

BLYTHBURGH & SIZEWELL UFOs

Peter Johnson

Two reports compiled by our contributor, who lives in Norfolk, has been a reader for many years, and is a member of BUFORA. Other contributions on East Anglian cases by Mr. Johnson have appeared in *FSR Case Histories*.

KEITH PAYNE lives with his wife in a Showmans caravan at Blythburgh, Suffolk.

The caravan is situated on a promontory which juts out into Bulcamp Marshes. These consist of low-lying mudflats through the centre of which runs a small river named the Blyth. This river is tidal and, at high tide, the marshes are flooded.

Blythburgh report

At about 3.30 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, February 8, 1975, Mr. Payne was awakened by a deep humming noise. He got up and went outside the caravan to investigate.

It was a dark night and there was a slight mist over the marshes, but, on looking over the marsh in an easterly direction towards Southwold, he saw a bright red light. The light was reflected in

the water but its outlines were indistinct due to the mist. Mr. Payne estimated that the light was about half a mile away and about forty feet above the water. The humming noise was coming from the light.

As Mr. Payne watched, the noise got louder and he noticed that the water under the object was illuminated by a white light but, in spite of the mist, there was no sign of a beam of light between the object and the illuminated patch on the water. He then called his wife out and they both watched the object for over an hour. They were then so cold that they went to bed and did not see the object leave.

The next day Mr. Payne went out to see if the object had left any trace but could see nothing to account for the sighting. He noticed that the spot where he estimated the object hovered lay

on a line connecting the churches at Blythburgh and Southwold.

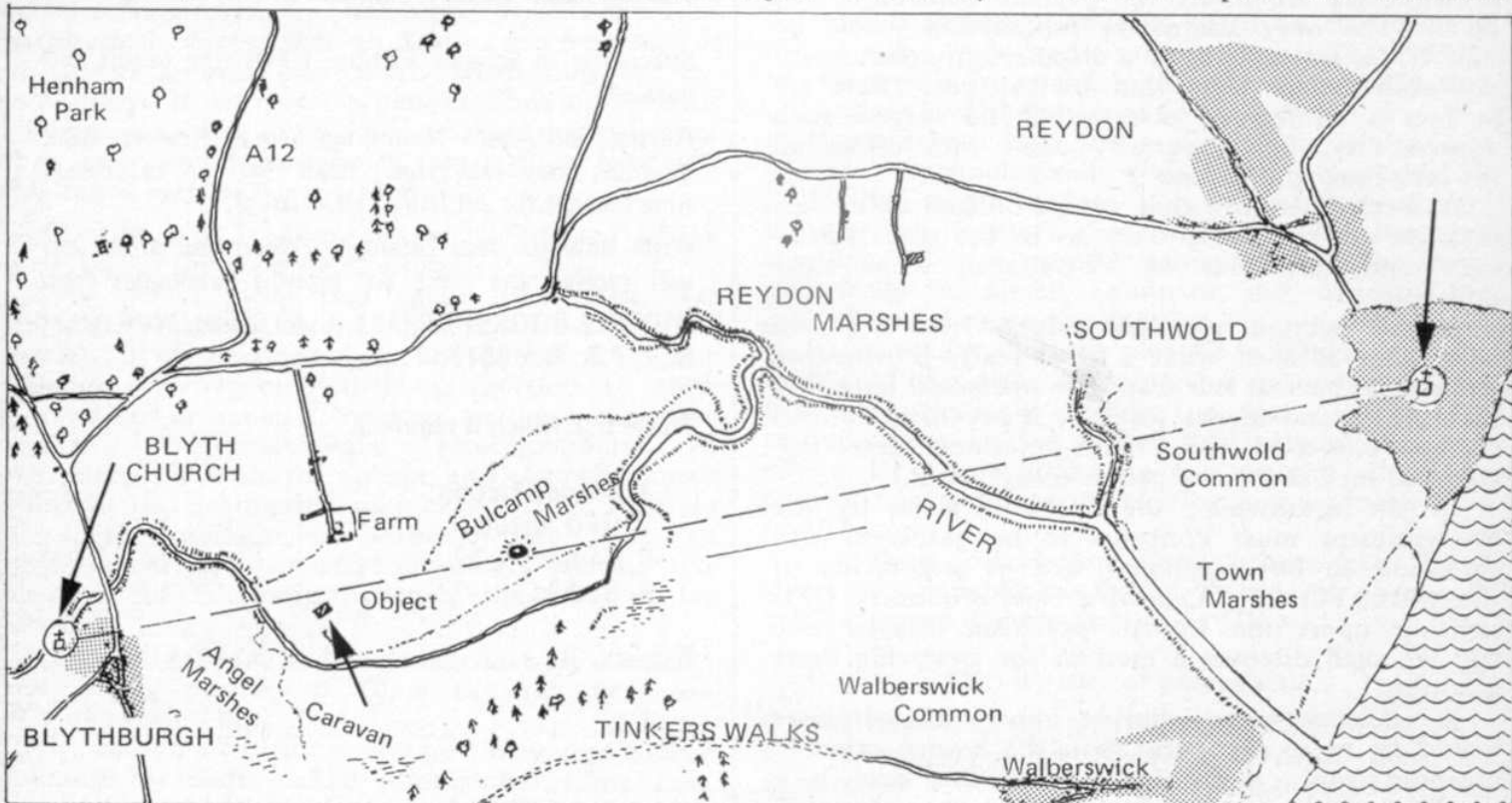
I interviewed Mr. Payne and took a tape recording of his account. He seems to me to be a truthful witness and I have no reason to doubt his story.

