

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT SCARY!

ISSUE 19

# HAUNTED

MAGAZINE

THE MAGIC OF THE GADGET  
SPECIAL EDITION

BILL HARTLEY



"IF YOUR END GAME IS FAME YOU HAVE NO PLACE IN THIS FIELD"

JOE PASQUALE



"THIS INTERVIEW WON'T GET ON YOUR NERVES, GET ON YOUR NERVES!"

CRAIG-Y-NOS

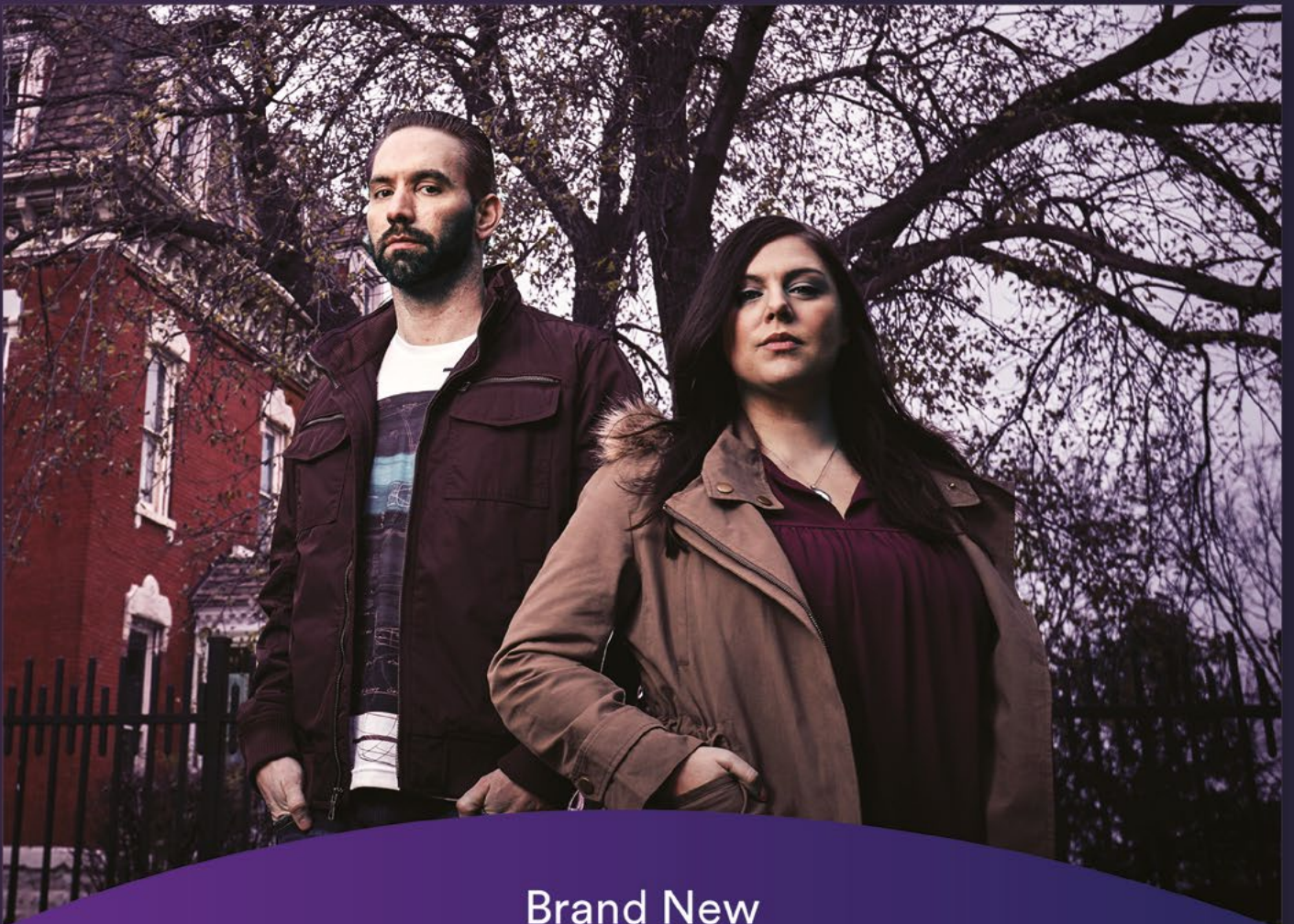


INVESTIGATING A HAUNTED CASTLE... AND-Y-NOT...

FEATURING:

GHOSTS - GADGETS - GIZMOS - GETTYSBURG  
GRESLEY OLD HALL - GUYS AND GIRLS IN THE DARK  
AND ALL THE USUAL NEWS - VIEWS - MUSE AND MORE

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## THE MAGIC OF THE THINGY

As I start to sit and write this issue's editorial I am watching my kids build a snowman, *yes, it is the month of March and we are knee deep in shimmering white snow*, the schools are closed, the kids are happy and my editorial title **THE PARANORMAL HAS A SPRING IN ITS STEP** seems pointless. Anyway, welcome to a new issue of Haunted Magazine in print and digital no less. This issue's thinly-veiled loose theme is gadgets. Now, as you know modern ghost hunting is awash with gadgets, every other ghost hunter, these days, has some kind of electronic gizmo device with them, be it, camera, voice recorder, EVP thingy or some other piece of kit deemed suitable for sniffing out the spooks. It makes you wonder how the ghost hunters 20-30 years ago (and longer) actually caught any evidence with pen, pencil and tape recorder.

But do modern gadgets work? Are we saying that the ghosts are getting cleverer at breathing in our ears without being seen and that we need better, modern, more sophisticated equipment to find them and by using modern gadgets we are closer than ever before to capturing a ghost? Or is it a money-making exercise and if that be the case why has the design of the K2 stayed the same for ... ever, and when is the K3 going to hit the market as the K2 appears to have managed to survive in the last few years just being it's flashing little self without a modern makeover.

Anyone who knows me knows that I am no gadget expert and those that know me well know that I often refer to gadgets as "thingies", "ooh, put the laser thingy on Jason", or "pass me the voice thingy Andy" it's not that I don't trust them, respect them or appreciate them, it's just how I refer to them. There's just so many of them these days and is it just me or are they diversifying and going in two different directions, two different paths, path A, looking more modern and slicker and cool and path B, going completely the opposite and being "steampunked", looking like something out of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang which begs into question for some of us "do I buy the modern looking EVP, or do I buy the steampunked looking EVP". I must admit if I was ever in a thingy buying mood, the steampunk looking ones would do it for me.

Whether you're partial to a gadget or not, they look like they're here to stay, and you can expect acronyms and words like ALICE, EDI, EVP, SLS and REMPOD to be around for a long time, I just sometimes long for a time when mediums could regurgitate soiled cheese cloth and call it ectoplasm, even though it's fake, wouldn't it be great to see Derek Acorah or Sally Morgan recreate it for effect. No gadget in the world could do that, no, not even you Alice.

Enjoy the issue, don't be normal **BE PARANORMAL**

**PAUL STEVENSON**

Thingy-in-Chief

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# THE HAUNTINGS OF CRAIG-Y-NOS CASTLE

*in Wales!*

BY CLAIRE BARRAND

Craig Y Nos Castle which in Welsh, means 'Rock of the Night,' Maintains a reputation as the Most Haunted Castle in Wales, having been visited by "Most Haunted," alongside numerous other TV shows which have also filmed at the castle. My sister Linzi and I have investigated this location together twice and have not been disappointed, in fact, we would have to say this location is in our top three for paranormal activity!

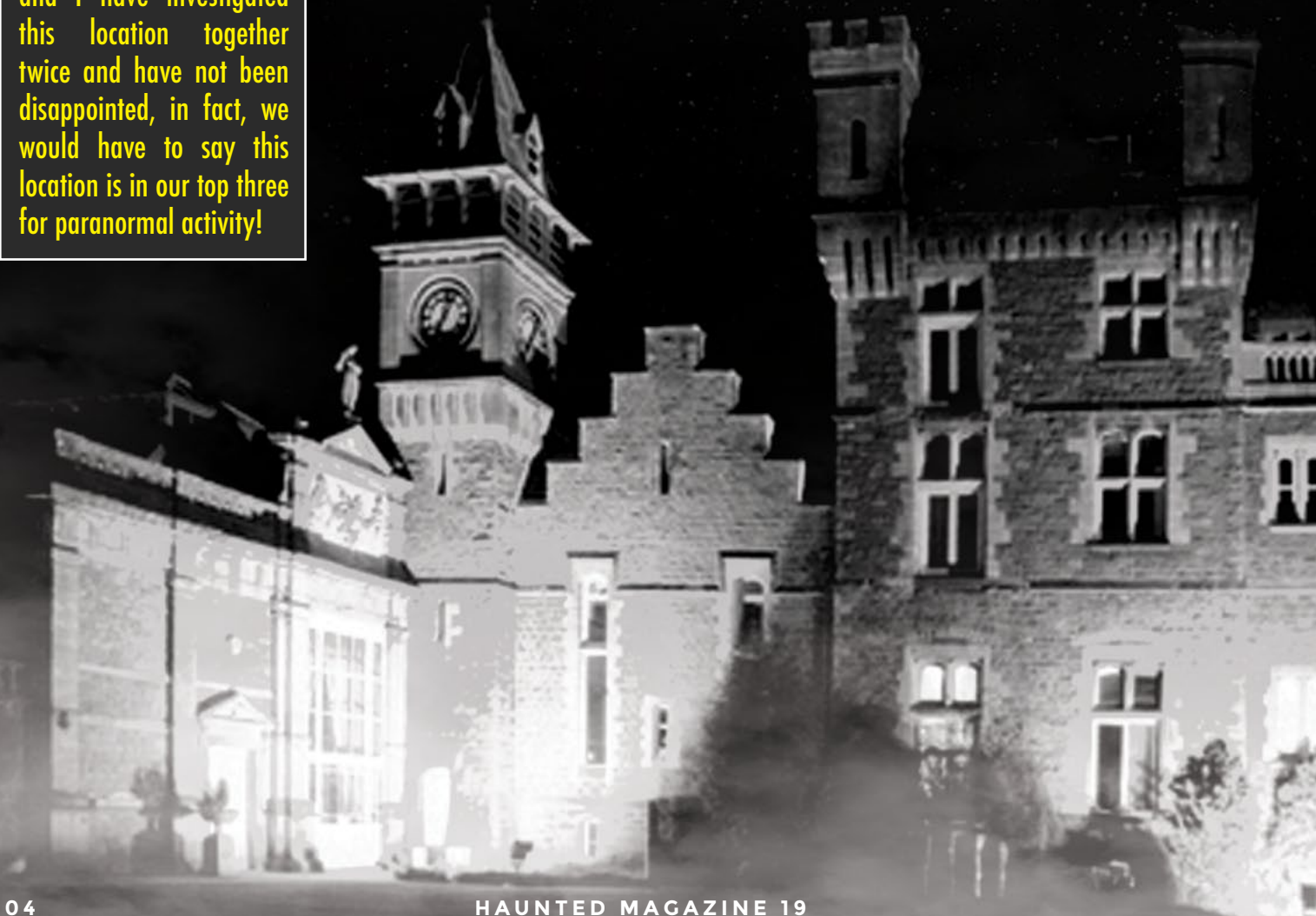
## THE EARLY YEARS

The history itself is epic enough to inspire a Hollywood feature film. In 1840, Captain Rice Davies had grand plans to build a neo-gothic castle amongst the breath-taking scenery next to the River Tawe on the edge of the Brecon Beacons. He desired many turrets and pyramids and the castle was built in nothing less than the local limestone. Unfortunately,

Davies ran out of money and was forced to move in 3 years later, to begin his life a country gentleman, leaving the North Wing uncompleted.

Davies went onto become a county magistrate and a High Sheriff of Brecknock during his lifetime however his life was also blighted by what some declared to be a "curse" as the misfortunes kept coming. His youngest son perished to the disease cholera in 1851,

and then sadly he lost both his wife and a daughter before he died himself in 1862. Just two years after his father's death, another son of Davies was to die in a terrible accident whilst hunting on the Isle of Wight. A remaining daughter remained living at Craig-Y-Nos until yet once more the curse struck and her husband, Captain Allaway died, and so she relocated to Tenby and sold the castle to the Morgan family in 1875-76 for the sum of £6000.



## THE ADELINA PATTI YEARS



**Madam Adelina Juana Maria Patti** was a demanding Italian soprano with a colourful private life. She was said to have had many affairs one being with Prince Edward VII and another the Tenor Mario. In her time, she was the leading opera singer of the day but reputed for her diva-like ways. She was known to have a pet parrot that she had trained to squawk "Cash! Cash!" whenever her promoter Colonel Mapleson walked into the room.

In 1878 Craig-Y-Nos with its incredible structure and landscape attracted her attentions and declaring that she had found the "home of my dreams", she made an offer which was accepted.

Adelina made several alterations to the castle once she moved in, including the building of an impressive 150 seat theatre. The prima donna was at the heights of a spectacular career, and she laid on a lavish opening ceremony in which many famous and important guests attended. This remarkable guest list was to include the Spanish Ambassador and Baron Julius Reuter, who was the founder of the Foreign News Agency. Signor Arditì led the 20-piece orchestra that accompanied the Prima Donna and her second husband French Tenor, Ernest Nicolini.

The private theatre was used to full advantage during Patti's glittering life, and other notable guests were to be Prince Henry of Battenburg and the Crown Prince of Sweden. For 25 years Adelina sang by private invitation for Queen Victoria and no doubt she will have performed to many royals. She achieved a great many accolades from sovereigns of state, including Franz Josef of Austria and Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. After the death of Nicholìni 56-year-old Patti married Baron Rolf Cederstrom, a

Swedish nobleman 26 year her junior. They were married in the Catholic Church at Brecon on the 25th January 1899 and lived at Craig-y-Nos although he put restrictions on her social life and cut her staff numbers from 40 to 18.

Despite Adelina Patti's reputation for being temperamental, she was incredibly kind to her loyal staff who thought highly of her. She would retire them with a generous pension and offer them a lifetime home at the castle. She made her last performance at the Royal Albert Hall in October 1914 as her voice was becoming frail. Once retired, however, she would continue to practice her scales daily watched by her three pet parrots.

Adelina died of natural causes aged 76 at Craig-Y-Nos on 27th September 1919. Her body was embalmed and kept in the cool cellar area of the kitchens before being taken to France where according to her specific wishes she was to be buried next to Rossini, her favourite, and much-loved composer in the Cemetery at Pere Le Chaise near Paris. Some years later the Italian government requested Rossini's body be moved to Florence and so she now lies alone. There is no doubt this move would have never been approved of by Adelina Patti, and many say her soul cannot rest because of this.

## THE HOSPITAL YEARS

The castle and the grounds sold in 1921 to the Welsh National Memorial Trust, and it was named the 'Adelina Patti' Hospital in her memory. It operated as a TB hospital until 1960, and many died there during this period during the epidemic of tuberculosis. In its final years, the patients were mostly elderly.

Craig-Y-Nos features some incredible stories from nurses and patients during its time as a hospital in a book titled *'The Children of Craig-Y-Nos'* by Ann Shaw and Carole Reeves. Many residents during these years reported seeing or hearing Adelina Patti's ghost.



## HAUNTINGS

With such a vibrant history is it any wonder that Craig-Y-Nos is flourishing with paranormal activity and ghostly sightings to this day? Currently used as a hotel and a popular venue for weddings, the top floor remains untouched despite the rest of the building being renovated.

Several people claim to have witnessed a woman dressed in black in several rooms and in the courtyard. A female pianist once reported sitting down to the grand piano to play "Home Sweet Home" and says she felt a heavy presence behind her the entire performance but nobody was there when she looked around.

During the hospital years, nurses would say they felt someone breeze past them on the stairs or in the corridor, and dark shadowy figures are seen. There are many inexplicable noises and sounds of children giggling and footsteps, in the children's ward area, which is said to be the most active area of the castle.

There have been many occasions where a film crew has used the location, and on one instance the crew was discussing the rumour that Adelina Patti could never master the role of Carmen, something she regretted during her lifetime. As they spoke a huge heavy pan hurled itself off the back of the stove and went crashing to the ground startling them all- as nobody was anywhere near it.



## OUR INVESTIGATION

When Linzi and I investigated Craig -Y Nos in 2015, we stayed for two nights. The thing that strikes you when exploring here, is that this is a fully operational hotel with a bar and restaurant set in the most remote countryside. The day we arrived there was a fog rolling in and we felt we were approaching Saltmarsh House from "The Woman in Black" such was the dramatic sense of wonder as this amazing structure comes into sight. Whilst the ground and first floors of the Castle are renovated to a high standard, including the splendid theatre, when you get to the top floor, where the Children's wards are, prepare to step back in time. As you approach it, you begin to notice the peeling walls, the decay, and the silent echoing original ward abandoned with empty beds crosses on the wall and original hospital lights. The sadness that was here is still palpable.

At 3 am during the investigation, we sat under the stage area and played Adelina Patti's last ever recording of her favourite song "Home Sweet Home." using my iPhone and a speaker. The song, it is rumored, she did not allow any other person to sing in her theatre besides herself. As the music began to play, our Rempod, placed at the bottom of the stairs began to flash and beep. At the same time, the Boo Bear, placed close by, lit up red and began to alarm, and more terrifyingly we heard loud footsteps coming towards us from the (locked and keypad operated) door at the top of the stairs.

The door began to rattle, and Linzi and I fully expected someone to burst forth. Assuming it was another team member, we stopped the music, and the activity ceased immediately. Upon investigating there was nobody there, so we started the experiment again, only for the same activity to reoccur. These footsteps were urgent and terrifyingly close!

The activity continued like this for just under an hour as we kept resetting the gadgets and replaying the music - something told us that Adelia did NOT appreciate us playing her music that night! In the kitchen, others felt the unpleasant presence of a man; it was strong, many of us smelt sweat and felt him be disfigured in some way and lurking in the shadows. One lady screamed as she swore she saw him lean out from behind a unit and glare at her. I asked him if he would come forward only to get a horrible disembodied voice whisper "no!" in my ear! One great class "A" EVP we got on the night in the basement kitchen area, was when a team member is suggesting we grab a coffee break. A growling male voice spat out the words "I hate coffee!" when we played it back on the digital voice recorder. Guaranteed goose bumps!

We got great results during our investigation, and it has left us in no doubt that ghosts are active there. I would wholeheartedly recommend Craig-Y-Nos Castle to anyone that wants to experience a location which has the whole package, somewhere you can stay with an amazing history, breathtaking location, mysterious atmosphere, and has paranormal activity in abundance.

