

Maury Island, lying just a few miles to the north-west from the Cascades, two harbour patrolmen from Tacoma, Harold A. Dahl and Fred L. Crisman, had the eerie experience of finding their boat right underneath a group of five great doughnut-shaped UFOs, at an altitude of only 2,000 ft., one of which was evidently in trouble and was spewing out masses of molten metal that damaged the patrol boat and killed the dog of Harold Dahl's fifteen-year-old son who was aboard the vessel with them.

Immediately after this event, Dahl and Crisman began to suffer all manner of strange and unnerving happenings, some of them ominous and of a "poltergeistic" nature, and all of them decidedly *paranormal*. One of these strange events was the receipt by Dahl of an anonymous letter, containing some extraordinary information. I cannot do better than quote the story textually, as it appeared in Kenneth Arnold's own book, *The Coming of the Saucers*, published by the Amherst Press, Wisconsin, in 1952:-

*"Dahl said this anonymous writer told him that the flying discs were actually manned by beings such as we, only less dense, so to speak, than we are. Due to the atomic explosions, the radiation now released in the atmosphere had caused these things to become visible to us on Earth. These flying discs, which were all shapes and sizes, were the vehicles which the gods of this Earth used to protect this Earth from outside dark influences or enemies. Actually flying disks were, and had been for thousands of years, the protectors of life on this Earth. The letter went on further Dahl said, to*

*say that these beings which manned the flying discs were under a severe attack by other beings who are enemies of the people and the life on this planet.*

*The impression I got from what he told me about this letter was that the flying discs were supposedly the intelligences called 'gods' by the Indians and by all those who claim to have appealed for help from them and have received it."*

We subsequently understood that, to complicate the mystery, Dahl had vanished.

Now it has been our aim in FSR, for many years past, to produce evidence to show that there are indeed "Guardians"; that there are two great factions or forces involved in the so-called 'UFO Phenomenon', and that one of these factions seems to be benevolent to man, and the other one to be deadly hostile to our species and indeed to all life on this planet, as I hope was abundantly demonstrated by many of the instinctive reactions of animals and birds which I listed in my *New Catalogue of 219 Cases of Effects of UFOs on Animals, Birds, and Smaller Creatures*, published in FSR 16/1 to FSR 18/3 inclusive. As I emphasised in that Report, while in some cases creatures displayed absolutely no fear or reaction whatever in the presence of UFOs, in many other cases the reaction was of the most inconceivable fear and panic and even instant death. *From this I deduced that certain of the UFOs might be the vehicles of something deeply inimical to all terrestrial life, and that our animals might know this fact instinctively — G.C.*

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## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE MYSTERY "SWIRLED RINGS" IN THE CORN