In spite of enquiring I could find no other witnesses, but in view of the time of the sighting this was not surprising.

Sizewell report

Just over a fortnight later there was another East Anglian UFO incident, again in Suffolk. As Sizewell is rather a long way from Sheringham, I asked Mr. M.K. Howe of Bury St. Edmunds, a BUFORA member, if he would investigate it for me — which he did, most excellently.

The report which follows has been compiled from Mr. Howe's verbatim report and additional



Sighting of February 8, 1975

information, from the completed BUFORA report form and a newspaper report in the *Leiston Observer*.*

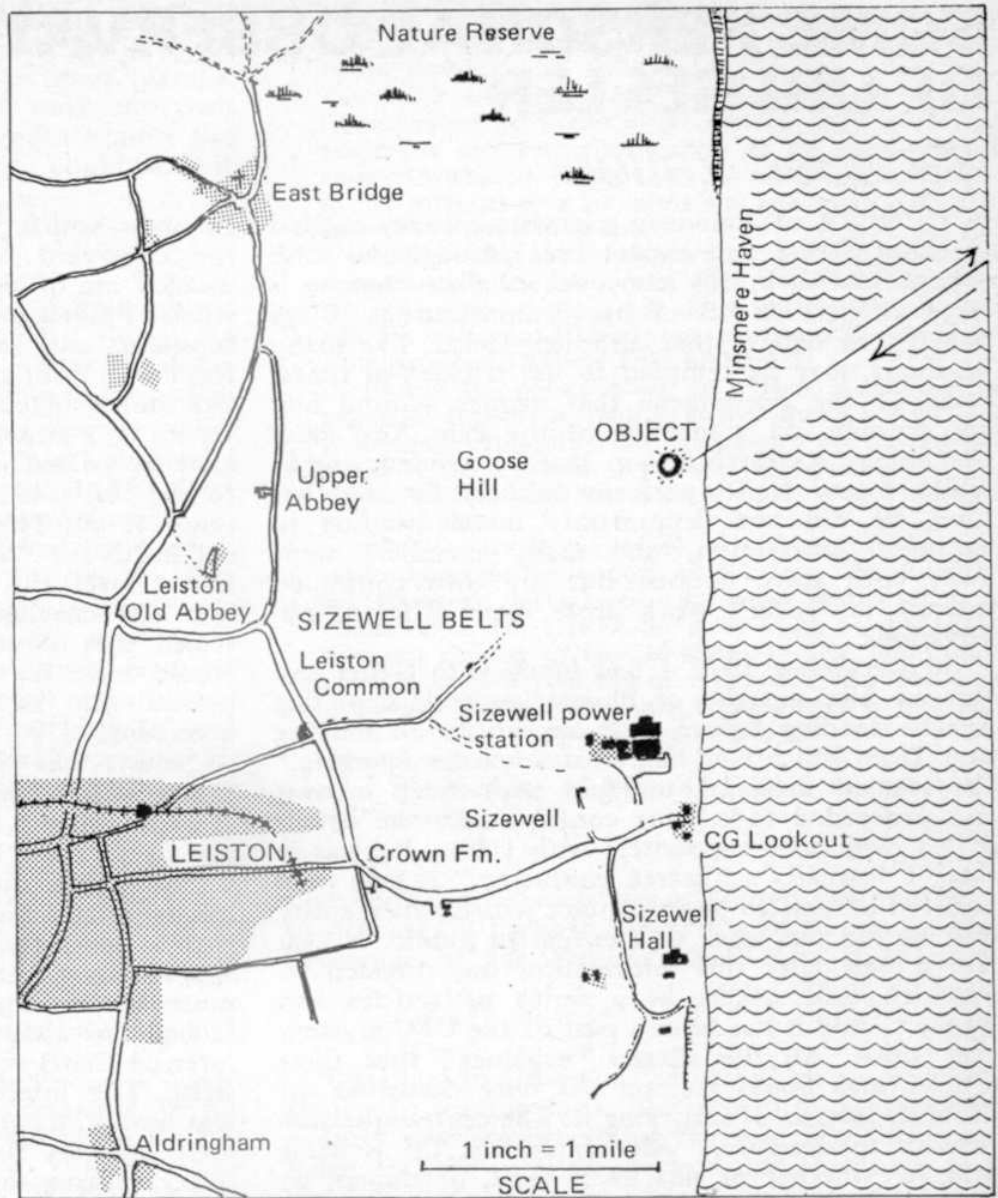
Mr. Thomas Meyer, a postal messenger, lives at Aldringham, Suffolk. Every evening at about 6.00 p.m. he takes his dog, Titus, for a walk.

On the evening of Monday, February 24, 1975, he was walking the dog along the beach at Sizewell. It was about 6.55 p.m. and the night was bright and clear with the moon just rising over the sea.

He was about 1¼ miles north of Sizewell Nuclear Power Station and was walking in the direction of Minsmere when he suddenly noticed what appeared to be a shooting star approaching from the North-East.

It was travelling very fast and in a few seconds it was near him. It looked like a big pumpkin, it was coloured green and yellow and had a luminous glow like a television screen.

The object stopped about 20 yards from him hovering about



Sighting of February 24, 1975

6 feet above the ground, and remained stationary for about half-a-minute. It then sped away as quickly as it had arrived, in the direction from which it had come and soon disappeared.

During the period that the object was stationary in front of him Mr. Meyer stood transfixed.

He experienced a peculiar warm feeling and noticed a pungent acid smell which he likened to the smell of "acid" "drops".