## CREDITS

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Craig-y-Nos\\_Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Craig-y-Nos_Castle)

<http://craigynoscastle.com/>

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INSIDE  
BEATTIE MANSION  
WITH

3 girls in the  
dark



Known affectionately as “HOUSE ON THE HILL”, Beattie Mansion is an incredible building with rich history and paranormal activity. The home, built in 1854, sits tucked away in the hills of St. Joseph Mo. Beattie closed its doors in 2004 and since has had little to no interaction from the outside world. That is until APEX Paranormal, a team out of Kansas City MO, got their hands on her.

APEX was the first team to investigate the mansion in 2017. After a highly active night, they called in reinforcements and invited us in. 3 Girls in the Dark would go on to mark this location as one of their top investigations to date!



LINKS

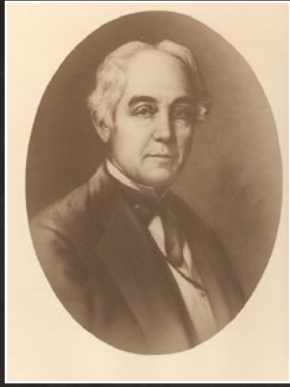
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9M1ZfmzRwzE&t=16s>

Website: <http://www.3girlsinthedark.com/>

Website: <http://www.theapexparanormal.com/>

Website: [www.beattiemansion.weebly.com](http://www.beattiemansion.weebly.com)

# HISTORY



Armstrong and Eliza Beattie built the mansion as their family home. Known as a shrewd and wealthy businessman, Armstrong was the 1st banker in St. Joseph and became mayor in 1857. He would go on to be re-elected 4 other times. After a "sudden bout of cholera" Armstrong died mysteriously in 1878 and Eliza 2 years later in 1880. The couple left no heirs.

The home was sold to the Ladies Union Benevolence Association (LUBA) and became a "Home for the Friendless" accommodating the homeless and distressed. In 1895, the home was expanded and the west wing was built. LUBA also converted the home into the Memorial Home for the Aged which it served for 100 years. In 1995 LUBA, in need of more modern facilities for its residents, moved the aged home to another location and the building was temporarily used as a group home for the mentally ill and substance addicts. It was sold to the current owner in 2004 and has sat empty, with the plans to turn the building into a quaint B&B.

In 2017, the current caretaker, decided to contact a paranormal group to come in and help Figure out the mystery of the mansion.



# CLAIMS

During attempts to renovate the mansion, caretakers and contractors experienced paranormal activity and many refused to return. Here is what they have reported:

- Full bodied apparition
- Piano playing
- Getting touched, grabbed or scratched
- Eliza - The most prominent spirit in the house, lurks upstairs on the 2nd floor. She does not like males.
- Armstrong - Paces the halls, particularly in the east wing, whistling.
- Child spirit - Throughout the house, but specifically on the 2nd floor where the 2 wings connect. There is a room in which this spirit has been captured yelling and laughing.
- Kitchen - Variety of activity and various shadow figures of all sizes seen walking through the kitchen.
- Basement (area 1) - The most haunted floor in the house, housing a darker, male entity. Seen walking the hallway connecting the 2 wings, heard laughing, and likes to taunt visitors.
- Basement (area 2) - There is a room on the west wing that houses a male figure seen by 7 different people and described as being a tall man in overalls and a white shirt. He often peers out the window at the parking lot.



*Pictures from our investigation*





## INVESTIGATION

The night began with setting up nerve center and placing equipment throughout the house. We left a voice recorder running, locked up the location and headed to dinner. While out we discussed a plan of attack on Beattie, so when we returned there would be no time wasted. After hearing all the stories on this place we wanted to be ready to go.

First we checked the recorder left running. The night had just started and we already had some compelling EVPs. You could hear whistling, walking, a child yelling, laughing and saying "Catch me", and someone saying "I will". A little shocked at everything that took place while we were gone, we were excited for what the rest of the night had in store and it didn't disappoint.

Next we split up into teams. APEX invited us in and knew the location so we decided to mix our groups, making sure each person from our team had someone from APEX. Shannon and Ryan would hold down nerve center. Nerve center was located in the parlor and in that room was a piano. They both heard a piano key and were able to catch it on EVP. Later that night these two would go on to catch one of the best and eerie EVPs of the investigation. Ryan heard it in real time and ran to the recorder to see if it was caught. Sure enough, a class A EVP of a female voice saying "Eliz-aaa" was there. Eliza Beattie is known to walk the house and have a child spirit follow her. The name is said in a way of question, as if looking for Eliza.

Gina and Shawn headed upstairs where the two hallways meet. For equipment they brought a camera, voice recorder and an EDI meter. Gina had been hearing a female singing throughout the night and could not figure out what area it was coming from. She decided to use this for part of her session. Gina and Shawn started asking questions and there became a pattern of responses but only to Gina. There was no interaction with Shawn. Knowing they were in Eliza's area and Eliza doesn't like men, Gina took over. The EDI was going crazy and responding intelligently. She even turned it off and on again to make sure the meter was working properly. Still the answers kept coming,

in the form of 1 (yes), 2 (no) or 3 (close) blinks from the EMF lights. A few times the entire device lit up strong and held for a few seconds when we think we hit some information that was dead on. We gathered information suggesting we were talking to a young lady, who didn't like men, name starting with an E, and stayed on the second floor. Could this have been Eliza?

Elijah and Ed made their way to the basement where they caught some crazy EVPs. Along with more whistles and a "Hey", they caught a great EVP of what sounds like an old angry man mumbling and finishing his sentence with "in our house".

Finally we ended the night with an all group session on the second floor. This was the climax of our night. A string of events happened that blew us all away. Ryan had strong feelings of panic, anxiety and fear. He felt that if we didn't move something bad was going to happen. Then Elijah was choked, to such an extreme that he started coughing and couldn't catch his breath. Gina asked if this was Eliza and a female voice on the S87 said "yeah." This voice was very similar to the voice heard singing and recorded throughout the night. The S87 then said "Shannon" who happened to be standing next to Elijah. Shannon asked "How many of us are here?" and a female said "MANY." Elijah offered to remove himself from the room and S87 said "LEAVE". At that point all the activity stopped.

We decided to call it a night and slept in the parlor. We left a recorder running and again you can hear the piano play. There's also an EVP of what sounds like a chair dragging and someone saying "GO BACK".

Beattie Mansion is an **exceptionally active site** with several entities that are vocal and responsive. The more we interacted with them, the more they fit the profiles of previous residents, with the exception of the child whose identity remains a mystery. We have no doubt all the spirits of Beattie Mansion, whoever they may be, are just as active now, in solitude, as they were when we first detected them. For now, they have the place to themselves, but eventually they may have to share it with the next visitors to come along.



# GHOST RESPONSE *HAUNTED UK*



**SAMMY**  
ROBINSON

**FRAZER**  
CHALKE

**KELLY**  
CHALKE

**SELENA**  
WRIGHT

**DAVE**  
COOK

*AUTHENTIC INVESTIGATIONS AWAITS A  
GHOST RESPONSE.  
SPIRITEAM, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE EVIDENCE.  
KEEPING IT REAL SEEK AND WE SHALL FIND*

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# Deadly Dinner

CHARLOTTE'S FLESH FICTION

The illnesses hadn't killed us all off, not quite yet, anyway. The medical professionals, as my mother called them, had failed to fully identify the root cause of the deadly disease. But so far it had taken my grandma, three aunts, two uncles, my nine-month-old sister and two cousins. That was a lot of people, even for one large family. No one was discussing it. It was as if the grim reaper stood over us all, watching, waiting until his next victim revealed themselves. No one cried, no one grieved, we all pretended that they had never existed in the first place; my younger cousin had asked where his brother had gone to and was quickly thrown over his father's lap and hit hard on the bottom, twice.

*Tonight, would be no different, I was sure of it.*

The room in which I slept was not a typical teenagers' room; there were no posters of boybands and teen idols plastered over the walls, no electronic machines and computers — actually, there was a radio on a Saturday night when the machine rotated my way, so I could listen to the charts, but that was it. It was a very large wooden, cold

house with very little personality. My mother and her sisters (god, rest their souls) found the place difficult to keep clean and tidy if 'personalisations', as they called them, were left scattered about. I waked over to the window, as the sun sat comfortably on the horizon, and saw the large veg patch scattered with few plants still going strong.

"Dinner!" she called. It was my mother's voice, always was, and for such a small lady (just over four feet in height and with barely any skin on her bones) she had one almighty voice. It could install terror in any and all of the family, including the fully-grown men.

"Coming, Mama!" I shouted back as I pulled my jeans up and put on my slipper socks. God, this house was cold. Food was always welcome in this house, particularly hot food. I was not the first out the door as my six younger cousins pushed past me and then each other to reach the bottom of the stairs and then the dining room. I wasn't risking life and limb to sit in the same spot I'd sat in for the last sixteen years, no bloody chance. The extra six seconds I gave to walking, rather than running, meant I was last to sit down.

*"Taking your sweet time, Lin-Beth!"* Uncle Jones said, smiling.

*"She won't be hungry, wanting to starve herself like all them celebrities she seen in the posters at school. I told you that school is no good for children, Mary-Beth,"* Aunt Rose said, properly digging her claws in wherever she could. She wasn't even technically family. She married Uncles Jones.

My mother, Mary-Beth, knitted her eyebrows together in annoyance, along with a look that said, 'go on, push me. Push me that bit further, go on. Just try.'

*"It smells good, Mama!"* I said, trying to distract her. And it did. The smell was of fresh organic vegetables, grown, cleaned, cut and cooked my mother's own hand and the meat was sizzling so loudly that the string of steam began to fill (and heat) the entire dining room. It was in fitting with the rest of the house, a large wooden room with no paintings, ornaments or carpet; all that was too much hassle. The biggest issue I had with this room was the floorboards, as they were used so often, and vigorously, the floorboards themselves had started to splinter and chip.

Many of the children in the family had had to have large two-inch splinters pulled from their bleeding feet, hence my socks and then my thick slipper socks.

My mother proudly carried the silver platter in, apparently it had once belonged to a queen who had given it as a thank you gift after visiting my great, great, great grandfather's house. Personally, I was skeptical. You could always tell she struggled to bring the platter in, I suppose it was heavy with the meat inside of it, but she always refused any help. I suppose she liked to show off her work and show what she had spent all her day prepping and organizing. The vegetables were already out in small silver bowls. There were about eighteen small bowls which went around the large table of sixteen.

*"I am so-so-so hungry!"* eight-year-old Albert screamed with excitement, bouncing around in his seat.

*"Me too!"* replied his six-year-old sister, Catharine, replicating his every move. She absolutely doted on her older brother, wherever he was, she

was. The silver platter went down onto the wooden table with a rather loud thud. Mama rubbed her hands together in excitement. She loved to watch everyone else's faces, it was like watching children open presents on Christmas morning.

*"Ta-da!"* she cried revealing the meat underneath. The entire family went into overdrive smiling, loudly laughing and chattering. The atmosphere was incredible, as it was every single night at this time.

*"Oh my, Mary-Beth this is just incredible. You have outdone yourself!"* Aunt Rose spluttered as if she couldn't contain her thoughts even if she had wanted to. What followed was the rumblings of agreement and praise.

*"This is better than George and Gemma's one!"* one of the little 'uns cried.

*"Well, after the doctors gave us the bodies back, they were not the same. You know, they don't even look like themselves anymore. The post mortem— anyway, it is done! Enjoy!"*

Mama said looking up from the meat

to the harsh stares in front of her, realising her topic was one which was not discussed, she gestured to the meat. There, covered in splashes of bloodied sauce and tufts of greenery, was my uncle's leg (still with hair), half covered by my grandma's wrinkled skin which was wrapped around it, like bacon would wrap around chicken. Then, finally, my nine-month-old sister's arm and hand laid on top. Her hand looked different, much smaller than I had remembered and it had been tied with butcher's wire, to force one finger forward, so it was pointing in the direction of Uncle Jones, the (now) head of the family.

*"Come on,"* Mama screeched with excitement as she sat down, *"Tuck in or it will go cold! Don't let anything go to waste!"*

*Charlotte*

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PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR



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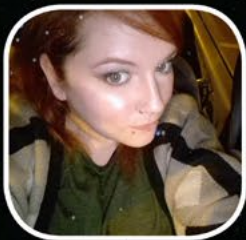
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# ALONE IN A DEMON CHURCH...

THE THINGS GHOSTHUNTERS DO!



BY JUSTIN COWELL

I walked slowly along the muddy path, clutching a simple metal case in one hand and tripod in the other. A chill wind whipped across the flat Lincolnshire fields, making the scene bleak and forbidding. A hundred yards in front of me stood the abandoned church of St. Botolphs.

I pondered on the location of the building as I approached. Set amongst a small copse of trees and surrounded by ploughed fields, the walled churchyard is unusually isolated, being a mile or so from the tiny hamlet of Skidbrooke in an area of flat marshland.

As with many other paranormal investigators, I have a deep-

seated interest in history and appreciation of historical buildings. Before arriving, I had made some simple notes about the location:

'13th Century church. Declared redundant 1973. Limestone - stone tape? Large nave. Buttressed tower. Ghost of monk reported. Lights reported. Audible phenomena.'

Nothing too detailed. I don't search for names of priests long-past or other similar information pertinent to a location. The reason is simple. If I was to capture any EVP's using voice recorders, I don't want to misinterpret natural atmospheric noises such as the scraping of my own feet

in an echoey building as the voice or name of someone I had previous knowledge of and half-expected to hear. Psychology, and not the paranormal, is much to blame for a lot of reported activity and misinterpreted as 'evidence'.

Going through the wooden gate that marks the entrance to the churchyard, I couldn't help but look around at the treetops around me. I recalled a fellow investigator a few months previous telling me about the church:

"People have reported seeing red eyes. Watching you from the trees as you enter. The eyes of demons."

Demons! Bloody demons. Confined to paranormal shows in the US is my opinion on them. Nope. No demons here, I thought with a smile, looking for those elusive red eyes.

Following the stone path that led into the church itself, I noticed someone had recently daubed graffiti to the left of the entrance to the church. 'Come in', it read. I shook my head. I hate graffiti. Abandoned or not, the church deserved more respect than that. Being under the care of Churches Conservation Trust, and officially classed as redundant, the building is open to the public with no doors at any entrance and

The background image shows the interior of a stone church with a series of pointed arches supported by pillars. Light streams in through several windows, creating a dramatic, somewhat dark atmosphere. The stone appears aged and weathered.

**“PEOPLE HAVE REPORTED SEEING RED EYES. WATCHING YOU FROM THE TREES AS YOU ENTER. THE EYES OF DEMONS.”**

only the vaguest traces of stained glass in a few of the windows.

Sadly, due to its easy access and isolated position, the once beautiful village church of St. Botolphs has suffered greatly from vandalism over the years. I noticed that somebody had tried in vain to tear up the beautiful medieval floor tiles inside the church itself, smashed the remains of stone tomb slabs on the floor and walls and, dotted around the floor too, the remains of small fires. Thankfully, the beautiful wooden interior roof was largely intact and in good condition.

Vandalism was unfortunately

only some of what this church had suffered over the years. After it was deemed as redundant by the Church, it was widely reported in the 1970's and 1980's, that satanic groups had begun using the confines of the church to carry out their practices. Sacrificial rituals were carried out with remains of animals found inside the building and paint was found daubed across the stone pillars. With the regular use by satanic groups, St. Botolphs began to build a reputation for itself as somewhere haunted. A location where the satanic rituals had opened a portal to allow demonic entities to dwell inside the building itself.

Or so people would have you believe. St. Botolph's Church has now gained labels such as 'The Demon Church' and 'The most haunted site in Lincolnshire'.

I have never given much stock to such tales, preferring instead to investigate such claims for myself, searching for evidence of the paranormal without any sensationalism. With such a reputation, St. Botolph's church is regularly visited by paranormal groups and curious members of the public alike. I looked around for the so-called evidence of Satanism. I found a large number of scratch marks in the stone pillars. Medieval

graffiti or evidence of satanic worship I couldn't be sure.

I quickly set up my equipment; a video camcorder, two Tascam voice recorders at opposite ends of the church and my trusty notebook. I work light. I long got rid of pseudo-scientific equipment, much beloved of many an investigator, such as the K2 EMF meter and SB7 spirit box. This is because I don't hold much stock in anything which is open to elements such as radio interference or natural EMF levels. To filter these out, thereby proving that the evidence collected is paranormal, in nigh-on impossible in my opinion.

Less than 10 minutes in, I was interrupted by local dog-walkers. Grabbing the opportunity to speak to witnesses, I asked about the stories linked to the church. No, they had never seen or heard anything paranormal. Having said that however, they don't walk the dogs here at night "due to the people that turn up."

"People like me you mean?" I enquired with a smile.

"No. Not ghost hunters. We get guys like you all the time. The other lot in the cloaks. They show up, light fires and kill birds and chickens. We find their remains the next day."

"You mean satanic groups? I thought they stopped rituals here years ago?" I was genuinely shocked.

"No. They still come here."

Well that answers that question I thought. Satanic groups were still active in St. Botolphs. That would certainly account for the reports of lights emanating from the building late at night. Then again, torchlight from interested locals, dog-walkers, paranormal investigators etc could also be to blame. With such easy access to the building, I made a mental note to dismiss the accounts of reported lights from the church.

Over the next few hours, other than the occasional bat, little stirred within the church. Investigating the paranormal properly, in truth, would make for terrible TV. Hour upon hour of nothing at all. That is the reality. I tried to keep my movements to a minimum so as not to cause undue noise.

Suddenly, I saw torchlight and movement coming along the path towards the church. I looked outside and saw several cars had parked up. Shit. A satanic group? Surely not. That would definitely be a first. I had images of hooded figures, offering me up to Beelzebub himself. At that moment, a large group of teenagers burst into the church, laughing and joking, frightening their girlfriends with tales of ghosts. A few yelped as they saw me standing in the shadows. They were obviously not expecting anyone to be there.

Other than slight annoyance at being interrupted, my first thought when investigating alone is for my equipment. They could quite easily have taken a fancy to my camcorder and driven off. As it turned out, the teenagers were lovely; chatting enthusiastically about their interest in the paranormal and how they would drive to different locations during the night. Old RAF bases, abandoned mansions and such like. The group began to wander the site, occasionally throwing a few stones from the graveyard to scare those inside. After a further twenty minutes or so, the group began to make



their way back to their cars, wishing me well for the investigation and headed off into the night.