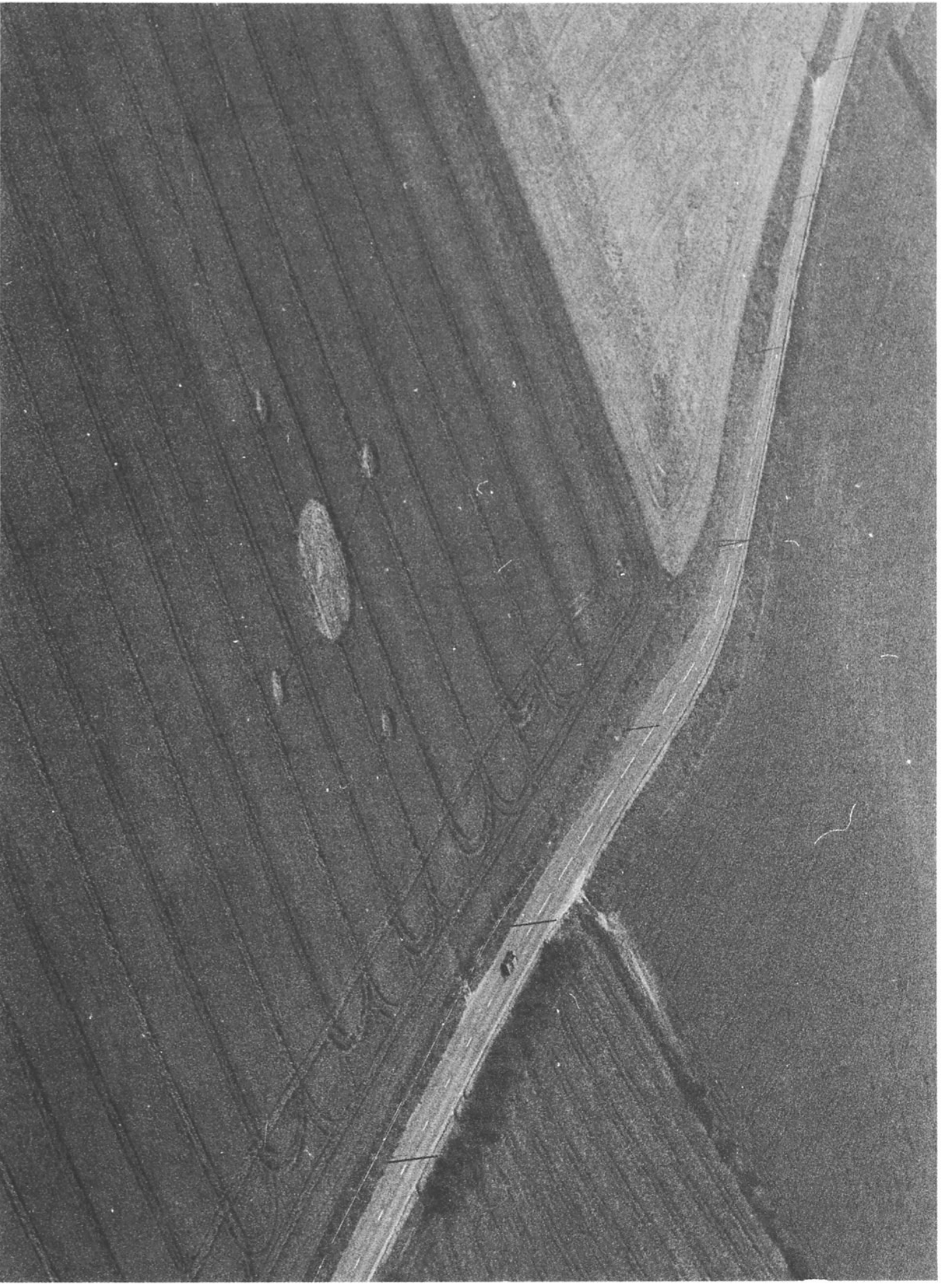
*Gordon Creighton*

As Mr Pat Delgado reported in his article "*Mystery Swirled Rings In England (1985)*", published in our last issue FSR 31/5, he has learned from rural residents in Hampshire that the rings (called the "Cheriton Rings" locally) have been known to the farmers and their workers, *for the past forty years*, as an almost annual occurrence. (Naturally they have not been too willing to talk much about the matter. Who likes to have his cornfield trampled flat by crowds of curious visitors?)

But "*forty years*" is an interesting phrase to us, *because it takes us neatly straight back to 1946/47 and the start of what has since become known as the "Flying Saucer Phenomenon"*!

And, while we have not yet heard of any witness who claims to have actually *seen* the shapes of any machines or devices hovering low over a cornfield and making these symmetrical marks, we do have a statement from a woman who does not wish to be identified but who says that during the night she once saw five large lights bunched together above a field, the central light being the largest. (It is my understanding that this sight was seen above a field in which the typical "rings" were discovered on the following morning.)

In order to recapitulate for the reader the photographic sequence (only very incomplete) which we have given so far in FSR, it is:-



White Horse, Bratton, near Westbury, Wiltshire (1983)



1. In FSR Vol. 27, No. 5 (March 1982). Pat Delgado's first article, "*Cheesefoot Head Mystery Rings*", with two photos of the "three-ringer" set found in a field at Cheesefoot Head, due east from Winchester, in August 1981.
2. In FSR Vol. 29, No. 1 (October 1983). Pat Delgado's second article, "*Mystery Rings Again At Cheesefoot Head, 1983*." This was illustrated by two photographs, showing that this time it was a "five-ringer" set. The larger photo, a magnificent aerial shot (*Daily Express* copyright) was supplied to us by the courtesy of Mr Ted Daley of that newspaper.
3. In FSR Vol. 31, No. 5 (July 1986). Pat Delgado's third article "*Mystery Swirled Rings In England (1985)*", reported on six sets of "rings" (three in Wiltshire; two in Hampshire; one in Sussex), all found in Britain in 1985. The article was illustrated by more superb *Daily Express* copyright photos, this time taken by another of their ace photographers, Chris Wood. The photos show a "five-ringer" at White Horse, Bratton, near Westbury, Wiltshire, on June 19, 1985; another case at Tolymare Farm, near Findon, Sussex, on June 29, 1985; and a third showed another "five-ringer" at Gander Down Farm, Alresford (a few miles to the south-east of Winchester) during that same summer.