The object made no noise and Mr. Meyer had the impression that it was rotating. He said that the outlines were quite clear and that it must have been a machine of some sort. It appeared to be about 12 feet in diameter but could have been larger and further away.

During the sighting his dog was trembling and covered behind his legs and when the object had gone he ran away (something which he had never done before) and waited for his master at the Power Station.

Mr. Howe reports that Mr. Meyer is considered by his neighbours to be truthful and honest. Mr. Meyer is 62 years of age and has diplomas in British and European history. He had never believed in UFOs before his sighting, and has never read any books on the subject.

No other witnesses were found but, apparently, there had been some interference on local television screens at the exact time of the sighting.

Sheringham,
June 12, 1975

* Photocopies of all documents and maps have been lodged with FSR-EDITOR.



Map showing location of Blythburg and Sizewell

SOME PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS OF URI GELLER

Jacques Vallée

A NUMBER of American scientists are very excited about Geller and expect breakthroughs to arise out of his work, but many others claim that he is using trickery in all of his demonstrations. I am inclined to believe that although Geller, like many mediums, may be tempted to use trickery at times, some of the phenomena that happen around him are genuine. At a meeting of the Palo Alto Parapsychology Research Group that I attended, and at which I saw Geller perform publicly for the first time, he did not demonstrate metal bending to anyone's satisfaction, and many members went away with grave doubts. But my own continued interest in Geller's work arose from different observations.