Suddenly, a series of loud, sharp bangs rang out. Two sharp retorts of stone being struck and then a third bang, harder and with much greater force. Bloody kids, I thought. They must still be about. Grabbing my torch, I searched for the jokers who were still trying to frighten me. Nothing. The cars had gone. The air now still. No sounds of laughter, footsteps or shrieking girlfriends. That must have been kids, I thought. Something was thrown at the building. Something with weight and force. The

questions started going around my head. I was in full debunk mode. I was puzzled. There was no sign of anyone other than myself. Okay, no other people around. Was it the building itself? I searched the grounds. No signs of broken brickwork or loose masonry. On the inside, no signs either of loose or falling building materials. I searched again, shining my torch on the main tower. As solid as before.

In my head, I could virtually hear the voice of Zak Bagans. He was talking about three knocks, 'an insult to the Holy Trinity'. Demons? Come off it I thought, with a wry





smile. The questions were still going around in my head. Was it paranormal? Was it natural? Much more likely to be natural, I thought. So, what caused it? The air was now still. No high winds to dislodge any loose brickwork. Had the teenagers loosened anything while wandering about? Possibly. But three distinct bangs? One maybe. But three? Had something fallen and was banging along the roof as it fell? I played my voice recorder back. There it was. Stone on stone. And that last bang? If

something HAD fallen, surely the first bang would be the loudest, becoming quieter as it slowed. Not louder. Not with that much force.

There was something else that crept into my head. *Something doesn't want you here.* Bugger off, I thought. That's why I'm here. I stayed for a further 3 hours. Nothing. The still night air filled the church once more. With no further activity, I called it a night and made my way home, my head still trying to make sense of the sounds that I had heard.

Had I witnessed something paranormal that night? Who can say? It is worth remembering that just because you cannot account for a noise, however unusual, does not mean it is paranormal. It is simply unexplained. However, it is nights like that that keep me going back for more. When you are filled with more questions than answers. When, after all the debunking, you are still left unsure about what it is you witnessed. As any investigator will tell you, for the clear majority of time,

nothing happens. When you rely on capturing evidence, whether that's audible or visual evidence, without any other flashy gadgets or gizmos so often used on television reality shows, quite often you will be left disappointed. But... every so often, even a sceptic like myself can be left puzzled by evidence that might be witnessed or collected. That is when things get really interesting. That is why the paranormal continues to fascinate and why I shall continue to seek its existence.



## JAMES PYKETT'S HAUNTED NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

# WHEN IS A CASTLE NOT A CASTLE? WHEN IT'S NOTTINGHAM CASTLE!



Sitting proud at the summit of Castle Rock, and with a multi-million-pound renovation under way, Nottingham Castle stands imposingly whilst protecting and overseeing the City of Nottingham. Holding such an important location that is saturated with History, would have you think that it would be celebrated both locally and nationally, but that's NOT the case!

Ok, I'll get straight to the point – it's not a Castle! I know, I can't hide it, in fact, a Castle hasn't stood at the top of the Rock since 1651. After over 350 years of absence you can kind of understand people's frustration at the name and reference to what is no more than a Ducal Mansion. To many it's almost become offensive, they seem guarded and annoyed at the very word, yet for me, it's perfect in that the layers of History have been able to amalgamate into a frenzy of Paranormal mystery!



**A** key stronghold for many Royal Families, the first Castle to occupy the site was built from wood in 1067 on the orders from William the Conqueror. Since then the site has housed much more complex designs, from the large and intimidating design from the Henry II era, to what now sits as a Mansion with slight reminders dotted from its previous past. We can't be entirely cruel to what now stands, it is a stunning piece of architecture that holds itself with such pride and stature, but compared to what has been here prior, it really is a bit disappointing and in a small way, sad.

Before we move on, here's a Reminder of just how Important a Role in History that the Castle has served –

*1067 – The First Norman Castle was Built on the Site by order of William the Conqueror.*

*1150 – 1189 – During the reign of Henry II, the Castle was completely redesigned with large parts rebuilt in Stone.*

*1194 – A Battle took place as part of the return of Richard the Lionheart, unfortunately the Castle and its occupants surrendered within the first week!*

*1331 – The story of Roger Mortimer, who was dragged from the Castle itself after King Edward III had discovered his relationship with his mother Isabella of France. Men hid in what is now known as Mortimer's Hole before sieging the Castle and arresting Roger and the Kings Mother.*

*1346 – King David of Scotland was held at Nottingham Castle on his way to the Tower of London. After invading England, he was captured, and his army defeated, he was held prisoner in England for 11 years.*

*1485 – King Richard III, the last ever King to die in battle left Nottingham Castle to the Battle of Bosworth from which he never returned.*

*1642 – At the start of the English Civil War, Charles I chose Nottingham Castle as the destination to rally his armies.*

*1651 – The Castle remains were demolished and removed by John Hutchinson after the execution of Charles I.*

*1678 – The first 'Palace' was built onsite by the Duke of Newcastle.*

*1831 – The Palace was burnt to the ground in the Nottingham Riots after the Reform Act.*

*1878 – The Mansion was opened after a period of 40 years being left derelict and unoccupied. When reopened it was branded as a museum and art gallery to which it still is to this very day.*



So, from what we can see, it's had a very interesting and speckled past, from major events that have impacted the UK to love affairs and even prisoners, maybe this alone is why it still holds its name as a Castle!

What I love about timelines such as the one above, is that these are RECORDED major events, we have a written and publicly made History that we can piece together. They are the one's that are pushed into the limelight, but they're not always the ones that are responsible for Hauntings and the darker events that still occur today.

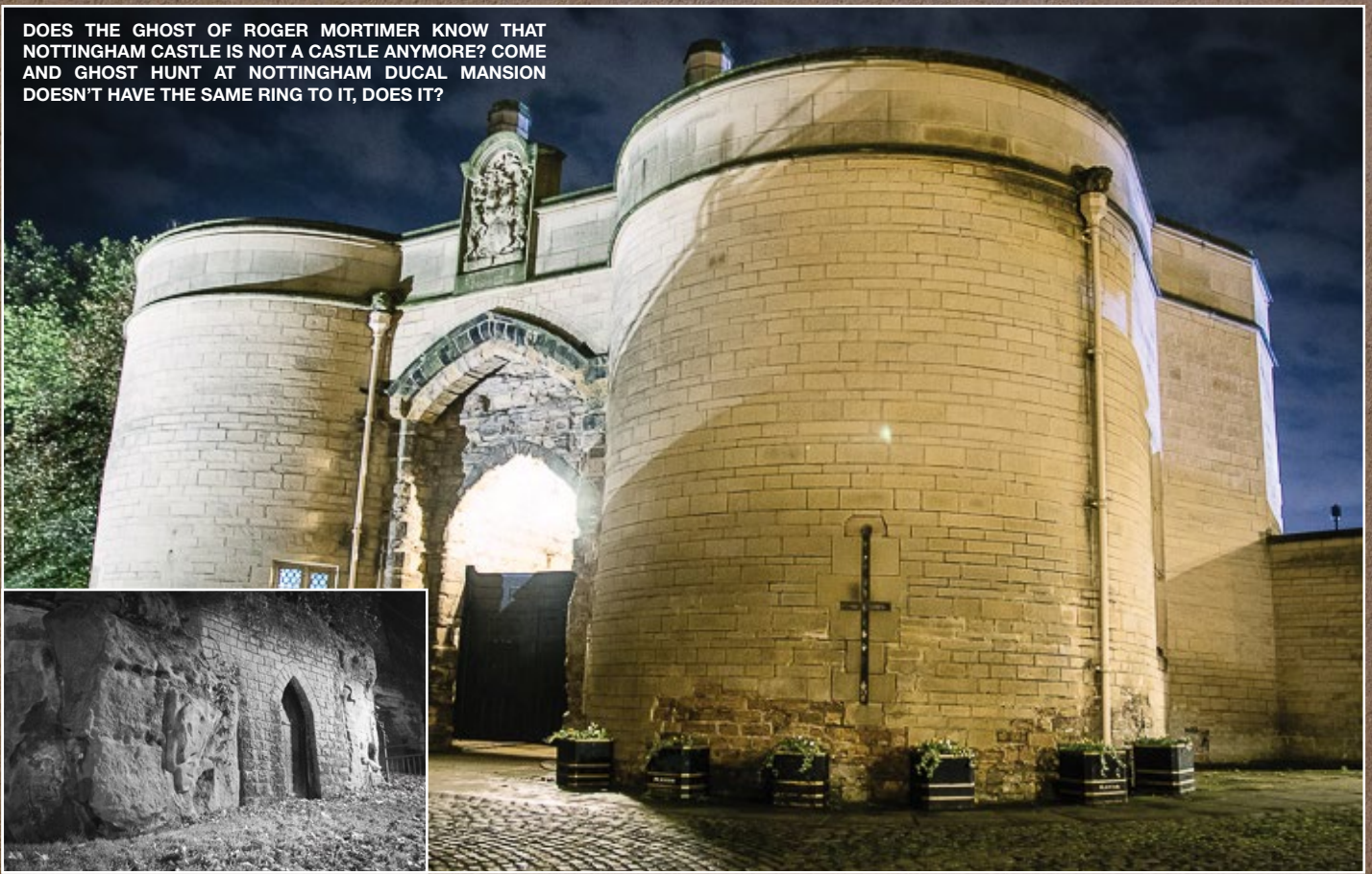
One such event that I still cannot believe occurred, MUST be one of the main triggers for Paranormal events in and around the Castle grounds. I first read of it over two years ago, and even to this day it makes me feel sick. Long before the electronic gadget boom of today, we were creating far more gruesome gadgets to aid our twisted and sometimes hellish tasks...

Dark times where amidst throughout the reign of King John in the early 1200s. He was forever in squabble with not only other Members of the Royal Family, but he even had the audacity to repeatedly find himself in trouble with the Pope - Innocent III. Due to these difficulties there was huge unrest amongst the population, leading to Churches being left deserted and even burials being carried out without any religious ceremony. It was at this time that King John felt uneasy, and in order to keep the Welsh Prince Llewellyn in line, he took 28 Welsh boys Hostage ranging from the ages of 12 to 14. Unfortunately, this wasn't enough of a deterrent, as the Welsh Prince repeatedly led revolts and meetings that challenged King John's reign, so the King took action.

He ordered the execution of all of the boys, many were being kept in fine conditions, allowed to play and eating well. It wasn't as if they were prisoners in a sense of depravity, so as each of the boys were dragged from play, the shock and unexpected horror must have been blood curdling. They were led to the Walls of the Castle and hung in front of the King's very eyes. It is said that the screams of the boys were heard in and around the Castle and that the barbaric nature of the event has never been equalled in the History of the site. I've investigated this location myself on many occasions, I've photographed it, written about it, I'm proud of every aspect that it represents, apart from this. Even today when talking to staff, speaking to visitors and engaging with tourists, it sits there in the back of my mind like the thing you thought of saying AFTER an argument! It's annoying, upsetting, and a real stain on the fabric and History of this fine location.

In the ever-developing World that we live in today, it can be hard to keep up with technological advances. From computers, tablets and phones, to Mel Metres, K2's and Voice Boxes, gadgetry and tools are no stranger to the Paranormal Field. We rely on them to gain evidence, each of us developing new ideas and ways in which to try and communicate with the dead. In this Issue of Haunted Magazine, you'll read about many amazing gadgets both past and present, but as this story outlines, not all of the gadgets in the past were used to communicate with the dead, instead, many were devised and designed to cause it.

DOES THE GHOST OF ROGER MORTIMER KNOW THAT NOTTINGHAM CASTLE IS NOT A CASTLE ANYMORE? COME AND GHOST HUNT AT NOTTINGHAM DUCAL MANSION DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME RING TO IT, DOES IT?



### MORTIMER'S HOLE:

Under the "castle", carved into the sandstone outcrop on which the castle stands, is the famous tunnel known as Mortimer's Hole. The passage way is eerie enough but is made all the more so by the reputed presence of the ghost of Sir Roger Mortimer himself. Mortimer, the Earl of March and lover of Queen Isobel, was probably her accomplice in the murder of Edward II. On the night of October 19th 1330, the Queen and her lover Mortimer were staying at Nottingham castle. Seeking to bring his father's killer to justice and expose his feckless mother, the young King Edward III entered a network of secret tunnels that led ultimately into the castle itself. With a band of loyal supporters, the King burst into his mother's bedroom and surprised the lovers. Edward himself is said to have seized Mortimer. The now doomed monarch killer

was led away, so legend has it, to Isobel's mournful cries of "Fair son, have pity on the gentle Mortimer." Sir Roger was imprisoned in the castle, taken to London and executed as a traitor.

He was hanged, drawn and quartered on the 29th of November 1330 and his wretched remains skewered on spikes and left to rot on traitor's gate 'Tyburn'.

The tunnel that led to Sir Roger's downfall became known after him and is still called "Mortimer's Hole."

### INTERESTING FACT YOU MAY, OR MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT NOTTINGHAM CASTLE / DUCAL MANSION...

A drawing of the Ducal Mansion appeared on millions of packets of rolling tobacco and cigarettes made by John Player & Sons, a Nottingham firm. Most packets had the phrases Nottingham

Castle and Trade Mark bracketing the image of the non-fortress-like structure. This led the novelist Ian Fleming to refer to «that extraordinary trademark of a dolls house swimming in chocolate fudge with Nottingham Castle written underneath.» in Thunderball in the knowledge that his British readers would be familiar with the image.

It may not be a Castle in the traditional sense but how many other castles has Ian Fleming, the creator of Bond AND Chitty Chitty Bang Bang wrote about, eh? Put that in your medium dry Martini with lemon peel, shaken, not stirred and drink it!!!

Oh, and we could talk about the Legend of Robin Hood and the Castle, but that's for another time, day, place and issue of Haunted Magazine, I am sure.

*J.P.*



# BREAKING PARANORMAL UK

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THEY SAY THE  
PARANORMAL CAN BE  
EXPENSIVE IF THATS  
THE CASE...

“CAN YOU GET THE  
BILL FOR US PLEASE?”

As the “tech guru” of *Destination America’s “Ghosts of Shepherdstown”* I’m very honoured to be a part of this gadgets edition of this magazine. For me the Paranormal has always been a part of my life. From my very earliest memories I’ve had paranormal encounters from an unnatural feeling of dread in the basement of my childhood home to cold spots, a visit from my departed great grandmother to seeing a tall thin bald man walking around my home. *All of which only seemed to be noticed by me.*

So, growing up in that environment made me feel like there was something wrong with me. But it also left me with the feeling of being at home when going in to haunted locations. So, over the years when people ask me “do I get scared during investigations” and the answer is always **NO**. I’m at home in haunted locations. But it was not until the summer of 2003 that I really started knowing and understanding what I had experienced growing up. And the few odd events that followed the passing of my grandfather, mother and then grandmother. *All who died with in a very short amount of time.*

I had become a Civil War reenactor and was at a house in West Virginia that had a haunted history. One

that I did not learn until being there. It was there that I first heard the team Ghost Hunter and questioned not only them but the house, it’s ghosts and the sanity of the home owners. I mean while I had experienced things growing up I myself never fully believed that what I had seen and felt was not just the over active imagination of a child. But that night I seen people walking around using EMF meters and taking photos of what I know now as dust orbs. I myself still did not fully believe that the equipment they used really did anything more than make sounds as they scanned in front of them like Mr Spock use to in old Star Trek reruns. *But what happened during that night besides the scanning and dust orbs was beyond anything I could have imagined.*

We were in formation in the back of the house at 10pm and it was so dark you really could not see far in front of us. The commander of the until was yelling off the orders to fire. We had been asked to fire off our muskets it “arouse the ghosts”. As he was yelling the orders he stopped as if he was distracted my someone. You could hear him say excuse me as if he was about to walk in to someone. We noticed him looking around and he asked us if we had seen that officer in a carvery uniform and we all said no. *He went back to work and we fired off a few rounds in to the dark.*

I HAVE ALWAYS  
SAID AND  
ALWAYS WILL  
THAT IF YOUR  
END GAME IS  
FAME AND  
NOT HELPING  
OTHERS THEN  
YOU HAVE NO  
PLACE IN THIS  
FIELD.

BILL HARTLEY



Nothing happened, and we went back to our tents in front of the house. After the ghost hunters has left we decided to go around and take a few photos in the house for our self's. so, me, Tim and Bob, both reenactors I've known for a few years entered the house and in one room Bob says, "sprites can I take your picture?", and with that as he's about to take the photo the camera is knocked away from his hands as if someone slapped it. It hit the fireplace in the home and was broken. It was not until a few days after returning home I got an email with a photo of a few of the ladies from the event who were gathered together looking in to what looks like their own camera when I notice that behind them stood a carvery officer standing behind them in the dark. I knew everyone at this event and no one was dressed like him. The more I looked at that photo the more I noticed he was not only semi-transparent, but his face looked more like a skull then of flesh. Was this the person who interrupted our firing demo? Was this maybe one of the real men who died while on duty on that land in 1862? *I may never know for sure, but it was because of this event and what happened there that I started learning about the paranormal by reading any and every book I could on the subject.*

But it was not too long after this I started to learn that what I experienced in my life was paranormal

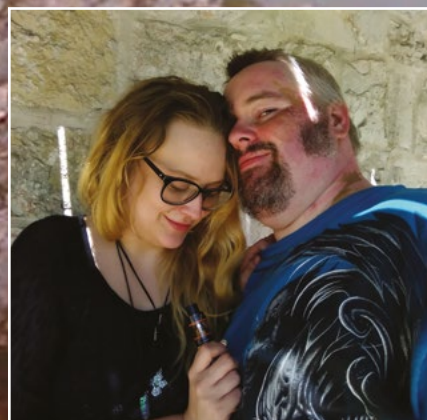
as well. And before long I started my own team who was dedicated to helping others who were like myself. People in need of answers and questioning their own sanity. When you can capture a voice in a recorder or something in a video that backs up what a client has been experiencing, and you see the look of relief come across their face then all the time and money that is put out is all worth it. Sadly, that gets lost in the age of people wanting quick fame and enter this field to become famous.