On page 26 of FSR Vol. 31, No. 1 (October 1985) we also gave a photograph of FSR Consultant Dr Bernard Finch, with myself, at the Alresford site in August 1985.

### The New 1986 "Crop"

We are now into the summer of 1986, and the "rings" have started up again, and so far we have heard of fourteen new rings at seven sites. *This year, a new factor appears to have been introduced. Whereas, hitherto, it seems that all "rings" were "swirled" solely in a clockwise fashion, we have now started to see belts of standing corn, followed by outer rings of anti-clockwise swirl!*

Obviously it is still too early for us to be able to report on the 1986 "crop", but we shall not fail to do so when all the material for this year is in.

Meanwhile, in order to give our readers the whole of Chris Wood's fine set of pictures, we hark back, with this issue, to the earlier "five-ringer" set at White Horse, Bratton, near Westbury, Wiltshire, in the year 1983. We do not seem to have received any actual details of that particular site in that particular year, but Mr Chris Wood's carefully documented and labelled large envelopes show that the year was indeed 1983, and we are reproducing in this issue four of these 1983 Westbury photos taken by him. (*We emphasise: please note that these are not repetitions of those, also at Westbury, but in 1985, which we have just given in FSR 31/5!*)

Apart from the year and the name Westbury, marked on the back of each picture by Mr Wood, I think that, at present, we do not have the precise date when the Westbury set was found in 1983, nor do we know the date on which Mr Wood took the photos of them.

We are consequently giving them now, "just for the record", in order to keep our documentation as complete and as sequential as possible. And we have several more of Chris Wood's excellent pictures, which we shall use in forthcoming issues.

### "Hoaxes"

*(Several of Mr Wood's photos show linking tracks running through the corn from one "ring" to another, or "blurred", distorted effects on some of the smaller "rings". Is there any need for us to make it clear to readers that these are disfigurations which have been perpetrated by human visitors to the spot, after the discovery of the sets of "rings", AND WERE NOT THERE WHEN THE "RINGS" WERE FIRST DISCOVERED?)*

*It will consequently be a complete waste of time and postage-money to write in and tell us that these tracks and disfigurements were the work of the hoaxers who made the "rings".)*

Among the more popular "candidates" mooted as responsible for these steady hoaxes over a period of no less than forty years we find, mentioned most frequently, "rutting deer"; "rutting hedgehogs"; "rutting Hampshire and Wiltshire rustics"; and — last but not least — "the students from the Art School at — was it maybe *Swanage*, in Dorset, or was it *Wantage* (in Berkshire)?" Anyway, we hail their tenacity! (Unusual in folk with the "artistic temperament", so we are told.)

In the meantime, of course, Britain's top-expert on UFOs and Ufology has already settled the matter, ruling firmly that the cornfield "rings" are all due to a simple, natural force — *the wind* — which, it seems, is not averse to whizzing around clockwise in an inner ring while doing precisely the opposite — i.e. going *anti-clockwise* — in another, outer ring beyond, with a neat, symmetrical, and fairly wide, ring of standing corn in between!

This theory about the "wind" was clearly felt at first to be a winner. (*Or could it be that somebody was scraping the bottom of the barrel and getting desperate for good explanations?*) For it seems that a British expert in Geology (*what the hell has Geology got to do with the matter?*) this year leapt into the arena and also pontificated that it was "*the wind*." FSR Consultant Dr Bernard Finch thereupon telephoned to the Geological Institute in Kensington, London, and asked to be permitted to speak to one of their experts on the subject of geological whirlwinds. A lady geologist promptly came on the line and, when he asked her what precisely *her* scientific qualifications were for



White Horse, Bratton, near Westbury, Wiltshire (1983)



pontificating about the "rings" in the cornfields, she said she had a University degree in Geology and turned quite nasty, and was plainly very glad to terminate the telephone conversation.