In December 1972 I had lunch with Geller and showed him a series of Phoenician seals depicting priests standing before what appears to be a flying disc, from which God-like creatures were emerging.* Uri studied these photographs with much interest and proceeded to tell me confidentially the details of his own close encounters with UFOs. He was in fact, I learned, a "secret contactee," a man who believed himself to be in contact with an alien entity that he did not want to mention in public. A year and a half later this information was revealed by Puharich and others in a series of articles and books,† and it has been a part of the UFO mystery ever since. All the alleged "evidence" that these articles and books contain has only deepened the problem instead of clarifying it. The central question remains to determine whether or not Uri is being *utilized*, whether or not he is used, or duped, by something that wants to appear as a higher entity.

During our discussion I asked Uri Geller if he thought he could contact the UFO entity again to obtain for us a real test case: a close observation of a flying saucer. He replied that in all his meetings with "them" the initiative for the contact had been with the "other side."

Later during our lunch Uri proposed to do telepathic experiments with me. It is this short series of tests that convinced me that his abilities were genuine. The very first test in the series contained an unusual aspect that precluded trickery. One of the physicists with whom Geller was working that day handed me a sealed envelope containing a card on which a target had been drawn. It was the outline of a whale spouting. I "sent" it to Uri by visualizing the drawing on a television-like screen which I scanned slowly, erasing it as I did so. Uri was to imagine a similar screen in his own mind and fill out the picture, but it failed at the first trial. We decided to start again, and this time my attention fell on a

fountain which was clearly visible behind Uri, in the courtyard of the building. The fountain reminded me of the spout thrown into the air by the whale. I filled my mental television screen with the fountain, and sent that. Then I filled it with the form of a fish, and projected it a second time. Now Uri took a blank card and said, as he rapidly drew on it, "It's strange, I'm getting two things." On the card he passed around, he had drawn a fish. Next to the fish was a fountain. He thought it made no sense at all. This was a convincing test because it excluded the "collusion" hypothesis. How did I know, after all, that Uri had not managed to look into the envelope by trickery even before it was sealed that morning? But if he had done so, he would have drawn a single target. I was the only person who knew that two different targets had been sent!

Now I was taking Uri Geller more seriously. In the second experiment, he asked me to write a digit (I wrote down a figure eight) and a second one (nine) and then a third, larger. I wrote a figure two.

"Send me the last digit only," he said. And a moment later he had written a two (2) on a card. Not a completely foolproof case. He might have spent long and tedious hours training himself to read muscular motions at a distance — although I was facing him about five feet away — and could have inferred that I wrote a two by the movement of my wrist. The interesting fact here was that my "2" was hastily drawn and that the horizontal base of the digit was very flat and elongated. It was completely different from the usual American way of writing the digit. Now the drawing by Uri was not only similar to mine: it was *identical*, as was soon demonstrated by superimposing the two tracings. One was a carbon copy of the other.

The discussion then came to the events that had taken place at the Research Group meeting. Uri wanted to repeat an experiment with colours. "Think of a colour," he told me, and immediately I thought "blue." Indeed I thought of blue so suddenly that I assumed Uri had already selected the answer and had somehow planted it in my mind. For this reason, I deliberately changed my choice, reviewed a dozen colours and picked "yellow" as the target. Three times Uri gave me the signal to send him the colour. Then he calmly announced:

— The colour I receive is yellow, but once out of three times I got the colour "blue".

By this time we had finished dessert and we had empty ice cream cups before us.

— You know, said Uri, everything you've seen... Those are little things. This is not what I really do. My speciality is to produce phenomena with physical objects. For example, take a spoon...

With these words he touched, barely touched, the

* See FSR Vol.19 No.1.

† In particular in Puharich's book, *Uri*, Doubleday 1974 (U.S.A.) and W.H. Allen (London).