I have been very lucky in that yes, I have been on a few TV shows, "Psychic Kids, the RIP Files and of course Ghosts of Shepherdstown" but I've never lost my reason for being in this field. I've met some incredible people while doing this work. And I don't mean TV people but the people who deal with the real life paranormal 24/7. People who can't tell family or friends about what's happening for fear of being seen as crazy. People who need real help and I've been there for them. And because of this field I've also met the love of my life in Karissa Fleck who is not only a Psychic Medium but is also a great paranormal investigator in her own right. The first day I met her I told her I did not believe in psychics and since then she has changed my mind. She's shown me other ways to investigate the paranormal beyond anything I have done. She like me has an arsenal

of equipment that she uses on her own cases. *And much like me she uses things that are not normally used because they get the best results.*

I have no idea what the future holds for the paranormal field. If there will be any advancements in equipment or methods. I hope as I always have they people entering this field will keep a health mix of belief as well as scepticism when investigating. That people will stop with the need to become famous and concentrate on the real work at hand. Help people and advance the field and do better than I did. Be better than the bullshit that's shown on TV. I know that's funny coming from someone who is on TV but if GOS does not return I really would not care and if it does I would really have to make a hard decision to if I would even return. Too many in this field who only want fame will forget you the second they get anywhere that gets their name out. Trust me I've seen it so many times. That the real reason to be in this field is to help others and gain a better understanding of what happens after we die. It's a path we are all on and I don't know about you, but I would kind of like to know where it is we all go when the lights go out. *No matter who you are, or what you do in life the fact is that we all die. The real question is what's after.*

## BILL







# Paranormal: Power of the Mind

BY CAITLYN HART

In 1928 Borley Rectory in Essex became home to Reverend Guy Eric Smith and wife Mabel, but the welcome was anything but warm. The strange activities started with footsteps in the night until one-day Mabel was in the library and found a human skull in the bookcase. Mabel interred the skull in the graveyard; this act saw the activity graduate to mysterious lights, taps, window shutters slamming, keys vanishing, bells ringing and whispers in empty rooms. With the activity at a high the skull was put back in the library, but the activity never stopped. A servant of the Smith's saw a nun in the woods and another saw an old-fashioned coach with two headless horsemen driving; Reverend Smith described their time at the house as the "darkest years of their life."

Dr Ciaran O’Keeffe, parapsychologist and head of academic department in Bucks New University in Buckinghamshire said; “If people have a very strong belief in the paranormal and something weird happens they’re more likely to attribute that to the paranormal than non-paranormal if they’ve a high belief in it. But also for some people I think it’s about knowledge, it’s about knowing the alternative explanations.”

Can a strong belief system explain Reverend Smith and wife Mabel’s contact with the other side? Or is it that they actually came into contact with the spirits of Borley Rectory? Whatever people want to think the Smith’s contact with the other side puts them in prominent company. Arthur Conan Doyle the famous writer who created Sherlock Holmes and Marie Curie, the pioneer of study into radiation, believed in ghosts and supposedly spoke to them through mediums, while Alan Turing the man who along with others decoded the German cypher machine Enigma and founder of today’s computer science, believed in telepathy. You may be thinking how can these people of stature believe in the paranormal? Is it because it’s possible, is there an explanation or is it because even the sharpest thinking mind can be fooled?

According to a YouGov survey 34 percent of British people believe in ghosts which is one in three people, while 9 percent say they actually communicated with the dead. How many of these supposed paranormal experiences can be explained through physical factors and when should we start to look further to our own psychology and when does it get to a point where we say there are no more possible logical explanations?

There are many physical explanations that can explain paranormal activity such as Infrasound, drafts, camera issues and ion levels.

“When going around an old building and maybe the lighting isn’t very good, there are lots of high ceilings which cast dark shadows and when you walk from a light room into a dark room your pupils will expand and you get the phenomena of movement appearing at the corner of the eye. Other experiences

we associate with seeing ghosts are sudden drop in temperature, strange noises, funny smells you know if you’re walking around an old building yeah the wood’s going rotten and there’s a draft yeah you get sudden drops in temperature but these are all things we associate with seeing ghosts” said by Mary Smith, anomalistic psychologist, whose name has been changed for privacy reasons.

When physical factors can’t explain supposed activity that’s when we need to look to possible psychological factors and how the mind can play tricks on us. People don’t think that it’s their own psychology that could be to blame.

O’Keeffe thinks; priming and “suggestion play huge factors you know if I tell somebody a place is reputedly haunted they are more likely to interpret a draft as being down to a ghost that walks simply because of the suggestion of telling them that it’s a haunted location.

External suggestion not from another person but things like darkness and how a building looks can often be quite suggestible. I think the very fact most ghost investigations are conducted at night is also another huge factor in the reason why people have these ghostly experiences you know the fact that at night time it’s dark we can’t see everything clearly, it also taps into anxieties and fears and all of those things can affect our perception of stuff that is perfectly natural.”

Paranormal TV shows and some investigators look into the history of a location before they conduct their investigation. As O’Keeffe said this could open the investigators up to priming and suggestion. What we need to ask is can this hinder the investigator?

Billy Binnie, paranormal Investigator from Greenock and lead investigator of Glasgow Paranormal Investigations (GPI) believes; “It can hinder the investigator but it can also benefit because you can use the names and then maybe that person would come forward, but if that person comes forward maybe there’s a whole lot of others won’t.

If you do do that then you can go in and you can set your night up in a certain way, if you know something has happened in a room you can go in and you can point all your questions toward that, but I prefer to go in with a fresh mind and get a response to a question we ask in general and then try and manipulate your questions towards the answers you’re getting. So, you’re always going in without knowing what’s there.”

**“According to a YouGov survey 34 percent of British people believe in ghosts which is one in three people, while 9 percent say they actually communicated with the dead.”**

Hallucinations can be experienced by many who don’t have a psychological disorder. They can affect our senses and can cause us to perceive things that aren’t really there. For example, one common occurrence related to hallucinations is the feeling that you are being held down on the bed and have a ghost or demon staring back at you.

Jeff Belanger, paranormal investigator from Boston and researcher on the American paranormal TV show Ghost Adventures has the opinion that depending on who experiences it this will be interpreted in different ways such as “that’s an incubus or a succubus, that’s a demon coming to attack me in my sleep”, “that was an attempted abduction that was a grey alien that froze my mind with some powers” or “that’s a hypnagogic hallucination tied to temporary sleep paralysis.”

O’Keeffe however believes; “We know with decades of research in psychology mainstream psychology that our perception and that’s our visual perception, our audio perception generally how we perceive things can be affected by any number of different factors and I would say the top five include tiredness. And if you think about an investigator being in a situation where they’re investigating from dusk until dawn it means in a particular point during the night and it’s normally around two three o’clock

in the morning normally around that particular time they're at their most tired and their perception is severely affected."

Belanger on the other hand holds the view that; "At night with your senses a little bit deprived you are going to be sharper and yes you might be a little bit afraid but fear also heightens your senses and that's again a normal process. When you're afraid your body is getting ready for fight or flight your sight is better your hearing is better, your sense of smell is better everything is better and sharper if you're a little bit afraid."

However, O'Keeffe believes this is a "Misunderstanding of your bodily reaction to such circumstances. Actually, what would be happening in those sorts of situations is that your adrenaline would be kicking in and actually that would severely affect your perception objective perception at what's happening really you'll be kicking into the fight or flight response."

When it comes to investigating the paranormal investigators say their bodies are their best tool when investigating. The question is can we trust our bodies?

O'Keeffe believes not, as "the bodies untrustworthy because we are not able to interpret exactly what's happening to our bodies. So, our bodies are very sensitive to changes in the environment but actually our interpretation of how our body reacts is not very good."

However Belanger's opinion is that "Listening to your body is huge you know if you're scared if you feel like you're not alone that's the time to stop and pay closer attention to break out your equipment and to start looking around because maybe something's going to happen."

Some paranormal investigators go looking for ghosts but according to O'Keeffe they should do "anything else as long as they're not ghost hunting because that is immediately a suggestion factor. The fact that they are looking out for anything that

would indicate a ghost but actually by doing anything else what you are doing is effectively replicating the circumstances under which someone had an actual experience because most of the experiences that happen in haunted locations that we build investigation on come from normal people who are just going about their normal everyday activities."

Paranormal TV shows have different pieces of equipment that measure temperature, ion levels, electromagnetic fields (EMF) etc. and the results can be interpreted as proof of a ghost. EMF is the physical field produced by electrically charged objects which affects the behaviour of charged objects in the vicinity of the field.

O'Keeffe's view is that; "Certainly the results of equipment that's used on TV shows that indicate that there's a

**"When it comes to investigating the paranormal investigators say their bodies are their best tool when investigating. The question is can we trust our bodies?"**

ghost in the room is completely wrong it's completely a misunderstanding of what the equipment is. A lot of these ghost shows when they're using environmental monitoring equipment and interpreting it as a presence of a ghost it solely comes down to their misunderstanding about what the equipment should be used for."

The average person doesn't go looking for ghosts or try to contact them like the people in paranormal shows do, which is one reason why paranormal shows are so popular because we are interested in what they do and how they do it. As a viewer, we can't question how evidence is collected so we have to rely on the investigators doing that for us by debunking paranormal activity. Which just means giving us alternative explanations other than paranormal.

O'Keeffe thinks "It's very important for ghost shows and for investigators to debunk paranormal activity I think that's the key and I would approach any investigation with a whole list of natural explanation and I would have to cross off each one and eliminate each one before I then go for a supernatural explanation. So, I think it's incredibly important and incredibly useful too."

Before we rush to a possible paranormal explanation we should consider not only physical explanations but psychological ones as well. That's hard to say when someone's belief system is strong like Conan Doyle's or Turing's. It's easy for people to think they are rational and analytical thinkers but it takes a wiser and more knowledgeable person to admit that they can be influenced by outside sources and that our body and mind can't be trusted. Acknowledging that anything is possible even the unexplained is what a truly skeptical and analytical thinker is. I can't answer whether ghosts exist as people's belief systems are different but my belief is that anything is possible. I watch shows like Ghost Adventures and think 'wow' maybe there is life after death and ok they are made for entertainment but that doesn't take away from the fact that these people are documenting proof of the paranormal and taking us on that journey with them which is amazing. There will be people out there that say nonsense to even the slightest possibility that ghosts are real or there is something unexplainable out there but that is their belief system. So, ask yourself what do you believe?

My name is Caitlyn Hart I'm a 19-year-old journalist student from Scotland. I believe in the paranormal even though I've never experienced anything, which is why I asked myself why do I believe in the paranormal? My interest in the paranormal came from watching Ghost Adventures and reading.

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# SHINING CLIFF WOODS

HUBERT HOBUX, SAUNTERS THROUGH A HAUNTED  
WOOD, AROUND SHINING CLIFF, AMBERGATE, DERBYSHIRE



I've been fortunate enough to spend some good time with Haunted Company recently, a paranormal interest group based in Wirksworth that seem to attract spirits where ever they investigate, probably owing to the medium based techniques that they employ. I've never been on a dull event with them yet but the one I'm about to share with you was remarkable.... certainly, the most eerie 'ghost walk' I've ever undertaken.... involving an encounter with malevolence that chilled me to the bone!

I'd done a ghost walk around sedate Matlock Bath a month or so earlier with Andrew, the Haunted Company founder, where he had told me of the more extreme Shining Cliff route that he had sourced through an ancient woodland full of folklore, witchcraft and elemental spirits rife amidst the shrubbery.....

These woods had set Andrew on his own mediumistic path years earlier when he had accidentally witnessed an act of possible Satanism in the stone circle at the foot of Shining Cliff, his regular forays into the remnants of the medieval hunting

forest that once was 'Duffield Frith' though had thrown up spiritual contact with many old shades thereafter, including the family of charcoal burners who lived and worked and lost one of their babes in the woodland when the bough it was resting in actually did break... thus spawning the actual nursery rhyme 'Rock a bye Baby'.....

So, intrigued, one balmy September evening, I met up with Andrew, Chris, (Haunted Company's shamanic medium of some repute), Lena and James, (also a very sensitive pair) and we left our vehicles in a layby alongside the



boundary road, that layby itself has seen a grisly murder in quite recent memory, underlining the weirdness of the area from the off! The start of our particular walk necessitated a steep climb by rough track to the summit of Shining Woods, the site of a beggars well, utilised for centuries by the cart and foot traffic striding out on medieval journeys between Belper and Ashbourne....that's where we picked up the white Lady....an elemental spirit of goodness apparently....Lena asked her if she would accompany us on our short trek and fortunately for us, she seemed to take up Lena's petition.....

Because we all sensed we were being followed by something dark....as we trudged down to the next paranormal hot spot down by the lake in the hollow of the woods, something followed us with sinister intent, you couldn't hear the rustle



of leaf litter or snap of bone dry twigs but there was something palpably bad just outside our peripheral vision, keeping pace with us.

So, it was down by the lake that we tried a human pendulum session to connect with the charcoal burners. All was going well, I'd personally connected with some ruddy faced rural spirit in old fashioned felt hat and Tweedy coat when I was rudely aroused from my semi trance state by Andrew choking and spluttering and medium Chris trying desperately to relieve him of the spirit that was strangling him almost to the point of unconsciousness....I'd never seen a psychic medium turn blue before but Andrew had turned quite puce by torchlight!

He was visibly shaken and as he regained his composure he bemoaned the fact this had never happened before, he knew what nasty piece of spirit work had attacked him though.... this spirit had made himself known often and Andrew had found mention of him in a nearby parish register.... Jeffers, a self-styled murderer of children...so he had declared himself during previous seances.... he seemed to have a grudge against Andrew already, I was a little alarmed I may have exacerbated the situation as I was going through a period of



advanced spirit attraction for some reason or another and all in the group stated that Jeffers had already taken a dislike to me.....and I'd only just encountered him!

Determined not to let the cur brow beat us, we went on, with some trepidation, to the caves of Shining Cliff, an ice age cave system cut into the fissures of the grit stone rock face, just enough space inside to hold a circle seance the five of us.....this was the domain of Jeffers.... we weren't going to be intimidated by him though, must admit, Andrew didn't instill much confidence in me when he advised me not to stand too close to the wall as Jeffers has slammed heads against it before..... The atmosphere inside the confines of the pitch black cavity was electric as Chris evoked the spirits to show....now I'm no psychic....I make no claim to be, but as the energy swirled around the claustrophobic space I saw things I'd not imagined I would see that

night, James was rocking around like a drunkard, Lena was wittering on about three 'witches' that were gathering around her, I could see the back of a little girls long haired head stood in front of me, all of a sudden Lena, opposite me went berserk, stretched out her hands toward my throat her face contorted into a maniacal sneer,

At the same instant Jeffers channeled himself into Chris with an utter air of menace.....Chris is a big lad, (for a medium he is extra-large), suddenly though he physically shot up another six inches and stared a withering gaze down at me, laughing contemptuously.... snarling that "I was weak"....so I told him what I thought of him.... what's the protocol when confronted by a powerfully malign entity? Stare him out, avert your gaze? Oddly I decided to challenge his child murderer status.... told him he was nothing but a bag of hot wind and luckily that seemed to confuse him....

Andrew, who had by now called upon his personal spirit guide to help ease the situation asked Jeffers if he was ready to go to the light? To which Jeffers chillingly replied

“There is no light.... only dark....”

With that statement the evil molester was gone, the electrostatic energy subsided, Chris was clear of Jeffers grip and returning to the grounded state, James had stopped rocking and Lena sheepishly apologised for wanting to throttle me, she explained that I had been overshadowed by the spirit of a young girl with long hair that she had had an instant overwhelming impulse to strangle, Lena felt the white elemental spirit from beggars well had exerted all her energies to protect her, as Lena was the vulnerable lone female amongst us, ultimately saving me in the process.....thanks white elemental spirit!

Needless to say we were all a psychic mess as we climbed down from the cave....what a night it had been, that seance alone had basically changed my life and opened me up to the total supernatural belief in elemental spirit forces cavorting about the ether.....Shining Cliff hadn't finished with us yet though.....for the woods encompass an architectural surprise...for me at least.....a small mansion lies hidden up a long winding, overgrown drive, built by the wealthy landowning Hurt family for their four unmarried daughters to live in, (they never did apparently), this now ruinous edifice is insanely haunted none the less!

We weary five staggered up towards Oakhurst House, as it is known, even before we could see the half-timbered walls we heard a door slam loudly inside.....”be careful folks...” Chris advised, “there could be squatters!”

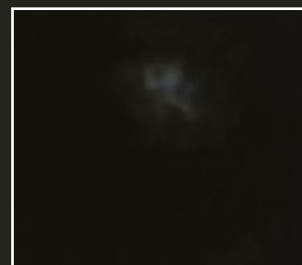
We proceeded with caution for fear of encountering half crazed drug addicts..sure enough as we approached the fenced off building we saw human shaped shadows darting around the upper floors, we shone our torchlight up at the glassless window frames and silhouettes of people scurried about in panic.... except they can't be, Andrew tells us.... there are no floors inside the building....it is a gutted out hollow shell!

The night was drawing to its inevitable close, we still had to walk through the semi derelict Ambergate Foundry.... the wire mills where the early trans-Atlantic communication cables were manufactured, passing the haunted cottages on route, where Andrew will occasionally hold a Ouija board session.... oddly enough none of us fancied having a go at that on this particular night.... we sloped contentedly back to the layby!

Woods! Arboreal reserves of rural tranquility, or nightmarish harbingers of things dark and mysterious.....look out for the Haunted Company Shining Cliff walk and experience your own dread!!



Some really weird images have been captured during these walks by Haunted Company... especially of the shades that frolic around the spectral upper floors of Oakhurst House! Jeffers, still manages to make his malevolent presence known, indeed he followed us to another nearby investigation and made a ghastly appearance to us.... maybe I'll relate that encounter to you some time!





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# PIGEONS FROM HULL

OCCULT INVESTIGATOR, QUENTIN WEIR PhD; AND HIS COMMON BUT FAITHFUL ASSISTANT HERBERT ODDFELLOW, HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY THE SOLICITOR JOHN HOWARD, WHO PRACTICES IN THE CITY OF HULL...









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# SWEET F.A.

WHEN IS A MURDER NOT A MURDER?  
WHEN IT'S IN HULL OF COURSE AND RESEARCHED BY  
**MIKE COVELL - THE HISTORICAL REMOVAL MAN**

**ITS COMMONPLACE FOR PEOPLE TO HEAR STORIES AND RUMOURS AND THEN TO CONTACT ME TO SORT OUT THE WHEAT FROM THE CHAFF, AND FOR YEARS I HAVE BEEN AN HISTORICAL CLEARING HOUSE OF SILLY STORIES, GHOSTS THAT WERE NOT, HAUNTED HOUSES THAT HAD FAKE HISTORIES, AND MEDIUMS WHO HAD MADE UP STORIES ABOUT GHOSTS THAT SIMPLY DID NOT EXIST.**

A few years ago, I was contacted by a lady called Sandra about Hull's Old Dock Offices, situated on Dock Office Row, behind Hull College. A lady asked me to confirm whether anyone had died in a fire there as she was told that it was haunted by a lady who had not only died in a fire at the property, but who had bitten down on her lip, covering her mouth in blood during her last moments on earth.