However, the triumph of the geologists does not appear to have lasted long. They had their little day, and then faded out, like the hedgehogs.

For, on July 16, 1986, an authoritative London newspaper, *The Daily Telegraph*, carried the following equally authoritative communication from a lady who is clearly "in the know":-

### QUIRKS OF NATURE?

SIR — THOSE OF US WHO LIVE ON THE SALISBURY PLAIN ARE QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THE FLATTENED CIRCLES OF GRASS LATELY SEEN IN HAMPSHIRE.

THEY ARE CAUSED BY MILITARY HELICOPTERS ON THEIR PRACTICE "HOVERS", MAINLY AT NIGHT.

THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF THE CIRCLES (CAUSED BY THE DOWN-DRAUGHT FROM THEIR ROTORS), IS DICTATED BY THE TYPE AND SIZE OF HELICOPTER.

— GILLIAN N. DRAYCOTT  
(MRS)  
EVERLEIGH, WILTS

### The Reports on Samples of Soil and "Fluorescent Jelly"

Finally, in our attempt to clear up various outstanding points, we would refer again to our last issue, FSR 31/5, on page four of which we mentioned certain laboratory tests that had been run on samples of soil and of a mysterious fluorescent jelly-like substance found on the central "ring" at Westover Farm, Goodworth Clatford, Hampshire, early in August 1985 by FSR Consultant Omar Fowler, President of SIGAP, (Surrey UFO Investigation Group). We found that we were unable to include the two resultant laboratory reports in our last issue, as we had mislaid them. Mr Fowler has furnished duplicate copies of the two reports, which we now reproduce below:-

Laboratory Report No. 1, By G.S. Delderfield,  
Dept. of Chemistry, Surrey University, Guildford

#### Report on Sample 'Sigap 11/8/85'

Mr O.F. Fowler,  
Chairman,  
Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena.  
GUILDFORD

The sample collected from the above address at approx. 8.30 p.m. on 12/8/85 was a yellow-coloured inhomogenous paste, showing light-coloured areas on freshly broken surfaces. Photographs obtained by Mr Fowler show that this paste was originally a much lighter colour when it was found the previous day attached to the stems of a cereal crop.

Initial examination by optical microscopy was undertaken by Dr Moss. He did not find any evidence to indicate that it was a slime mould (*Myxomycetes*) as had been suspected. He noted the following:-

1. A large number of starch grains, which were identified by their reaction with iodine solution.
2. Crystals which effervesced with dilute acid, thought to be calcium carbonate.
3. The absence of slow-dissolving crystals such as sugar.
4. A small number of cell structures which were thought to be of plant origin.
5. A large number of bacteria were present.

