

UFOLOGY



By Tony Barker

I honestly don't know of anyone who has become wealthy as a direct result of book / video sales dealing with the UFO phenomena. Seasoned researchers can be seen sitting at their stalls during lecture breaks, selling their wares. They have to! Ufology alone ain't gonna pay the rent, that's for sure. For the most part the speakers are approachable, amiable individuals who give respect to the well informed and the novice alike, answering question after question without the slightest hint of impatience.

On the other side of the coin you have the odd egotist! Those "select few" who seem to find it beneath themselves to mingle with a conference audience, after all they have had one to one's with high-ranking military figures and government officials. Very la de dah!

I am reminded of a conference I attended a few years ago in Leeds. A very well known author/researcher, whom I had admired greatly, took to the stage to give a pre-arranged Q and A session. What followed was both embarrassing and very disappointing. To every question posed came the retort "Read it in my book" blah blah. Now don't get me wrong his work in the subject has been immense, but to treat the attendees with such disdain was bad form.

The best researchers are fully aware of the gems that can be uncovered when in casual conversation. As my colleague Russ would say, "You get the odd Propeller head who needs the attention", and usually gets it. He is the one the media are interviewing

whilst the scientist, pilots, and military figures are being ignored. But generally the conferences are attended by intelligent down to earth types not given to fantasy.

The foundation of many of today's speakers was built on information filtered up from the smaller groups. They have always been the backbone of the subject, not just in the U.K but also throughout the world. Without such devotees much of the evidence we have available may never have reached publication or airtime. Co-ordinators spend most of their free time compiling newsletters or organising meetings for their members, happy in the knowledge that they are contributing to the bigger picture.

Those who take to the hills sky watching will know just how fruitless their efforts can be. The rewards for spending an evening scanning the skies are usually an aching back, sore eyes and the odd cold or two if you happen to be spotting in sunny Yorkshire in mid January. Nevertheless there can be great camaraderie and much fun to be had along the way, with the odd tantalising glimpse of something unexplained to keep the hearts and minds open.

One of the most intriguing aspects of Ufology in my opinion are those individuals who seem to have some sort of affinity with the phenomena. It isn't just the fortune of being in the right place at the right time; it's deeper than that! I have personally spoken to three such individuals. Let me make this clear, we are not talking contact here, not in the Billy Meier, George Adamski mould, but as close as you can get.

Hours and hours of footage has surfaced in the last decade or so, much of it filmed here in Britain and the vast majority are daylight sightings. I have actually videoed an object in the presence of one particular young man. We were asked if we would like to spend a little time watching the skies near his home. Naturally we said yes and with our cameras in hand we took aim. Fifteen or so minutes had passed when in a casual voice he said "here's one" and sure enough a disc shaped object raced across the sky at great speed, myself and Russel Callaghan filmed the object and in just a

few short seconds it had traversed the sky and descended thousands of feet. UFOs on demand, now that's a convincer!!!

I wondered if it was something spiritual. That in order for one to tune into this exclusive frequency one had to be pure in thought and deed. Not so, apparently. "I have the same urges and faults as any other hot blooded male" came the response to my question. Good, there's hope for me yet.

That leads me to another train of thought. I'm sure we all have a cut off point. I can remember as a youngster looking to the skies and almost begging to see some physical evidence for extraterrestrial life. I was convinced there was life beyond this little planet, and that belief has grown stronger with the passing years. But where would my conviction end?

A saucer shaped object in the sky above my head? Taking off at tremendous speed?

Amazing! I could dine out on that story for years.

Or perhaps a landed craft complete with alien occupants disembarking and heading towards my door? Well I'm not sure about that! Maybe some lead up to the event would be in order.

There is no doubting that alien contact appeals to me if brings guidance and will enable us earthlings to get our act together. We are not in complete meltdown just yet, but the ecosystem is in a bit of a state and our social infrastructure is a touch chaotic, we have done a wonderful job of messing things up; we could certainly use some wisdom.

Maybe I'm being a bit naïve, there are good and bad in every race and I'm sure it's no different on a cosmic scale. There are arguments on all quarters with regard to the alien agenda, be it malevolent or benevolent. There is even a difference of opinion within the abductee circles. Some express a feeling of privilege and enlightenment from the experience, and others only trauma.

If we are going to make any sense of the UFO question we must pool our resources. We do not need to censure ourselves by

holding on to footage or evidence in the hope that a publisher or T.V. company will offer thousands for the rights, it hasn't happened yet and I doubt it will in the future. In my view part of the problem is how the media portray the subject. I have yet to see a televised debate that wasn't slanted in the debunkers favour. The usual ratio is one researcher, three sceptics and an ex game show front man from the "little green men with laser guns" school of indoctrination. Of course he's just there for the gags.

The evidence for intelligent extraterrestrial life is over whelming. Why do those representing the UFO community have to fight so hard? Surely the biggest question we could put to the sceptic is "tell us why there isn't life out there?" and where is the evidence for human kind being the only possible intelligent life in the universe?.

If you have taken the time to visit this site and are reading this article, then it's likely you have more than a passing interest in our evolution. I believe we all have a common goal; TO UNEARTH THE TRUTH. Which road you take to your truth may differ from others, be it gaining knowledge about the ancients, dating of the Sphinx and its purpose, who built the Pyramids, crop circles, or this years UFO sightings. How you got there may not be of significance. What's important is that we all meet up at the end of our journeys to share our knowledge and maybe heightened our collective consciousness.

By being inquisitive and looking beyond the fodder we are offered as a way of life, perhaps we can install a new ideal, a new thought pattern, not one built on greed and gain, but one of a respect for the planet and each other. Maybe then our children will have worthwhile role models, instead of the usual Rap artists and sports people.