The building used to be the second town dock offices which were built in 1820 for the Hull Dock Company but had become too small for purpose and as such they moved to what is now the Maritime Museum in 1871. Needless to say, no such fire occurred, with none of the Hull newspapers published between 1820 and the current day covering such an event, and with no fire, was no death, and without a death we don't have any facts to back up the claims.

I called the lady, Sandra, and presented my findings, but she was angry, she told me that her and her workmates had been told the story, but many had believed it! Furthermore, they had a load of other "stories," and asked me to research them.

This is a commonplace occurrence, it happens daily with people asking about stories and in the past decade I have researched and debunked hundreds of stories. The latest of these is, however, the sickest of them all.

Researching historical murders is never an easy feat, with most of the eyewitnesses long since deceased, and little information left in the memory of those who were around at the time, they can be enigmas, wrapped in a mystery, and buried in the sands of time.

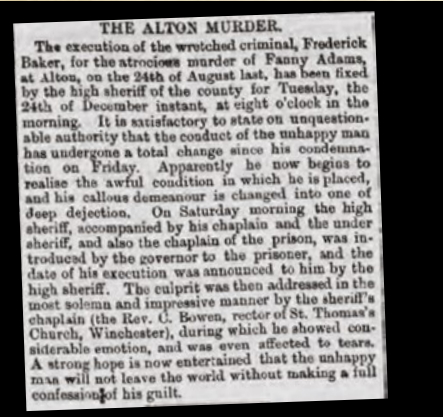
With most true crime cases, however, records do exist that can take us back to the time at which they happened. Such records can be found at the Hull History Centre, which include the Hull Watch Files, and the Hull City Police records. Bigger cases, such as murders, were often sent to the National Archives, which holds files on such cases as William Burkitt, Emily Eleanor Garbutt, and more recently Bertram Holmes.

These infamous criminal files, which are often very large, can also be cross referenced with the historical editions of the Hull Daily Mail, readily available at the Hull History Centre, or online via the British Library if one is willing to pay a subscription.

Imagine my surprise then when a file crosses my desk alluding to a previously unreported murder in Hull that involved a well-known alleyway and a lady who worked in the oldest profession! Furthermore, and this is where it gets interesting, the victim still haunts the spot to this day!!!

**A GHOSTLY MURDER VICTIM!!!**

I had been contacted by a gentleman named Paul Stansfield, who had visited Hull from London a few years ago. He had been staying over on business and taken a few different trips around Hull when he was told that a murder had taken place along Lowgate in an area known as Exchange Alley. He was also told that the victim was a middle-aged prostitute known as Mrs Adams and that she was killed in the Victorian period.



I asked where the information came from and at first, he was reluctant to tell me, but then he informed me that the story came from a psychic.

Obviously, such a story immediately grabbed my interest, the history of psychics in Hull murder cases dates back to the Victorian period, when Reverend Lock was asked to investigate the murder of Mary Jane Langley. His findings were less than favourable when he claimed that Mary Jane had visited Edwin Davis on Market Place, but the shop was actually closed!

In the weeks, months and years that passed, other people began to ask about the murder of the prostitute on Hull's Exchange Alley, resulting in a list of people who had all heard the story but could not ascertain where it had originated.

I decided to visit the archives to ascertain the facts behind the story.

The Victorian period, which ran from June 20<sup>th</sup> 1837 until January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1901, included numerous murders in Hull, including Mary Clark, murdered in 1839 right through to Rosetta Forsey, Ada Middleton, Norah Amis, and Sarah Hebden, all of whom were murdered in 1901. During this period Hull had 82 publicised murders, ranging from infanticide, to homicide, of these 34 of these murders were of females of adult

age, and 25 males of adult age. The rest were made up of infants, killed and dumped by their parents.

Out of the 34 females who were killed, the vast majority were classified as homicide committed by husbands, partners, and boyfriends, with three of these being unsolved.

Only one of these mentions that the victim was involved in the oldest profession. Lucy Gray was a prostitute, who took to the profession to raise money for drink and was well known around the docklands in Hull, but she was killed by Captain Argelander and Captain Mutchreich, who were seen to throw her in the dock and run. Neither men were charged after the eyewitnesses refused to testify but Gray was killed some distance away from the location at which Mrs Adams was said to have been killed.



Exchange Alley dates from 1803, when it was first mentioned in the advertisements of the Hull Packet. It led down to what was known as the Exchange Rooms, a small property used by business men who used the property as a meeting place to conduct business deals. It's a large open alley that stands between the old Barracuda building, to the south, and the Burstall's Solicitor's to the north.

In later years the alley was adopted into a new building scheme known as the Exchange which dates from between 1865 and 1866. It was built to designs by William Botterill and the building cost £17,000. The main building consisted of three stories, a large exchange hall which was 70 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 32 feet high. The main doorway had a stone relief of Neptune, with three windows on the top floor topped with Mercury, in the centre, and war and peace at either side. On the roof stands Britannia, and

the entrance on Bowlalley Lane had the coat of arms of the Hull Exchange Company.

The foundation stone was laid on February 17<sup>th</sup> 1865, and the original plans had cellars, private wine and spirit vaults, meeting rooms, porters rooms, sculleries, refreshment rooms and private libraries.

The alleyway ran underneath and around the new property, which in later years would house Barracuda.

During the entire time the alleyway has been in existence there has been no record of any woman, prostitute or not, murdered down there, so who is Mrs. Adams?

According to the story Mrs. Adams was a prostitute who was murdered in Hull, her death took place in the Victorian period along Exchange Alley, however, no such person was murdered in that time frame on that alley, with that name from that profession. Later conversations revealed that her surname was Fanny.

Expanding the search at the National Archives I uncovered several files to Fanny Adams, but in a shocking twist, Fanny Adams was not born in Hull, nor did she live or die here, in fact, Fanny Adams had no connection to the city whatsoever. She was, however, murdered, although the facts behind the case were a far cry from the claims.

Fanny Adams was actually an eight-year-old girl who was murdered on August 24<sup>th</sup> 1867 by Frederick Baker, a solicitor's clerk, in a field near her home in Alton, Hampshire. She had been murdered and chopped to pieces, and some of her body parts were never recovered. The murder sent shockwaves around Great Britain at the time, and the term "Sweet Fanny Adams," was adopted thereafter. The case became known as the Alton Murder, and was often featured in the Hull Packet, a weekly newspaper published in Hull during the shocking discovery and subsequent inquest, arrest, and trial.

There was no connection to Hull, no real record of her having been here, and certainly no records of a prostitute murdered on Exchange Alley off Lowgate.

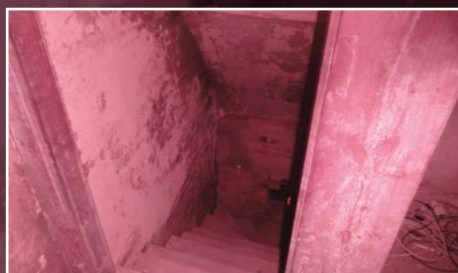
Obviously, without a murder, we have no ghost story, but instead a story created partly from fact, both historically and geographically inaccurate, but created nonetheless to hoodwink the locals.

The case will go down as the Hull Murder that wasn't.

WHO NEEDS SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET WHEN THERE'S

# SKELETONS IN THE FOUNDATIONS

VICKY GRANT INVESTIGATES GRESLEY OLD HALL



**Gresley Old Hall, situated in Swadlincote Derbyshire has always been a paranormal hotspot that I have enjoyed investigating over the last three years.** It is a location that is steeped in history, built in 1556 for a gentleman by the name of *Sir Christopher Alleyn*. The Hall has been used for many purposes over the years, from a home for farming families and then later becoming a miner's welfare club, although one thing that I have never really fully understood, is why this Hall is reputed to be so Haunted?

*With no actual documented deaths, what is causing the surge of paranormal activity and making many people and investigators alike come forward with so many unexplained experiences on this property?*

I wanted to delve deeper into the history to try to make a connection, so I began to research old newspaper archives online. I came across an article published on the 10th of February 1947 in the *Derby Daily Telegraph* which speaks of the Hall, and the once owner, *Sir Christopher Alleyn*. The article clearly points out that Gresley Hall was built from the ruins of an old priory and it continues to state that it

is reputed to be haunted and holds many underground passages.

The article was written over seventy years ago, and yet, here we are, still trying to unravel its mystery.

Interestingly as the article states, the old priory that the Hall is built from, during church extensions 'several skeletons were found discovered' in the walls foundations.

*Now fuelled with this new information, my mind could only wander and make a profound connection between the two.*

It is believed that the disturbance of a person's final resting place can thus result in a very unhappy spirit or rather 'spirits' - so I can only assume that when the original priory was demolished, Gresley Hall was then rebuilt from its stones - So, is this what sparked the activity at the Hall? Did the spirits move to the location, following the foundations of their final resting place?...

We know not who's skeletons were discovered behind the priory walls or indeed why they were there in the first place, but with many reports of monk like apparitions, described as being draped in black cloaks with hoods, I could now begin to understand why that possibly could be.

Though the above is only a theory, like many paranormal ventures, they begin with an investigation, which is exactly what I was intent on doing, I felt I needed some kind of validation.

I have had many personal experiences at this Hall but now with this new-found information, I will be taking a fresh approach. I still find it difficult to express the feeling I get when walking into this 15th century Hall, there is an apparent oppressive feeling, a darkness and you never fully feel as if you are alone, even when you believe you are.

**I'm certainly not going to lie; this place does give me the 'Heebie-jeebies' and it's one of the few places I feel could push me to my limits.... but I felt needed to know more, I needed to go back again and face my fears, so, that's exactly what I did.**

## THE INVESTIGATION 12/01/2018

Upon arrival, I was keeping in mind other people's paranormal experiences. It wasn't only reports of monks, but those of men, women and children. As I mentioned briefly before, the Hall also served its purpose as a farm house for families as well as a mining club, it was no secret that the miners that came to the club would gamble and drink after a hard day's work and many of these miners had at some point lost their lives in unfortunate accidents whilst working in the mines which were scattered all over Derbyshire - even to this day the Hall still houses a small office which is used for miner preservation purposes.

Now, joined by friends and fellow investigators Kimberly, Luke and Tammy of Breaking Paranormal UK - we ventured inside of Gresley Old Hall once more to begin our investigation.

We began our investigation in the attic area and started with some calling out, listening for knocks, voices, any kind of spirit interaction. We were all seated around a table in the second room,

located at the far back of the building. The rooms upstairs are very small and were believed to be at one point the main living quarters. Along the walls are small square openings which lead off into the foundations of the building, upon examining these you could easily fit a person through, but it looked far too dangerous (even for me) to consider going inside, though I couldn't help but let my imagination run wild and I found myself forever looking behind me at the gaps in the wall. The entire building is very much in a derelict state, which of course only adds to the eerie atmosphere.

As at this time, we were with another group and some of their guests - they decided to conduct a Ouija board session which I did partake in for a short time. The planchette did move, though it didn't spell out any names, it simply answered a few yes and no questions.

During this time, I was seated next to Luke, who said he could feel a cool breeze down his left side - I found this interesting as I was seated to Luke's left and I myself could not feel anything, I decided to hold up the EMF meter over Luke's chair and sure enough, the lights began to flicker a few times, indicating it was indeed picking up on some kind of electromagnetic frequency. Before the investigation started, everyone had made sure to turn their mobile phones to flight mode as to not interfere with any equipment and the entire main area of Gresley Hall does not hold electricity. I had a previous experience in this attic the year before where I distinctly heard a child's voice... so, we began to call out for children and I once again had another personal experience. My hand was placed in my lap and it felt as if something blew onto the top of my hand resulting in a cold sensation (which evidently, would have been around a child's height) it only lasts a few seconds, but I can tell you it was enough for me to notice it and jump up out of my seat!

We continued the investigation in the attic, but the activity seemed to cease so we went for a short break before making our way back up into the main hall. This time, we headed to the first floor and up the small flight of stairs on the right





which led to two large rooms connected by a partition wall. In here we began to call out once more, this time, we asked about the skeletons being found behind the walls of the old priory, or if there were any miners or members of the farming families that would like to communicate with us. This line of questioning certainly seemed to grab something's attention as the EMF meters began to light up once more in response.

A guest was stood by the doorway whilst the rest of us were in the room and the atmosphere inside seemed to change as well as feeling a heavy temperature drop. We continued to call out, now using the Ovilus III device. We received some interesting responses, at one point it said 'life' and then 'twelve' - Kim was smart enough to make the connection that there were indeed 12 living people between the two rooms as at this time we were part of a larger group. The Ovilus also gave us two names in this time 'Harriet and Sally' and Luke had an experience of his own when he saw what appeared to be a female figure or 'apparition' stood behind the person by the doorway.

Now, we decided to split down into a smaller group, everyone else headed downstairs to conduct an experiment with the writing planchette whilst the four of us stayed upstairs in the main rooms. Moving away from the first room, we headed to the far back room and began a spirit box session using the SB-11 device which we had running on a reverse sweep.

We began to mention the same questions as before that seemed to spark the activity and sure enough, we did get responses. We asked who was with us and we all heard the name 'Daryl' - it was a little quiet, so we asked the spirit to repeat it and as if my magic, that's exactly what happened, but much louder this time. Now, we'd been stood for a good few minutes with not a single response to any of our questions and you need to remember it's much harder for the spirit box to throw out random phrases (like those from a radio station) when running on a backward sweep, especially when it happens twice with the same name and voice.

I think at this point the excitement in the room from us all seemed to peek. We continued to ask questions, at one point we said hello to the spirit, the same voice as before responded to us, saying 'hi'.

We tried to ask the spirit why he was still here, but did not receive a response, instead, we then heard a faint female voice. Going back to the names captured on the Ovilus earlier, we asked if this was Harriet or Sally and upon asking the following question 'Daryl, is that Harriet with you?' The same male voice from before once again responded 'yes'.

After this surge of activity, the spirit box once again fell quiet though we continued for the next fifth-teen minutes or so and only received one other name in all this time 'Will'.

With the evening coming to an end we wrapped up the session and headed back downstairs, this place had certainly given us a lot to think about!

Now looking back on the activity, we had received, I think the one thing that will always stick in my mind is the name 'Daryl' and how amazed I was when we actually managed to receive the same name and same voice more than twice.

I believe that Gresley Hall holds a lot of mystery and secrets, a mystery we may never be able to solve, but that's what makes this one of my favourite locations to investigate, every time I have been to this Hall I have received some kind of activity and I always find myself walking away with more questions than answers.

I will definitely be going back to investigate this amazing hall again later in the year and I can't wait to do so, but... until then, happy hunting.

**VICKY GRANT**

Paranormal Investigator



**DEAD X CENTRAL**

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THE STEP BY  
ESTEP GUIDE  
TO THE  
PARANORMAL

## ON THE GETTYSBURG GHOST TRAIL

BY RICHARD ESTEP

THE GETTYSBURG  
ADDRESS

NO NOT THAT ONE!



**I**t's no surprise that the world is full of haunted battlefields. From the phantom Roundheads and Cavaliers of Edge Hill in Warwickshire to the scene of Custer's defeat at the Little Big Horn, where the restless spirits of long-dead cavalymen are still said to roam, the violence and suffering that occur when armies clash seems to be an almost perfect generator of ghosts.

By far the most haunted of them all has to be Gettysburg. While all wars are terrible things by their very nature, civil wars are the most brutal and tragic of them all; after all, where else can one find father pitted against son, or brother fighting brother? So, it was in the war that erupted between the States. For four years, from 1861 to 1865, a tide of blood drenched the country. Its repercussions are still felt today.

While each battle of the Civil War took a dreadful toll in human life, few could match the sheer carnage of Gettysburg, where roughly 58,000 Americans became casualties — to put that in perspective, that is as many casualties as were generated during the entire Vietnam War. Small wonder, then, that America's most hallowed ground is also its most haunted.

I've been fascinated by the Civil War in general and Gettysburg in particular ever since I was a young lad growing up in Leicester. In the summer of 2017, I was a guest at a paranormal conference in Texas, where I found myself sitting at a table with the Klinge brothers, stars of the TV show *Ghost Lab*. Brad Klinge is a big Civil War enthusiast,

and when we began talking about some of our favorite haunted locations, it wasn't long before the conversation turned toward the subject of Gettysburg. *"There's a historic old inn about eight miles southwest of the battlefield, in a little town called Fairfield,"* Brad said. *"The place is so active, it's crazy."*

He was referring to the Fairfield Inn, which dates back to 1757 — not particularly old for a British haunted location, but positively ancient for one in America. Brad and Barry had filmed an episode of *Ghost Lab* there during their second season and had gotten some incredible evidence. While Barry was wandering around the inn taking baseline photographs, he didn't notice anything out of the ordinary. It was only when he was checking through the pictures that he noticed the head and shoulders of a black figure peering back at him out of a mirror. The mirror hung on the wall in the oldest part of the building, which was the original family homestead around which the rest of the Fairfield Inn was built.

Nor did the evidence stop there. During a recording session, the brothers recorded a class A EVP.



Its consisted of just three words: **“Private John Riley.”** Digging into the backstory of the battle with the help of a historian, they were amazed to find that there actually *had* been a Private John Riley involved in the battle of Gettysburg — in fact he had been killed there, and the whereabouts of his body were never recorded...



**“FEW COULD MATCH THE SHEER CARNAGE OF GETTYSBURG, WHERE ROUGHLY 58,000 AMERICANS BECAME CASUALTIES”**

*“A lot of people don’t understand that there was way more to what happened at Gettysburg than just the main battle,” Brad enthused, warming to his theme. “You’ve got Sachs Covered Bridge just a few miles outside of town; it’s supposed to be haunted by three soldiers who were hanged as spies. The town of Fairfield itself was a battlefield. A Union cavalry regiment got itself cut to pieces by vastly superior Confederate forces. The dead and wounded were taken to every house for miles around. The Fairfield Inn was turned into a makeshift field hospital for those poor dying boys. No wonder the place is haunted...”*

I didn’t need any more convincing. Wasting no time, I contacted the owner of the Fairfield Inn and arranged to spend five days and nights there, investigating it and trying to uncover some of its many secrets. Along with a small team of fellow paranormal investigators, we flew to Washington in November and made our way to Gettysburg by car.