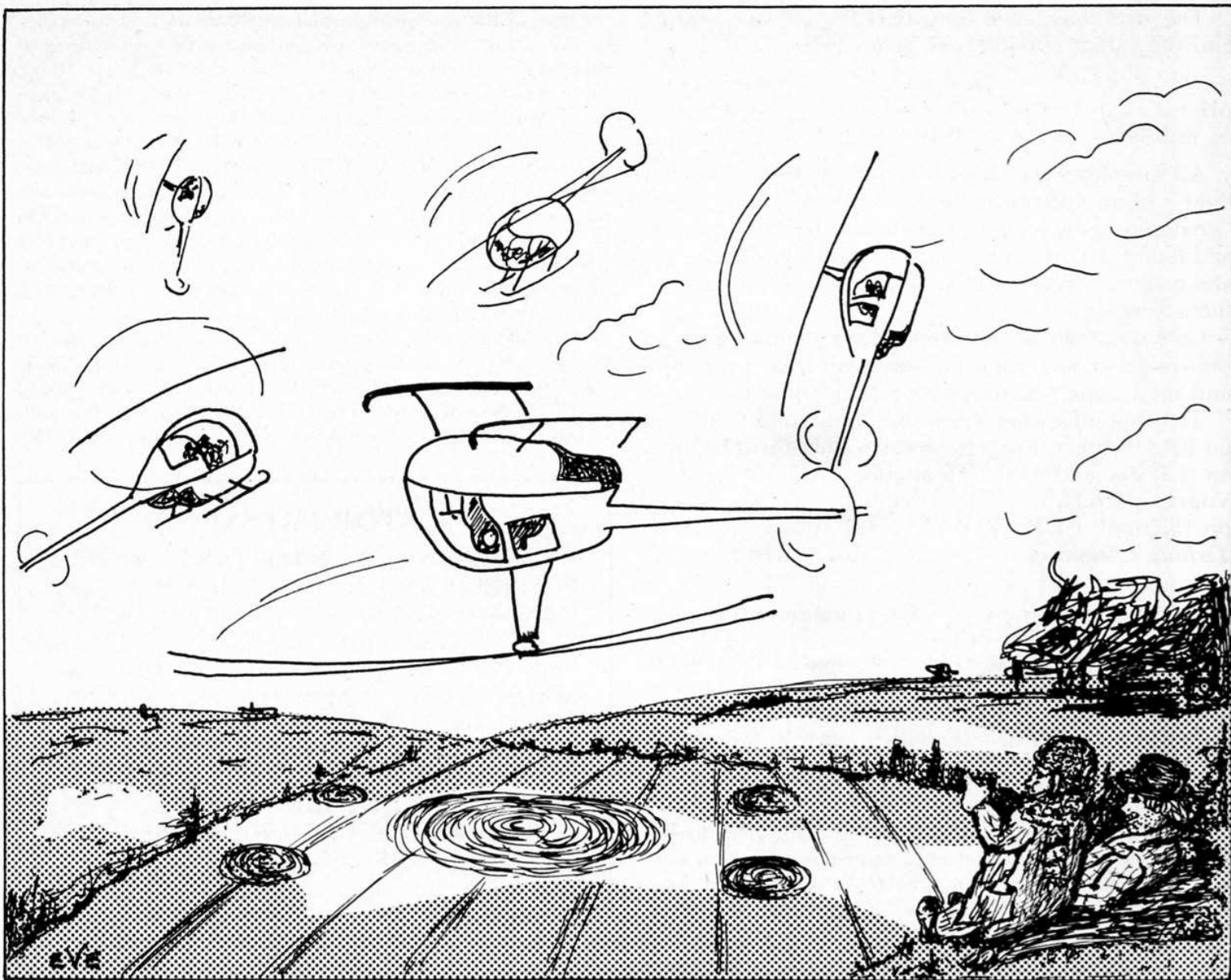
The conclusion he reached was that the sample was *some kind of confectionery\* which had "gone off"*. He also noted a slight smell of honey.

The sample was further examined as follows:-

1. The sample was shaken with water. It was incompletely soluble, and showed some frothing.
2. A test for reducing sugars was made with Fehling's solution. This was negative. Glucose syrup used in most commercial sweets and honey give a positive reaction with this test.
3. A small amount was heated in a test tube; it charred and gave off water and an alkaline gas, identified as ammonia with traces of other amines.
4. A sample was heated to red heat, ashed and found to contain about 1% solids. Most of this ash was soluble in dilute nitric acid with effervescence. The residue was thought to be silica. The solution was shown to contain sodium by a flame test, and has been kept for further analysis if required.
5. The volatiles were examined by mass spectrometry and found to be water, ammonia, carbon dioxide, ethyl alcohol, methane, acetone, traces of amines, and maybe a trace of nitrogen dioxide. This has not been confirmed.
6. The sample was vacuum dried over-night, and an infra-red spectrum was taken which showed a reasonable match with one of self-raising flour.

### Conclusions

It is very difficult to fully identify an inhomogenous organic sample such as this one, especially when it is in an active state of decay. But the indications are that it is a paste of flour and water with an inorganic additive, possibly an ammonium salt and calcium carbonate (chalk). The ash content of 1% for the wet sample shows that it is not just flour and water, as dry flour



1st Ronnie: "Cor, wot moight them be over there?"

2nd Ronnie: "Oi reckon they be the Orstrailian Red Devils".

has been checked and found to have an ash content of 0.7%. There is probably some additional protein material such as egg white present.

#### Further Work

The most informative would be analysis of the inorganic ash residue for a wide range of elements by Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry. Any further analysis of the organic compounds would involve a complex separation procedure and would not be very informative in view of the decomposition which has taken place.

