting of which there are no further details at Portslade, Sussex, where the line meets one going from Finchley to Wandsworth.

As a ley on the Isle of Wight this line goes through Yarmouth Church, a coincident stretch of road there, Newtown Church, Hillcross Farm cross-road/track, cross-roads at Alverstone Farm, the new Quarr Abbey, possibly the old one too (though not certain exactly where the buildings were), then along a stretch of the coast and off to sea, through the middle of Ryde pier. It meets the eastern side of the triangle off the coast.

The eastern side goes through the junction of the Great North and North Circular roads at Finchley; there were two UFO sightings here, both going in the direction of the line. Then at Hendon I made a sighting of an orange non-moving light in a daylight sky on February 28th, 1967. Continuing south, the line goes through a seemingly important ley centre at Sunbury Cross (now the beginning of the M3, then a multijunction with a number of interesting leys going through it, including the Silchester Ley originally found by Alfred Watkins). Then it goes through a clump on the Hog's Back near Guildford, where in June 1967 I saw another hovering orange light, this time at night, and confirmed by a BUFORA skywatch at Pewley Down, Guildford at the time.

On the Isle of Wight, coming southwards, this line crosses the coast at St. John's Park, Ryde, and goes through a small church there, then on to Ashy Down, where a doctor saw strange lights and had a timeslip experience in January 1969. It then goes through the site of the Knighton Gorges house, and crosses the north-east line of the triangle at a small church at Newchurch. It carries on to Godshill Church and a coincident stretch of road at Roud and finally the tower on St. Catherine's Hill. A very good ley, which seems to illustrate that the different patterns are real and connected, and part of the larger system on the island. It is realised, of course, that UFO sightings cannot be precisely pinpointed as ancient sites can, so UFO-related alignments cannot be as exact as leys. But it seems remarkable that three of them found by three different people should create a right-angled triangle of leys on the island (which involves extension beyond the areas the UFOs were seen in two of the cases).



FILMS ON YOUTUBE

<http://www.spacevoice.fsnet.co.uk/videos>

The Leys of Berkhamsted Castle, and London's Camelot. An earth mysteries field trip in 1995, to Berkhamsted Castle, Hertfordshire and surrounding area, and subsequent discovery of leys skirting its edge, one of which goes to Camlet Moat, Enfield, which is known as London's Camelot. **Mysterious Guildford.** A field trip in 1992 covering ghosts and earth mysteries in Guildford. **A Ley through Kingston.** An earth mysteries field trip in 1993 following a ley through Kingston, Surrey. **The Norfolk Network.** Earth mysteries research in 1992 in Norfolk, indicating an interesting network of leys there, and including a crop circle which appeared there in that year. **Where the Martians Landed.** A visit to Horsell Common, where H.G. Wells set the landing of the Martians in *War of the Worlds*, and leys in the vicinity, and finally a UFO sighting at nearby Newlands Corner, Guildford with seeming Mars connections. **Jimmy Goddard on Earth Mysteries.** Earth mysteries research in Surrey in the 1980s. **Avalon and Ebony** A holiday ley hunt in the two very similar areas of the Isle of Avalon at Glastonbury and the Isle of Ebony near Tenterden in Kent. **Northamptonshire Creations** An earth mysteries field trip with the Travel and Earth Mysteries Society in 2000 **The Medway Megaliths and the E-line** is a new film made earlier this year, involving chambered tombs in Kent. **The Silchester Ley** Following a ley found by Alfred Watkins to the Roman city site. **A Walk on St. Ann's Hill** History, leys and energies at St. Ann's Hill, Chertsey, Surrey.

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THE HIDDEN UNITY and BEGINNINGS

The Hidden Unity looks at the strange phenomenon of subconscious siting of ley points, and notes that places of worship, of all religions and all ages, tend to predominate on leys. The environmental and philosophical implications of this are discussed, and the apparent necessity of worship but irrelevance of doctrine. Two ley centres are given as examples, and investigated in depth - the Shah Jehan Mosque in Woking and the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple, Scunthorpe. There is an appendix by Eileen Grimshaw on the significance of the Pagan religion to this study. Illustrated with photographs, maps and line drawings. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

Beginnings is about a series of potentially useful discoveries, mainly made by Jimmy Goddard over a period of about twenty years, but having some overlap with discoveries made by others. For various reasons, the investigations are all in their early stages, and some have not been continued. They include earth energy detection, natural antigravity, subconscious siting, ley width, and the solar transition effect. There is also a chapter on cognitive dissonance - a psychological factor which seems to have been at the root of all bigotry - scientific, religious and other - down the ages. The booklet is concluded with an account of the discovery of leys by Alfred Watkins. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

EARTH PEOPLE, SPACE PEOPLE

In 1961, Tony Wedd produced a manuscript *Earth Men, Space Men*, detailing many claims of extraterrestrial contact. It was never published, and I had thought it was lost, though it has recently been located - Tony had given it to Timothy Good. To try to make up for the loss in a much more modest size, this booklet was prepared. As well as giving details of some of the more prominent contact claims, there are articles on the history of the STAR Fellowship and some of its personalities, evidence for life in the Solar System and investigation into extraterrestrial language.

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THE LEGACY OF TONY WEDD

This CD-ROM is an electronic form of the travelling exhibition Tony planned, using his voice, writing, photographs and drawings to illustrate his research and findings in the fields of flying saucers, landscape energies and lost technology.

£12 from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

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