The Fairfield Inn was everything we’d hoped for. The staff and owner were quite happy to share their own ghostly experiences. Glasses flew off the bar when nobody was within touching distance; a broom was found standing upright in the middle of a corridor, as though being held up by an unseen hand; disembodied voices were heard in the empty building on multiple occasions by many witnesses; and in one particularly interesting incident, a black, shadowy mass was seen flitting across an upstairs landing, sending the unfortunate employee who encountered it running for the safety of her office.

Each room in the Inn has its own guestbook, and I spent a most enjoyable afternoon flipping through them. Many of the stories left by previous guests told of ghostly encounters, with everything from growls to mysterious footsteps being experienced. Doors were said to open and close themselves, as did the drawers and cupboards.

Our own investigation yielded some interesting results. What is now the dining room was originally an outdoor courtyard in which, on July 3rd 1863, a Confederate artillery battery was temporarily posted. After a series of mysterious bangs were recorded in that same area, we decided to leave an Ovul running. It came up with the words *Southern Cannon*. Coincidence? You be the judge.

During an EVP session in the oldest part of the inn, we were disturbed by the sound of footsteps on the main staircase. When we ran out to check on their source, the staircase was completely deserted.

On one night that I will never forget, only two investigators were present in the building. My bedroom was at the back of the inn, and Catlyn’s was at the front. We had both retired to our rooms just a few hours before dawn, and I had barely drifted off to sleep when I heard the distinctive sound of a door slamming downstairs. Like an idiot, I thought to myself, *“Blimey, the chef’s in early.”* I cracked an eyelid and saw that it was 04:50am.

The next morning at breakfast, Catlyn said that she had woken up in the early hours because her room was ice cold, so much so that she was shivering, and her teeth were chattering. The room had been perfectly warm when she had gone to sleep and was exactly the same when she awoke just before breakfast, but during that one brief

period of wakefulness she felt as if she was inside a meat locker. The time? Also 04:50 — the same time our mysterious visitor had slammed the door downstairs. Interestingly enough, Catlyn hadn’t heard the noise — though it may have been what woke her up — but our digital voice recorders picked it up clearly. The building had been locked up tightly, and the only people with access were the staff and our fellow investigators. Video footage didn’t pick up anybody entering the Fairfield Inn until just before eight o’clock, when the chef came in to start preparing breakfast.

We didn’t neglect the battlefield during our stay. At first light each day, we drove out there and walked a different stretch of the field. Pickett’s Charge is the name given to the final, decisive infantry assault of the engagement, when 15,000 Confederates stormed directly into the center of the Union line, which was heavily reinforced with artillery. The attackers stood no chance and lost up to fifty percent of their number before limping back to their own lines in defeat.

My colleague Jason and I walked Pickett’s Charge at sunrise, treading carefully and asking respectful questions while running digital voice recorders. There was no wind and very little traffic on the roads. Neither of us noticed anything out of the ordinary, yet when we played the audio recordings back, the unmistakable sound of heavy cannon fire could be heard in the background — perhaps an echo of that fateful day in 1863 when the Confederacy gambled everything on one final, desperate roll of the dice...and lost.

**Gettysburg is truly haunted in every sense of the word, as is the historic Fairfield Inn, and I for one cannot wait to go back.**



*Richard Estep’s book, “The Fairfield Haunting: On the Gettysburg Ghost Trail” is now available in both Kindle and paperback at [Amazon](#)*

# PONTYPOOL JACK'S

WORLD OF THE STRANGE

## Tinder, Tailor, Soldier, Why?

ARE GADGETS THE NEW ALL SEEING EYE?

BY JACK STRANGE



It's 3am in the morning and a £30 K2 meter is bleeping. It's flashing different colours, penetrating the dark room. The professional ever so serious ghost hunters I am with are ecstatic. They've actually captured paranormal activity from a device that was built in China and sold at a hefty price. It was also marketed as a device that 'picks up on the energy spirits give out' – yet there's no scientific proof to prove that spirits give out any energy whatsoever.

'I'm sorry,' I sheepishly apologise. It's a Tinder message on my phone: something else is looking to penetrate through the dark, and it isn't a K2 light. I swipe left and put my phone away. The ghost hunters moan, deflated. They're all thinking the same thing. Why did we spend so much money on something that hasn't given us any results?

In another room, a group of seasoned investigators sit around a spirit box. 'Theresa', the voice coughs out as I join them. The group wait with baited breath.

'Hard', the voice continues.

The group of investigators look at one another, trying to piece together the history they've read up on this building in Scotland. What happened to Theresa? What was hard?

'Brexit'.

I roll my eyes. Whilst the investigators try to piece together everything that has just been said, another investigator points out that maybe this spirit box is just a dressed up, overpriced radio picking up on radio waves. The investigators dispute this. This is a £70 spirit box that only communicates with spirits, thank you very much. Nick Grimshaw's voice is heard beginning his breakfast show on Radio One. The box is swiftly switched off.

When I investigate historic buildings with tales of ghosts, I immediately disregard any activity that has been discovered through the use of such gadgets. Why? Because there is not enough proof that these gadgets actually work. I'm afraid I might be making myself very unpopular here, so please do not hate me. I take my investigating very seriously, yet I like to approach it with a rational mind. How can we investigate something using specific gadgets, when we don't actually know anything about what we're trying to contact?

For years we have been trying to discover if there really is life after death. Scientists are yet to prove if it is real or not, and whilst we've all experienced something, we still can't say for certain that what we experienced was truly paranormal. Trust me, I've had some weird experiences. Once, a guy almost stabbed me on a night out.



That was quite an experience. I've also heard footsteps upstairs in a courtroom when there were only myself and two other friends inside the building – we'd rented the place for the night and the doors were locked. There were no members of the public.

I've also experienced hearing noises, such as knocks, and also seen shadows. I've experienced odd emotions, such as staring at the corner of a castle room and crying for no apparent reason. These have all been weird, unexplainable even, but they haven't been due to equipment or gadgets.

To me, gadgets are just a way to make money. The paranormal industry is quietly turning over money and people aren't paying it enough attention. People need to start crediting the paranormal as a business. There are people profiting from re-wiring an Xbox Kinect and labelling it as a paranormal device, for goodness sake. What makes that person such an expert that we truly believe they've created a piece of equipment that can detect paranormal activity?

I like to rely on my senses. If I hear something, I will try and get a reaction out of the spirits. If I feel something, I will tell someone, and maybe someone else has experienced the same thing. I've gone back to the edit suite after filming my online ghost series – **THE JACK AND LAURA GHOST SERIES/THE SPIRIT DIARIES** – and found audible sounds on my camera that were missed when investigating. *Those findings are the ones that truly count to me. They're the ones that matter. I find it harder to*

rationalise unaccounted for heavy breathing on camera than a flashing light or a random word picked up from frequenting radio stations.

I sit in a cinema seat, investigating a haunted cinema. My phone buzzes in my pocket, but the investigators I'm with don't care, because we're actually asking out and trying to interact with the 'other world', rather than stare at lights from a laser grid pen. It's a message from Tinder. I swipe right. That's the only gadget I'm using tonight.

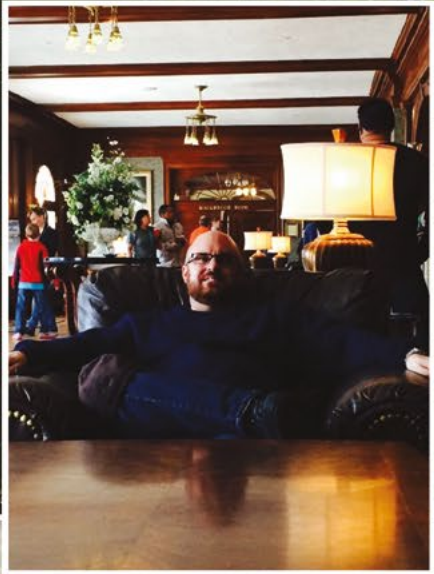
I've had enough of people getting excited over a flashing light on a K2, claiming that it has picked up on electromagnetic energy. Apparently, the spirits we are investigating are definitely made up of that energy, and that is why they interact with the device. It has nothing to do with the fact that maybe, just maybe, there's an electric wire somewhere nearby.

I've been on ghost hunts where prime time investigating is cut into by people unloading crates and boxes full of gadgets that sit on the table all night gathering dust, because let's face it – a lot of it is useless.

Apparently, these days, you are not a serious paranormal investigator if you don't use any of these gadgets. Any beginner paranormal enthusiast **must** have a K2 by their side. If you don't: stop posing and get out!



# LOOKING BACK...A HUMBLING TALE OF A PARANORMAL B



**M**y interest in the paranormal began to be more than just a passing urge to watch a classic ghost documentary while I was stationed in Germany. During a lot of the off-duty time, a few of us soldiers would travel around Europe and discover the history we only learned about in school. Hearing stories while walking old cemeteries and legends from tour guides at the numerous castles we visited really fueled my fire.

Once I finished my military service in the early 2000's, I headed back home to Baltimore, a city that has plenty of history of its own. Over the next couple of years, I discovered my hometown in a completely new way, both historically and paranormally.

In 2005, I founded what would be best described as a tech-based paranormal investigation team. Our main goals would be to explore legends and historical tales, finding photographic, audio, and/or video

evidence to prove or disprove these long told tales. We wanted to be the first team to discover and document evidence in a historic location that had no prior known public paranormal interest.

Once I set out on this path into researching the paranormal, my life would never be the same. The team continued investigating all along the east coast of the United States, honing our skills, and testing new theories for what happens to us when we pass on. I even met the person who I would marry on my Baltimore team's first paranormal investigation. We've been investigating together for 13 years now and married nearly 11.

In 2012, I relocated to Colorado, and found some top-notch paranormal investigators who are also the greatest friends a guy could ask for. From this time on investigating the paranormal has become a significant part of my everyday

life. I've been fortunate enough to investigate some of the worlds most haunted locations, both nationally and internationally, some of them famous and some not famous at all. Through it all, I learned we all have to start somewhere.

**As with most new teams, we didn't have much access to famous locations we heard about or seen on television.**

Our first experiences with investigating usually entailed being huddled together in the dark. Sometimes shivering in a moonlit graveyard, stomping through a dense forest, or even sneaking into an abandoned building. All the while, trying to get a flashlight to work, so we can figure out a new piece of equipment, hoping no one saw us and called the police for trespassing. At that time, we were out for

# LOOPER by Jason Fellon



paranormal gold, which you quickly realize can be a needle in a haystack of coincidences, natural occurrences, and even funny mishaps.

This leads me to one of my first investigation locations, roughly thirty miles north-east of Baltimore, Maryland. This location while on a public road, still lies within the boundaries of Gunpowder Falls State Park. This being said I am not advocating trespassing at all. Do so at your own risk.

The legend claims a young girl was kidnapped in the vicinity and was taken to the heavily wooded and very remote part of the park. There she was assaulted and left for dead in the woods where it's claimed she passed away.

Nowadays, the little girls' apparition is seen on the dirt road

in bloodied, torn and tattered clothes, carrying a teddy bear. The tale says some people have an overwhelming feeling of sadness and some woman have even been overcome with tears when they approach a certain area of the woods. This actually happened to my wife on her first investigation there, not know any of the stories of the place.

I don't investigate alone, so the first time I went was with a friend mine, Christine. We arrived and parked next to the shallow, quick-flowing Gunpowder River. Weather-wise, it was partly cloudy and generally mild for an early December evening.

Since this was our first time at this location we took a few moments to look around before we actually started the investigating. There were definite signs of loneliness and desolation there.





A canopy of trees barely left enough clearance for the moonlight to illuminate the road, while a light breeze was blowing through the little remaining leaves.

**Eventually, we got out the limited gear every new ghost hunter should carry. A Mag-Style flashlight, a camera(digital or film), a digital voice recorder, a pen and notepad, and most importantly an open mind.**

With the snapping of photos and taking baseline readings on the EMF detector, the investigation had started(as expected, the readings in the middle of the heavily wooded area were zero).

I suggested we start moving down the dirt road, which became increasingly narrower and dark as it proceeded along. Continuing to take photos, pausing here and there to ask questions in hopes of capturing an e.v.p.(electronic voice phenomenon). We made it to a "T" in the road where we could continue left to go further into the park, or right to head to an unknown area still within the park. We decided to start heading back towards our parking location instead, to go home for the night only promising to come back in the next few days to cover more ground. Later that week myself, Christine, and my wife Linda went back to give it another go.

Arriving in the same fashion as before, 3 of us showing up around 10 pm to the strangely dark dirt road with no trace of anybody else in the vicinity. This time though, we wouldn't have to look long for something paranormal to happen.

We parked, got out our modest investigation equipment, and proceeded to do the normal baselining of the area. Only this time it seemed like something was trying to gain our attention!

We started walking close to the shore of the bubbling river, and when I say river, I use the term loosely only because its only in its name. This body of water was maybe 30 feet wide at its farthest and most likely 2 foot deep at normal flow.

This time the group was startled nearly out of our pants when we heard a loud thud, or "ker-plunk", splash into the water roughly 15 feet out and off to the right of where to where we were standing. Immediately we react as if being scared out of a dead sleep. I shined my flashlight in the direction of the noise, as did Linda. Christine on the other hand screamed and proceeded to back up. In doing this she tripped over a rock and landed on her butt. As Linda and I check to make sure she was ok, the same noise happened again. This time though, I got my light on it immediately to find a quickly moving ripple in the water where the sound seemed to emanate from. Standing there, with an intense quickness I looked to the other shoreline in an attempt to figure out who or what might be over there playing games with us...nothing.



The team made every attempt to recreate the sound, in an attempt to debunk what or how it was made. We threw rocks of varying sizes into the water from different heights and angles, thinking maybe it may be a rock sliding into the river naturally. We had no success. Did we just experience a once in a lifetime event in paranormal investigating? At that moment we were sure we did!

The night went by quick, so we decide that it was time to pack it up. We gathered ourselves and our gear and drove home, all the while trying to figure out what had just happened. When home we eagerly jumped on our local paranormal chatroom website and shared our happiness with our friends and peers. Thinking back, it was as if we were wanting their approval and/or congratulations, and for the most part that's what we got from them.

We decided to go back one more time, and didn't hesitate making it the very next night. The weather was a bit colder that evening because we arrived later in the night, or shall I say early morning. Showing up after 1 am we hoped that there would be less noise from any outside sources. I pulled up to the same area near the river bend where we heard the splashes the previous night. We got our equipment from our cases and did our baselining, coming up with nothing out of the ordinary on the meters. When shining my flashlight across the river, which is roughly 30 feet, I would swear that I saw shadows peeking from behind the trees. I'd look again, and nothing. I get the girls to look across also and again we see darts of darkness, and then nothing.

We start yelling across to whatever may be on the other side of the river but, as expected, no answer in return. This was the first time I was actually getting creeped out while investigating.

**I desperately wanted to cross the river, either to confront the jokesters or face the anomaly head on.**

It was at this time, a huge splash occurred to the right of where we were standing on the shore. This time we were excited that the same type of sound was being replicated again like we hoped for. We shined our lights in the direction of the noise, but all we saw was the final traces of the splash ripple in the water. Minutes passed that seemed like hours. We started to scan the opposite shore again attempting to try and see if the shadows we have seen were still trying to play hide and seek with us.

We were again getting ready to pack it in for the night until we heard the splash again..."Ba-doosh"! The group reacted the same as before, scanning the water only to find a ripple. This was very disappointing to say the least. Then it happened again. "Ba-doosh"! The difference this time is that I could tell where it came from. I told the girls to shine their flashlights in a specific area almost directly opposite of where we were now standing. There it was, the reason we were all excited. The reason we thought we had a significant piece of paranormal activity to offer the public. Or at least the reason we could end our investigations of Bottom Road with a badge of honor

that we captured evidence that wasn't able to be explained rationally

Unfortunately, as we continued to shine our flashlights in the tall grass across from us, there it was staring at us with glowing eyes...a 30 pound beaver! As he crawled out from between the weeds and reached the edge of the shore, as good as any gold medal winner, it cannonball into the river. There it was... the "Ba-doosh" we've been searching for over the previous 3 evenings.

Well, what can you do but actually stand there and laugh a little about how much effort, time and energy was put into finding out what ended up being a beaver playing the role of the ghost. The shred of positivity we took from the experience was that we were dedicated enough to attempt to debunk the sound, and we actually did. I would probably be correct to think that many other paranormal groups would have had the initial experience and ran with it as a full-fledged paranormal masterpiece.

**We ended up embarrassingly retracting our previous statements of our experiences at Bottom Road and chalking it up to a lesson learned.**

The things that happened during those hours on that dark and desolate road in north-central Maryland were intense, laughable and most importantly educational.

**THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED**

# PHENOMENA

Now recognised as the leading online magazine of its type Phenomena Magazine is a FREE magazine from Manchester's Association of Paranormal Investigation and Training.

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WHEN WE THOUGHT ABOUT A FEATURE ON GADGETS, WE WROTE A BIG FAT QUESTION MARK AS TO WHO WAS GOING TO WRITE IT. YOU COULD PUT WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF GADGETS ON THE BACK OF A K2 METER AND THAT'S IN BIG WRITING TOO.

# THE MAGIC OF THE GADGET



## ..... SENSES WORKING OVERTIME.....

WHEN HAUNTED MAGAZINE / HAUNTEDLIVE GOES GHOST HUNTING WE USE GADGETS SOME OF THE TIME, AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS WE DON'T, IT DEPENDS WHAT MOOD WE ARE IN PLUS IF SIMON AND JASON REMEMBER TO BRING THEM. NOW, WE KNOW THAT A LOT OF OUR READERS KNOW ALL ABOUT GADGETS SO WHAT WE DON'T WANT TO DO IS TO TEACH YOU LOT TO SUCK GHOST EGGS AND WRITE A FEATURE ON GADGETS JUST BY TYPING "GADGETS" INTO GOOGLE. SO, WE ASKED ANDY BAILEY FROM INFREAREDY LTD TO HELP US AND TASKED HIM WITH DELIVERING A GADGET FEATURE FOR ALL.

Back in the 1980's, the paranormal investigator kit bag would be quite modest. The typical tools of the trade at this time included a *Compass, Dowsing rods, a torch, film camera, a tape recorder* and maybe a *Ouija board* for the more adventurous. While I would recommend any of these old school items as a starting point for any ghost hunter / paranormal investigator to learn more about the basic principles of paranormal research that have been studied for decades, the advance in technology over the last ten years has brought some of the props used in films such as *Ghostbusters* into our hands.