It might be possible to identify the plant cells seen by Dr Moss. This could identify the type of flour. But I feel that this line would be rather a long shot. The bacteria could also be identified but could have been introduced at any point after sampling.

(Signed): G.S. DELDERFIELD

August 16, 1985.

Laboratory Report No. 2,  
from Albury Laboratories Ltd.,  
The Old Mill, Albury, Guildford, Surrey GU5 9AZ

PEDB/RAA/AL

Mr O. Fowler,  
Guildford,  
9th October, 1985

Dear Mr Fowler,

Received from yourself three samples for examination:

1. Soil in "ring"
2. Soil Control sample
3. Jelly-like material from "ring" centre.

These were subjected initially to a scan for radiation and no X or Gamma radiation was emitted from any of the samples.



The two soils were compared for pH and nitrate and the values obtained are given below:

	Sample 1	Sample 2
pH	6.7	6.8
% nitrogen	0.40	0.35

All samples were viewed in normal and ultraviolet light and no differences were observed.

Sample 3, the jelly, was examined bacteriologically and found to contain normal soil flora e.g. *Bacillus* s.p. and coliform organisms. No distinctive or unusual features were observed.

Comments: In the test applied the samples gave no indication of any abnormal or distinctive properties and the testing was terminated at this point.

Thank you for your recent invitation to the meeting on 13th October. I regret, however, that I will be away on that day and unable to attend.

Yours sincerely,

pp. (Signed): P.E.D. BOWEN

Technical Manager

\* Here, I venture to suggest, we have incontrovertible proof of genius at work. For Britain's top expert in UFOs and Ufology had already been widely reported in the press to have ruled that the mystery substance was nothing more than a decaying *Mars Bar* (a somewhat revolting and decidedly fattening chocolate confection much in favour with British teenagers and schoolchildren).

And, indeed, I believe the lady — or the gentleman? — was absolutely right.

But of course the presence of an old *Mars Bar*, thrown down on one of the "ring" sites by some all-too-human gawper, in no way proves that the UFO's crew hailed from Wigan. Older readers of FSR will, for example, well recall

the case of the American farmer Joe Simonton who saw two or three three-and-a-half footers land in broad daylight in their craft just outside his farmhouse door at Eagle River. They asked Joe for a jug of water and, in return, kindly gave him a few little cakes or buns which they seemed to be cooking on a sort of microwave oven. These were secured in due course by the C.I.A., and N.I.C.A.P., and Dr Hynek, and various other people. We were all told that analysis of the product proved that they were precisely what they looked to be — plain old-fashioned *buckwheat-cakes*, and, as anybody who has ever been on an American farm knows, or ought to know, there's nothing in this world that tastes better, or is "more American", than *buckwheat-cakes*.

A lot of folk were of course only too delighted to accept the thesis that, if the little buckwheat-cakes were "All-American", then naturally those who were eating them had got to be 100% American too. Though here and there a few who weren't too "thick" did continue to wonder... — EDITOR.

### STOP PRESS!

AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT BRITISH PHYSICIST AND ASTRONOMER HAS NOW CONTACTED US, AND STATES THAT HE PLANS TO SEE THAT HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL SOCIETY ARE MADE FULLY AWARE OF OUR "SWIRLED RINGS IN THE CORN", AND THAT WE SHALL BE "BACKED WITH WHATEVER SCIENTIFIC COVERAGE IS REQUIRED".

— THE ROYAL SOCIETY!

YOU CAN'T GET MUCH HIGHER THAN THAT IN BRITISH SCIENCE!

EDITOR

## "EVER-DECREASING CIRCLES" ... by "EVE"

"Eve", whose cartoons have been seen on a number of occasions in our journal, is a talented artist and writer, who holds two University degrees in the History of Art and who in recent years has been in charge of the Art Department, and teaching History of Art and English, in a large college in Hertfordshire. She is also a humorous writer, and her work has appeared many times in "Punch". — Editor

IT has been decreed that the oral part of an English IO-level examination shall take the form of a discussion following the presentation of 'stimulus material' — which can be a video, a tape-recording, or whatever the ingenuity of the organisers can provide.

Lessons preparing for this examination unit quite inevitably result in exchanges of the latest media clichés between the teenagers who are being prepared for life in the eighties by having their noses rubbed in such life-enhancing topics as happen to be in fashion, currently apartheid, lesbianism and drugs.

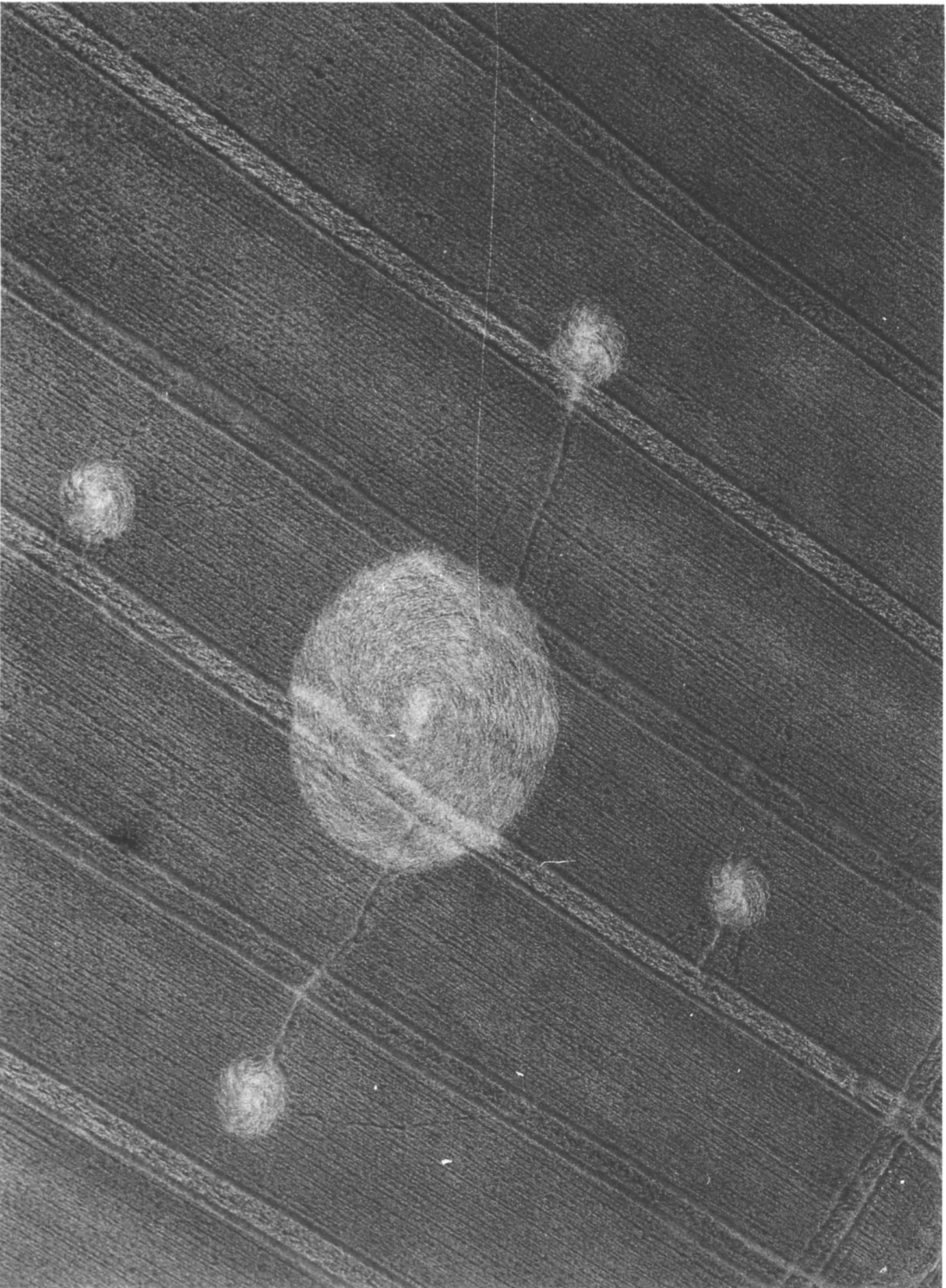
The beleaguered teacher looks with some desperation for fresh subjects, and when a large number of marvellously clear photographs (taken by an expert *Daily Express* cameraman) of flattened circles in growing corn at Westover Farm and other places, together

with an objective report from Lt Col G.J.B. Edgecome of 802 Avn Stds HQ DAAC\*, fell into my hands, I decided to have some fun.