Some people turn their nose up at Gadgets and much prefer to use a pencil and notepad, their own instinct and judgement. Our senses, **Sight, Hearing, Touch, Taste** and **Smell** are excellent when

in used together, but when one is taken away our brains ability to process information becomes more difficult. If you have Flu and lose your sense of taste and smell, a loss of appetite often follows, and you rely on your sight to tell you what you are eating. Likewise, try walking down a dark path with headphone in playing loud music, all of a sudden you gain that sense of vulnerability, something catches your eye in the distance and your adrenalin starts to pump and you may start jumping to conclusions thinking an axe murderer is chasing after you.

I think it is fair to say that any member of Joe Public (or John Q Public for those readers in the US) Equipped with a sonic hearing device and a night vision scope would remain more composed and as such maintain a rational state of mind. With the above

examples in mind, there appears to be a reasonable justification for some of the gadgets we commonly see today. Scientific facts, experience and knowledge can often debunk 99% of anomalies but these limitations of our senses that are thrown in darkness or when adrenaline is pumping, gadgets have their place and can help to support and verify what you perceive to see. In my opinion it's all about using the right equipment to suit your environment and the time you have available. In an ideal world you would have access to an investigation before and after the event so that Temperature and Humidity data loggers and camera traps can be setup to gather information from the environment that can be compared against the data when you are performing investigation or prompting and provoking activity.

## SO WHAT GADGETS SHOULD BE USED?

Think about what senses that may be limited, or if you are on your own in a large space that you are unable to cover you can use gadgets to act as an additional team member being your ears and eyes when you cannot be there.

In Addition to the 'traditional tools' mentioned earlier, many of today's gadgets also extend our senses, providing an electronic representation of light, sound or movement beyond that of body can sense. This allows us to gain a wealth of data that would usually go unseen, helping to debunk or add credible evidence to the investigations that many of us perform. While some smell or taste should not be dismissed for paranormal investigation, it tends to be our other three senses that many of today's gadgets help us to penetrate beyond that capable by our senses.

## HEARING

*Voice recorders* are possibly one of the most common tools used by paranormal teams helping to record and playback *EVP's*. A range of microphones can also be used to pick up wavelength outside of our range of hearing and also to convert Electro Magnetic frequencies

into sound waves. One of the most familiar, the Raudive Microphone was used back in the 1960's. In this setup the standard microphone coil is replaced by a geranium diode, basically acting as a detuned crystal set that outputs white noise. On the contrary, those that who

understand *Apophenia* and *Audio Pareidolia*, opt to seek pure *EVPs* through the use of high bit rate *EVP* recorders and other devices such as Spirit Portals to eliminate static and white noise in their *EVPs*.

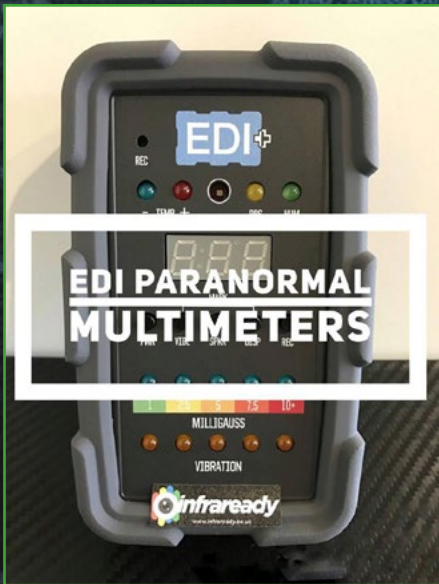
## SIGHT

As smartphones become ever so more popular and technologically advanced, the compact camera has almost been made redundant. As a result, I would hazard a guess that most people who attend the average Saturday Night ghost hunt has a Smartphone tucked away in their pocket. Surely this is a good thing? Everyone is equipped with a camera, increasing the opportunity to catch an image of a real ghost! This may be the case, however as with most good things, there are several issues that smartphones introduce. The signals that are constantly transmitted and received by these devices causes havoc with electronic equipment, i.e. the gadgets we use! That said, it's not all bad, as there are gadgets the more serious investigator can use (Whose phone will be off and left at distance in a secure place) to highlight if these signals are present allowing them to dismiss false triggers.

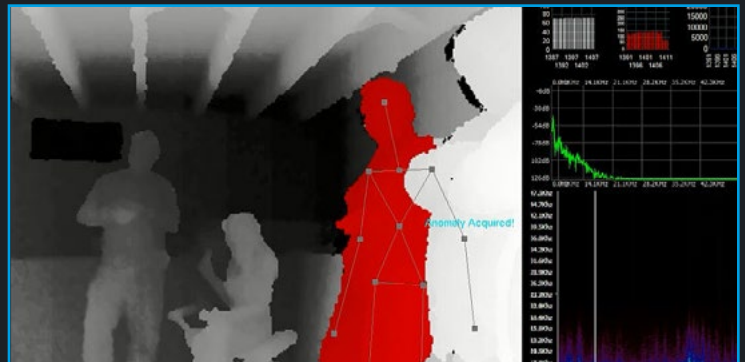
Back to the smartphone camera, they have definitely improved, but they have a number of limitations. As with most off the shelf cameras, they are designed to replicate the way that our eyes see colour, ideal for holiday snaps and taking photographic memories of loved ones, but not showing us more that we can already see. Nearly everyone that claims to have caught a ghost on camera never seems to recall actually seeing it themselves; the saying goes 'the camera never lies' but this suggests it does. Knowing how to operate your cameras and using its settings to full potential is all too important and will help you to gain clear, sharp evidence. Modified cameras often referred to as night vision or full spectrum conversion have numerous advantages over standard cameras. They can be paired with Infrared Illumination to record in total darkness and capture a broader part of the

electromagnetic spectrum. In addition to capturing visible colours, they also yield Ultraviolet and Near Infrared. It is often suggested that spirits disseminate in these parts of the Spectrum, so although UV waves are too short and IR waves are too long for your eyes to see, the modified camera will pick them up Thermal camera extend this capability further still. These devices convert the wavelengths that we can see into a thermogram which in turn is translated into electronic impulses which are then displayed using a pallet of false colours to provide help us differentiate between hot and cold. Although expensive, these gadgets prove effective in verifying hot or cold sensations people often feel when they are performing investigations. Paranormal activity is also thought to influence the temperature of objects, so again this tool is a quick and easy way to remove the guess work.





The adaptation of Microsoft's Kinect sensor into the SLS (Structured Light Sensor) camera has introduced us to the Stickman. Although one has been one of the most in demand items from our ghost hunting store over the last two years, many investigators remain sceptical about this device particularly those of a technophobic nature.



In addition to Skeletal mapping, these cameras allow the user to view several streams of live data, including colour, depth and infrared. As with any gadget, if setup and used in a controlled environment, these devices can provide an insight into the world beyond our natural range of vision.

## TOUCH

Small variations in movement can be hard to detect. Geophones and Seismic sensors can be used to pick up the smallest of vibrations. As with most other meters used in the paranormal field, a specific technique of asking controlled questions should be used, while observing changes in environment with the ultimate aim of tying the two together to provide substantial evidence. REM Pods, PIR movement detectors, Infrared Perimeter Beams can also be used to monitor locked off areas and will emit audible signals if the proximity of the beams they radiate are broken.

Although most common tools in a ghost hunters kit will fall into one of the three categories above, there are others that have been built to rely on interaction. The Ovilus for example measures and combines temperature and electromagnetic fields that are translated into words loaded into the device on a preloaded database. Personally, I feel this type of equipment is a gimmick rather than a gadget. Finally, there are a vast array of meters that can be used to measure, monitor or indicate

the presence of Static, Electro Magnetic Frequencies. If looking for an EMF meter avoid cheap Chinese KII fakes off eBay, there are details on our website and YouTube channel that show you how to identify a genuine KII. If you can afford to stretch your budget, opt for a 3 axis EMF meter as these will provide stable and accurate results. Remember a gadget is just that. No one is going to guarantee but if user has had experience good results then why not give a go. Open minded, ways to interact with devices. Rather than putting triggers down to guess work Need to interpret what gadgets are telling you and use them in conjunction with your own feelings. Skill patience build own. Look more in depth over coming issues. Explain science behind them. How to debunk to ensure evidence is credible not judged laughed at. If you are serious, you'll want to ensure you can do this. Don't go for the cheapest of gadgets just for the sake of owning some equipment, do your research save your money and buy something that will do the job properly and help to add credibility to your research.



# MOTION TRAP CAMERAS

## SO, WHO THE CHUFF ARE INFRAREADY LIMITED ANYWAY AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

It's simple! Our aim is to delight our customer and exceed their expectations! Having over 30 years of experience in Electronics Servicing, Customer Service and Photography, and establishing infraready as a Limited Company in the UK in 2013. We pride ourselves on supplying quality products that meet your expectations first time. We supply a wide range of Digital Cameras that are internally modified the specification of your choice. We aim to meet all budgets no matter how small and continue to add new devices to our range one to ensure we offer the most advanced products in line with current technology. We happily provide advice prior to purchase without obligation, just email us or better still pick up the phone as its often easier to talk. Likewise, we continue to offer full post sale support to help you get the most out of your purchase.

We started off trading on eBay (Infraready) and moved from strength to strength. Our initial market was to sell Digital Cameras modified to Infrared but as the principles of how our camera operate attracted a great interest from other fields for different purposes from customers around the globe:

- Bats Conservation Trust** – Used to monitor and the activity of Bats
- Nocturnal Wildlife Trusts** – Discreetly filming Bats, Badgers and Beavers

**Leicester University** – NVDI capable cameras, drone mounted for crop health surveys

**Oxford University** – Study and Viewing of Infrared Lasers that are invisible to the human eye

**Royal Holloway University of Biological Science** – 24 hour Time-lapse of Crabs Feeding / Mating patterns

**University of Naples Federico II** – Study of flower markings and Bee pollination using specialist UV Lenses, Camera and filters.

**Curtin University of Perth / Kings Park & Botanic Garden** – Study of Orchid markings and Bee pollination using specialist UV Lenses, Camera and filters.

**Sotheby Auctions** – Penetrating the surface of paintings to discover original pencil / charcoal markings made by the artists as a guide when paintings. These markings have often been found to differ from those of the final painting and help to show where the artists made changes.

**Stamp Collectors** – Checking the authenticity of the most desirable and collectable stamps such as the Penny Black.

**National Stereoscopic Society** – Aiding the group to capture Infrared Images in 3D

**Film Makers** – Our devices have been

used by up and coming and professional film makers to complement their equipment and provide an alternative view of the world. These have been used on location from London to Hollywood, Hawaii and Japan.

*And then there's the world of the paranormal and the world of the strange.*

**Various Paranormal Groups** - used by both individuals, groups, paranormal companies and teams who have a passion for the paranormal and groups from around the world.

We have a site dedicated to the paranormal, <http://bestghosthunting.com>

**Malaysian UFO Groups** – Used for sky watching / UFO spotting

**Astrophotography Groups** – Capturing Nebula, Planets and other objects usually hidden away in unseen wavelengths of light

*We have become one of the most well-known ghost hunting brands in the UK and Europe and have many return customers from around the globe. We work closely with a local Paranormal team which allows us to put our devices to the test in the real world by real people before they go anywhere else. Our equipment is tested to the nth degree and only add the products to our inventory if they have been proven to be effective and useful.*

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AND NOW A FEATURE ON PREMONITIONS, TO BE HONEST, WE KNEW WE WERE DOING A FEATURE ON PREMONITIONS BEFORE WE PLANNED THE MAGAZINE... CRAZY EH?

# PREMONITIONS

Trying to predict the future is very difficult, but if you listen to your intuitions, you can learn things that will help you, before and after and event. The psychic ability known as precognition covers premonitions, prophecies and foretelling – the ability to perceive information about the future. Many psychics and clairvoyants practice precognition, whilst mediums mostly claim that the spirit they are communicating passes on the precognitive information. To be honest anyone can have a premonition. It doesn't matter whether you a mum, dad, Dr, nurse, optician, and unemployed, if you are meant to see into the future then you will have the premonition. There are no timings for when the premonition can happen it just happens. What I have noticed with myself is that when I dream it happens.

Due to the large number of premonitions I now have, I record them on social media after the dream has taken place, so that when the event happens I can update. The most common type of premonition is the prophetic dream. Other premonitions could be from intuitions or just a hunch. The premonitions could be a happy event, a loss or a tragedy. You never know which one it will be until it has happened. Some people believe that premonitions are caused by disturbances in the space-time continuum. They believe that important or life-changing events cause psychic ripples in the fabric of space-time and that these ripples can be picked up in the mind psychic antennae. Those who are more psychically open or aware will find that they will pick up on these ripples.

For example – • A dream prompts a mother to remove her baby from his cot an hour before a chandelier falls and smashes it. • More than a dozen people don't turn up for dance rehearsal for the first time ever when the studio explodes. Are these coincidences, or is something happening we need to pay attention to? Abraham Lincoln had one of the most



famous premonitory dreams, when he foresaw his own death. This actually came true a few days after the dream. In his dream he was walking around the White House following the noise of people crying. He eventually came to the East room, which had an open coffin in it. There were soldiers guarding it and he approached them and asked who was dead in The White House, to get the response 'The President, killed by an assassin'. A few days later John Wilkes Booth, shot The President Abraham Lincoln and his body was laid out in the East room of The White House.

So, as you can see, anyone can have a premonition but when should you take a premonition seriously? Below is my 5-point guide of when I would act,

but it may be different to you. 1. If the premonition warns of a health crisis or death. 2. If the premonition is numinous, highly vivid, or "realer than real" 3. If a dream is recurrent, appearing often in the same night or in succeeding nights, as if fighting for attention; 4. If the premonition is associated with physical symptoms. 5. If the premonition is experienced independently by a spouse, partner, lover, or close friend. You can train yourself to invite premonitions into our lives by setting the stage for them. Learn a discipline like meditation, where we quiet our mind and allow the messages from within and without to come to the front. Remember practise makes perfect. So, remember, next time you have a premonition in your dream, or that hunch that you get. Write it down in a journal. Date it and wait to see if it happens. It can be scary, and I for one can understand that feeling of emotions once I dream, as sadly all mine have been catastrophic events all around the world.

*Sam Bennetts xx*

**SAM BENNETTS** is a celebrity psychic medium and a writer for Fate & Fortune Magazine, author of "Clairvoyant or Crazy?" AND Spiritual & Psychic Development.



A Paranormal Investigator, White Witch, Spiritual Teacher & Reiki Master. Mother to 9 children, 2 in spirit, 7 living and loving wife to Jason.

# IT'LL BE ALL WHITE ON THE NIGHT

Paranormal team **3 Girls in the Dark's** resident medium **Melissa Holloway** is a 30-something mother of 2, works as a doula and is about to graduate nursing school. She also works as a bartender, but if that wasn't enough her full time profession - Is what she likes to refer to as a "white light worker". From the delivery room to the pub, Melissa believes helping people is her calling. **3 Girls in the Dark's** lead investigator **Gina Passante** sat down with Melissa to get a glimpse of what it's like inside of a mediums mind.



## THE WHITE LIGHT WORKER

**GP: I know you don't like labels but if someone were to ask what kind of work you do, how would you respond?**

MH: I consider myself a "White Light Worker". I do a lot of energy work and I pull that energy and information from the the white light, which is of the highest vibration. I could wear different hats depending on the situation. I'm a medium and consider my readings to be healing for people. I do energy cleansing and healing work. When I'm working with my paranormal team, I read locations to give our investigators information to work from. I am told nothing about these locations, so it can help be one of the ways the team validates claims or evidence.

**GP: Tell us about some of your gifts.**

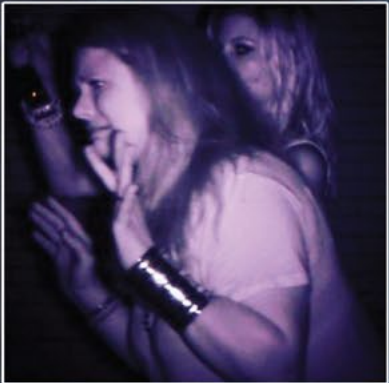
MH: People hear the word "medium" and think all I do is talk to the deceased. Which I do, I receive messages for the person I'm reading and it's possible to get a message for someone else

associated with that person. I have all the "Clair senses". This includes all types of psychic sensitivity corresponding to the senses. I can also read someone's energy. While bartending I have this joke, if someone new walks in I say... "I know you, I know all about you!" I can just feel a persons soul, what they are about, and their intensions.

**GP: When did you realize you had a supernatural gift? What were some of your first experiences?**

MH: A friend of my mothers committed suicide in the house I grew up in. Although I don't remember, my mom tells me I talked to him all the time and I would call him by name. Some of the first I remember, are always seeing dark shadows. There has always been a shadow man going in and out of my grandma's house, even to this day. I remember seeing this woman in the bathtub staring back at me, just little things like that. Different places I would go, I would pick up on the energy and just not feel comfortable.





**“MY WHOLE FAMILY HAS HAD EXPERIENCES, SO THEY BELIEVED ME. THESE ABILITIES RUN IN MY FAMILY AND GO BACK TO MY GREAT-GREAT-GRANDMOTHER.”**



Another time, I was about 7 and it was around Christmas, I woke up in the middle of the night. I woke up to what looked like my little brother standing away from me, same style hair and clothes. I called out his name and when he turned around I realized that wasn't him! After that I noticed Ethan (my bother) would talk to someone named Timmy. He would hand him toys and the toys would just drop to the floor.

**GP: Did you tell anyone about these experiences and did they believe you?**

MH: Yes, my whole family has had experiences, so they believed me. These abilities run in my family and go back to my great-great-grandmother.

**GP: What makes a great reading?**

MH: I think, something about your past present and future, and someone coming through with a personal message. Spirit comes through and should give you something from

your past for validation, present for comfort and future to look forward to. I don't think I can read the future, however spirit will give me messages about the future. Even if I am doing a reading on someones personal life, someone will come through for them.

**GP: What type of readings are your favorite?**

MH: I can do everything from personal to group readings and even object or location readings. Group readings are my favorite. Everyone in the room usually has the same intention. They want to communicate with loved ones and the room is filled with a great energy of love and light. Here is something funny, children and dogs are always drawn to the group readings because they can feel that great energy and want to be near it. I always have people apologizing for their dog or kid and I tell them this is where they want to be. I've done readings with a clients kid sitting in my lap and I totally welcome it.