There were eight students in the group, and I distributed the photographs, together with copies of the report, without comment, except for saying that this was the subject for discussion, and that I would have nothing to say about it myself. Readers of FSR can check for themselves that there is no encouragement by me to speculate about 'flying saucers' in what follows, and I can assure them that the class had no inkling that I might in any way have been connected with the subject.

Reaction was swift and definite, and most illuminating.

"You don't believe this stuff do you?"



White Horse, Bratton, near Westbury, Wiltshire (1983)



"What stuff do you mean?"

"This stuff about flying saucers."

"Who said anything about flying saucers? There's nothing there about flying saucers. Anyway you are not supposed to be talking to me, you are supposed to be discussing it amongst yourselves."

Then, from another quarter: "I don't believe it."

"What don't you believe? I haven't asked you to *believe* anything, only to discuss the photographs and the report."

"They must be fakes."

"What — all those photographs — from five different sites! So what are they supposed to be faking?"

"Flying saucers."

"But they are not flying saucers, they are circles in flattened corn."

"They want you to think they are saucers."

When one of the students suggested that the incidents were hoaxes, I invited them to consider how

such hoaxes could be perpetrated. At all times I refused to answer questions about my beliefs or opinions. Several of the class were clearly annoyed, and one suggested that I was trying to convert them to a belief in flying saucers, and became quite angry when I pointed out that I had never mentioned such a subject — *they* had.

Finally, a girl who had said nothing hitherto delivered what she thought to be the *coup de grâce* — she didn't see what all this could possibly have to do with O-level English, and she thought we ought to be talking about something which might come up in the exam.

I concurred. After all, if students actually began to think for themselves, it might become very dangerous. I promised them that next week we would discuss something more relevant — possibly rape.

\* See FSR 31/5.

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## OTHER WORLDS — FACT, FICTION, OR BEYOND HUMAN COMPREHENSION?

*Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant*

**A review of the book "OTHER WORLDS", by Dr Paul Davies (Dent, London, 1980).**

At a recent meeting of physicists in Oxford, discussion came round to the "many worlds" theory of the universe we know, and possibly the universes we don't know. Surprisingly, perhaps, in view of the cautious approach that many scientists take to the subject, half of those present thought it reasonable to suppose that our own universe may be overlaid by other universes.

To the layman looking in, and indeed to many academics, the vote would have looked startling. Yet the physicists who voted "yes" were only agreeing with what a growing body of quantum physicists have been arguing for some years.

It is not only quantum physicists (those who study the world of atomic and subatomic particles) who are arguing the case. Mathematicians, whose calculations apparently show that a multiple-universe scenario is not a contradiction in terms, have added their voice to the chorus.

One such mathematician is Dr Paul Davies, Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, and a well-known figure in the "new physics" mould, whose appearances on television and thoughts on paper\* have stimulated part of the British public to broaden its thinking and adopt a more open-minded approach to such matters as religion and science, and the "parallel universe" theory.

(Indeed Dr Davies used sometimes to "sit in on" —

and take an active part in — certain very private small discussions held in London by the Editor and Directors of *Flying Saucer Review* — particularly when Dr Hynek was here on one of his periodic visits, when he greatly enjoyed "getting together with 'The Gang'", as he called them. But more about this, perhaps, on some other occasion.)

It may seem odd to some readers to start a series of reviews with a book that is now six years old. After all, I have a number of 1985/6 books sitting on my bookshelves, dealing in the same subject matter and awaiting review. However, this book is a classic.

### What is Reality?

In the introduction, Dr Davies states:— "With the advent of quantum theory, that reality (of an objective world "out there") seems to have crumbled, to be replaced by something so bizarre that its consequences have not yet been properly faced."

He adds: "One can either accept the multiple reality of the parallel worlds, or deny that a real world exists at all, independently of our perception of it."

Atoms and subatomic particles, he argues, are not really "things" at all. "Yet we are all made of atoms; the world about us seems to be directed inevitably to an identity crisis."

Readers of FSR should by now be familiar with the