## THE EXPERIENCE

**GP: One of the main questions we get is, what is the experience like for you? Usually followed up with what do you see, how do you see it? Can you try and break that down for us?**

MH: I always get ready as if I am going to an interview. I like to be as professional as possible. If it's a new client I will start by introducing myself and some background. I start the reading with a prayer and then it just hits me, it's like going into a trance or a meditative state. Imagine thinking about someone who has passed, you can still see them and even hear their voice in your head. It's similar but I sometimes actually do see them. It's kind of like seeing things in your peripheral vision. Spirits also send me messages through visions. I see things, I hear things, and can even smell things. It's across all my senses. For whatever reason some energy is stronger than others. Some will look like they are in the room with you and others it can be choppy. They will show me bits of information I have to piece together. So it's not always about how I'm reading but what I'm reading. It's really what their energy is capable of.

This is kind of hard to explain but I will also get messages in my mind's eye. It's as if I'm looking through a purple plasma and I see images. When the reading is over I sort of snap back to reality and am usually hungry (laughs). I have talked to other medium / physics and this seems to be a popular experience.

**GP: You have people coming to you for reading but do you ever have spirits coming to you with messages?**

MH: When I'm working, I'm working, and when I'm not I'm living a normal life. (Laughs) I think? What's a normal life? It does happen occasionally, where I get a message and I tell spirit unless this is really important or detrimental, this is not the time. There have been times when spirit tells me - you have to deliver this message, and I do. It could be anywhere like the grocery store, but because spirit has never embarrassed me, I trust it.

**GP: Does "Spirit" enter your body? Do you actually become this person?**

MH: That is not how it works for me and I want to be in control at all times. That type of interaction can get really scary for the both of us. I am perfectly capable of hearing and seeing the message or the messenger. Spirit can communicate with

me just as I am communicating with you so there is no need to "enter" me!

**GP: Does knowing details about a situation help you hone in and receive specific information, or do you like to know nothing for validation?**

MH: I prefer to start out with zero details. I don't want my own thoughts to get in the way. As humans we tend to make theories and I want the information purely from spirit. It means more to the other person if they have that validation. After I provide the message, I don't mind if someone wants to ask about specific things.

**GP: How do you handle relaying tough information?**

MH: Spirit always give you the message you need to hear, if your ready for it or not. But, I think spirit gives me the right words and will not embarrass you. I'm usually able to talk in subtle ways where the person understands the point of the message.

**GP: Is it weird knowing all this information about everyone?**

MH: Actually I don't remember the majority of my readings. I don't feel like I'm suppose to. This is detailed personal information that is none of my business. It's a bit like being in a trance and when it's over it's over. I'm just the messenger. This actually has worked against me in times. I will run into someone and they will have a validation story and I have to apologize for not remembering the reading. This does not mean I don't have a personal connection with you, it is just not my information to keep.

Although, I do remember things from time to time depending on how strong or graphic a reading can be. I try not to get involved with news stories anymore, but if it is serious, spirit will tell me. The reason I don't go looking for it is because those images are sometimes hard to get out of my head. If I get a message about something horrific, I don't need to see and feel it and that's exactly what will happen. In the past I have worked with the police and these readings can be very strong and terrifying. Usually the ones I want to forget are the ones I can't and there are certain things that have really effected me.

**GP: When you are doing the paranormal thing what type of experiences do you have?**



MH: We investigated Missouri Penitentiary which is one of the most horrific places I have ever been and really don't want to go back. I remember seeing hands coming up from the ground, and later you guys informed me it was where bodies were buried. I was shown so much of the violence and negative things that happened there. It's hard to shake that experience. But location readings can be quite nice. One of the mansions we did, I had visions of people socializing and dancing. A lot of joy and happy times in some of those rooms.

**GP: Tell me about the "Confirmation Cry": Which is something I can contest to because I have experienced it myself.**

MH: Spirit will give you a physical response to the reading. It's someone telling me "I'm not sad, why am I crying?". The confirmation cry is goosebumps followed by the overwhelming feeling of energy that results in tears. People just know in their heart the reading was real. It's a really cool experience.

## RAPID FIRE

- 1. Spirit Boards Yes or NO?** No, Never
- 2. Are UFO's real?** Yes, why not?
- 3. One thing you don't leave the house with out?** My oils.
- 4. One place you would like to visit?** Florence Italy
- 5. Favorite Crystal?** Rose Quarts

## CONTACT

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DA, DA, DA, DA, DA



# IN-SPECTRE GADGET

“GADGETS - DON'T KNOCK IT, TILL YOU'VE TRIED IT!”  
BY LEE ROBERTS

**I** get asked a lot what my views are on gadgets, apps and new technology for ghost hunting. My view is always the same, try everything, don't have any preconceived ideas about it and see what you get.

Most people dismiss gadgets and apps as fake and don't work, maybe manipulated by the creator or just poorly made. But who is to say we wouldn't stumble on a way on contacting the other side by mistake.

Back in the 90's all we really had was a camera, a dodgy thermometer and maybe an old Sony camcorder, nothing much could go wrong. But as the years went on we were introduced to EMF meters, K2 meters and more.

I purchased 3 K2 meters once on eBay and put them on social media, purely just to show off my new gadgets. I was very interested in one comment that's stated "those are fake K2's". I replied saying, No, they work just fine thank you, the lights work, the casing is sound and they do what they were supposed to do. This person then stated "Those grey ones you have purchased are copies, they are fake and don't detect ghosts". I was really interested now and ask how he knew this to be a fact when he had not even used my new toys. "Because the real ones have a sticker on them saying they are official" is what I got back.

After going back and forth with this "Ghost Hunter" I was eventually called amateur using amateur equipment, now I get that I am an amateur, I don't claim to know it all, not all the time anyway. But this piece of kit had never been used, never been put to the test, so how can it be criticised?

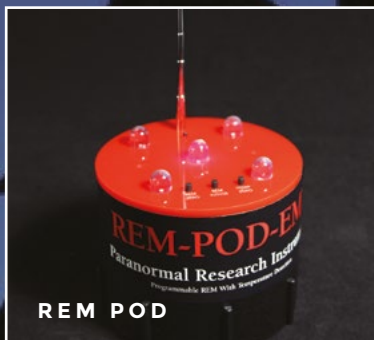
My other point, and probably the one I stand by the most is, how can a human being, design a piece of kit to detect something we have no evidential proof is there? Now I know some of you will argue and say we have got proof, trust me, an orb is not proof of life after death. In fact it is all guess work. No one who has ever lived this earth has produced evidence to suggest that there is life after death, fact. There are lots of theories, suggestions but there is nothing out there that cannot be explained. Whether the explanation given is the right one or not is a different matter.

**D**on't get me wrong, I am a believer; I have seen things over the years that scare people to death. Can I explain what I have seen? Yes I can, but I don't always believe that the explanation is the correct one. Given the correct circumstances, surroundings and energy I believe anything is possible.

So going back to my new K2's, were they a copy? Possibly yes, but were they fake? Absolutely not. They were designed by someone and sold to give a "Ghost Hunter" a tool to try and detect something, which worked fine. The fact the lights



K2 METER



REM POD



GHOST HUNTING KIT

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flashed now and again meant that what I purchased worked, did it detect a Ghost? I still haven't got the foggiest idea.

**S**aying all that, you do get gadgets that come out where you can tell right from the start the creators have an alternative motive, something I don't agree on. A few years ago, there was an all singing all dancing piece of kit called the GhostArk. This was supposed to be the best bit of kit around and a must have for Ghost Hunters, the prototype video looked amazing, EMF, EVP, Temperature, tooth brush, you name it, the GhostArk had it. Immediately I smelt a rat, the company was asking for money upfront from buyers and stating that the product was not actually finished yet. In fact when we made enquiries with Haunted Magazine to test the bit of kit, it turned out that a prototype wasn't even made. So in other words, someone had a bright idea to make a product, shared it on the all-powerful social media to get interest and funding, to then and only then actually make the item.

By then the customers were committed. When the first patch arrived on the doorsteps of the purchaser months later it was missing knobs, no volume and very poorly made. So not only was it a poor idea but it was an even worse piece of plastic. BUT, did it do what it was designed to do and contact ghosts? I'm afraid we will probably never know. Most of the prototypes never worked, those that did get a decent set probably don't even use

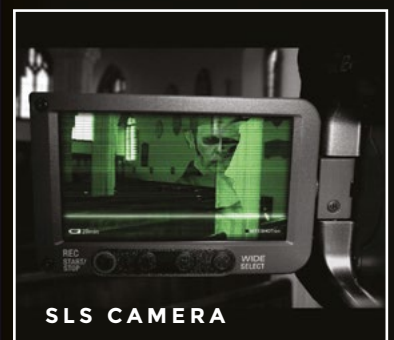
them and you never see any reports of good evidence coming direct from the GhostArk. Maybe that is because they are rubbish or maybe because those that have them don't wish to admit they paid a small fortune for a fancy doorstep.

**T**he new craze out now is the SLS Cameras, the camera that pick up on stick men within the location (no chance on picking up stick men when the HauntedLIVE lads are around) using a tablet or screen connected to a Xbox Kinect type device the gadget can pick up n figures around us. The scientist in me says that all it is doing is manipulating the surrounding area and making figures out of the patterns. HOWEVER, I've never used one, I seen one in use and was impressed, I got my good friend and maker of such device, Simon Fone, to make me one up and I will be testing it out once it arrives. You can see how that goes on my Facebook page (cheap plug).

So to wrap things up, I don't discount any device as rubbish or fake, every app, gadget and piece of equipment has to be tested, not by just you but compare with others and see what results they got. You never know, you might just stumble on the energy, equipment that proves once and for all there is life after death..... Then what would we all write about?

**LEE ROBERTS**

[www.officialleeroberts.com](http://www.officialleeroberts.com)



AN INTERVIEW WITH HORROR AUTHOR

# JOE PASQUALE

YES, THAT ONE!



Photo Credit:  
Sven Arnstein

**DEADKNOBS AND DOOMSTICKS** is a collection of illustrated short horror stories. Ranging from the darkly bizarre to the horrifically surreal, many of the stories are laced with a theme of bullying and bullies. Dark undertones and malevolent overtones interweave with characters and situations that pull the reader to the edge of their seat. Wit and black humour is prevalent through the stories, each with a delicious payoff for the reader. Joe Pasquale shows that where there is laughter there is also a dark and disturbing voice that is drawn to the horror genre to find its release. With illustrations by the author, this collection shows a rich depth of talent as an artist and author. Joe shows he has as unique a voice in the world of horror writing, as it is in comedy.

## Interview with Paul Stevenson

**Have you always been into horror? Is there a particular stand out moment that got you into it?**

Yes, I've always been into horror... the defining moment was seeing the 1933 version of Frankenstein when I was 7 years old... after that, I was hooked.

**Do you believe in the paranormal? Have you ever seen a ghost?**

I have an open mind about the paranormal... sadly I have never seen a ghost... but I'm still looking.

**Who are your favourite horror / paranormal authors? What is the book that you wish you had written?**

James Herbert... Poe... King...Clive Barker... Dennis Wheatley... Shaun Hutson... and the book would be 'THE STAND' BY STEPHEN KING

**With the recent success of Inside no 9 and the return of the League of Gentlemen, dark, demons and comedy sometimes go hand in hand, do you agree?**

Absolutely... I'm a huge fan of both of those shows.

**You said that the book has "biographical elements in it", was that easy to do rather than just to create some scary short stories?**

Yes... I should imagine most fiction writers incorporate events and people into their stories from real life.... that's the catalyst for most of my stories.

**Deadknobs & Doomsticks is a great title, where did the inspiration for that come from?**

My knob died!

**You also illustrated the book, was this something you were keen to do from the beginning?**

Not until Darren Laws, the publisher from Caffeine Nights, suggested the book was illustrated by myself... I hadn't even thought of it until he mentioned it...then of course... I jumped at it.

**Have you ever been on a ghost hunt? If not, we know some people LOL!!**

Sadly not... and yes, please.

**We do agree when you say that you think tales of horror and the supernatural are perfect for short stories, why is that so though?**

Our lives are made up of short stories on a daily basis... you put them all together, then our life becomes a novel... so it makes sense to break up all those events that my mind can conjure up.

**Are you a horror film lover too, what are your favourites?**

The Exorcist is my all-time favourite... still scares me... and anything by Guillermo del Toro.

**You were King of the Jungle back in 2004, sandwiched between Kerry Katona and Carol Thatcher, what was it like in the jungle?**

**Describe yourself in three words? Immature...Childlike...Flatulent.**

Pretty boring... you only see an hour of edited footage which looks fun... but there's another 23 hours of nothing, apart from people arguing and farting.

**If you had to have a dinner party at chez Pasquale and you could ask anyone living or dead, past or present, who would it be, and why and what would you serve, starter, main course and pudding?**

Einstein...Mary Shelley...and Charlie Chaplin... tomato soup... bacon sandwiches... and banoffee pie.

**Do you have any plans for a second horror book?** Yes... currently starting D and D 2


**What are your plans for the rest of 2018?**

I'm currently on tour with the live stage version of the 70's sitcom Some Mother's Do 'Ave 'Em, playing Frank Spencer...then straight into a 40-date standup tour... in between writing and illustrating book 2.



Photo Credit: Nichola Thomas

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LEONARD LOW

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THE LOWDOWN ON GHOSTS

# THE NUN OF ST ANDREWS

BY LEONARD LOW

“AT 9.30 FROM THE BEACH SANDS BOTH LADS FISHING SAW A STRANGE FIGURE APPEAR WALKING DOWN FROM THE HILL TO THE RUINED CATHEDRAL, IT WAS DRESSED AS A NUN!”

It was just another Friday in March. The weather finally decent enough for James Hainey and his two friends to gather their fishing gear and prepare for a night's sea fishing on St Andrews bay. 2017 had been a relatively mild Winter and with the clocks now forward and Spring on the horizon, the fishing was entering its season. The sands at St Andrews in Fife have an appealing look, as gentle waves sweep in from the North Sea. But a beguiling feature here is this coastline is treacherous and misleading. Many a ship have turned the Fife Coast and mistaken the wide expanse of the Eden river as the Tay estuary and headed towards it. Before the mistake has dawned on the ship Captains it's been too late to turn to Starboard and the ship is soon berthed on the deadly rocks. Over 40 ships have perished with their crews on this corner of the Fife coastline.



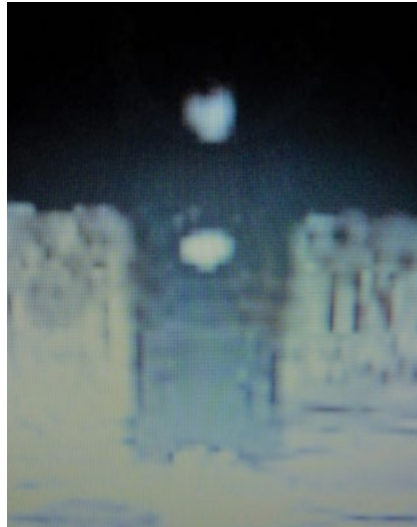


The fishing can be good here. Mackerel, Rock Cod and flat fish can be caught in numbers. And James and his friends have been at this location regularly for years, on the night of Friday March they caught something else...something they weren't expecting, something that had died a long time ago!

The boys started fishing at seven. A quiet windless night, reasonably warm and to be honest with dark descending it was in all a perfect night for fishing. One of the group walked along the long Pier (200yds) out of sight from James and his mate beach casting from the sands. He set up his rod at the end, and sat casting away.

At 9.30 from the beach sands both lads fishing saw a strange figure appear walking down from the hill to the ruined Cathedral, it was dressed as a Nun! As it approached the boys became uncomfortable, something wasn't right. They noticed it wore no shoes, and seemed to glide over the stones of the road, the corrupted surface not bothering the figure. As it approached the lads it continued walking down the length of the Pier, James called out a nervous greeting to the dark silent figure, it responded with a rough

guttural voice "I'm fine". It carried on walking till it was swallowed by the darkness. Both lads on the beach had seen enough, totally spooked out, they hurriedly packed their fishing gear into the car, at this moment one shouted in alarm..." look! She's coming back"



they jumped into the car, putting the light beam on full, it lit up the first 50 yards of the Pier where the strange Nun advanced slowly towards them.

They managed to take a mobile phone photo where it advanced near enough,

it passed the passenger side of the car at an arm length from the vehicle was here they got a full view of it..."it had no face, like grey melted wax" the fearful lads noticed as it passed an incredible unpleasant smell "like rotten Rabbit" with a high level of anxiety the lads drove off, leaving their friend still fishing at the end of the pier. Next day when they contacted their friend, without relaying any of the night's activity, they asked how he had got on? His reply was "I packed up after 9.30 and found you had gone! I had an awful feeling like I was being watched, spooked me out, I couldn't fish anymore"

Two days later James contacted me with the story and the photograph he took.

On my examination of this photo, at first with the clarity it reminded me of the "Ghost Phone" apps available just now which will put a phantom in any photograph you have. But this isn't one, at closer magnification you can see through the figure, seeing the wall behind her.

There is a History of this figure being seen in this location, and it does go back some hundreds of years. The legend goes...

A woman in the town (its unspecified when) was engaged to a fine young man when she decided to break of the engagement and take up Christ instead, devoting her days as a Nun. The news broke her suiters heart and to further destroy his ambitions with her...she cut her face off, to make herself ugly to the world. This drastic action succeeded in fronting her lovers suicide. And forever more she held her own penance for what she drove him to do.

The form of a Nun has been frequently witnessed, from the 1900s there are reports of her being seen walking down from the Cathedral walk to the Harbour, as recently as Easter 2016 she was reported to have been there. This would be almost a year to the day that our fishermen saw her!

James and his friend may have got a fright, but he also may have witnessed a piece of St Andrews history too. Interesting that James said, "she had no face, it was like wax!" .....like someone who had cut their face off?

# HAUNTED MAGAZINE ISSUE 19

## THE MAGIC OF THE GADGET

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**Dr Queer** courtesy of Bambos Georgiou (script) & Mychailo Kazybrid (art) (c) 2017  
Joe Pasquale picture credit: David Ince

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In Haunted Magazine issue 18, we featured a story about Ursula Kemp called **CURSE OF THE URSE** written by Leonard Low. On page 2 of the article, a picture of Ursula being laid to rest in 2011 was submitted with the article. This image was taken from a documentary by John Worland and even graces the DVD front cover. The feature incorrectly credited the DVD to John Moreland. This should be credited to John Worland, so we'd like to apologise to John and correct it in this issue by giving the appropriate credit.

The documentary made by John and Fade to Black Television is called **URSULA KEMP** and is available to buy from [www.ursulakemp.co.uk](http://www.ursulakemp.co.uk)

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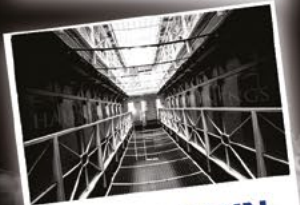
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