

INVESTIGATION REPORT



Investigation Site	Speen, Cryers Hill and Prestwood
Investigation Date	26 th June 2009
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Steph, Andy F, Ann, Elaine, Marion, Danny, Leana, Richard

Speen

General

Highwood Bottom (the area being investigated) is a very quiet track which feeds a few isolated houses. The sky was covered with light cloud and virtually no wind.

Walk: Highwood Bottom – 21:05 to 21:55

For the first part of this investigation all of the LPS members (excluding Danny and Leana, who was suffering with her back as a result of a recent car crash) walked along Highwood Bottom until just beyond the point at which it joins Kiln Lane. None of the members were told about the local legend only that the road at one point is said to be haunted. The intention was that they should try to see if they could pick anything up with no prior knowledge.

As we walked the group became strung out so over a distance of about 200 metres. During the walk Marion stopped to take a photograph of some purple flowers which were near to a cottage/home on the opposite side of the lane, she could smell either Vicks or the old fashioned embrocation oil used on joints and sprains.

Ann reported that the walk along Highwood Bottom Lane in search of the Witch's Stone was more like a pleasant summers evening stroll until we came to the start of a small wood. The wood was situated on the right hand side of the lane directly after the houses. She rarely 'feel uneasy' near the woodlands as she is a regular dog walker who likes to explore. However, whether it was the overhanging boughs darkening the lane or mere imagination she doesn't know, but she sensed a feeling of almost 'danger', as if someone or something might jump out on us. The feeling didn't ease while we passed the wood and in fact she felt even more uncomfortable at the other end of the wood where a footpath emerged from the side of the wood itself and joined the lane.

21:20 As Steph is walking up the path beyond the Witch's Stone; she feels a tickling on her right fore arm. Steph shook her arm as she thought something was crawling on it but when she looked there was nothing visible. As she carried on walking the tickling recommenced going up and down, like light fingertips, on her fore arm. Another inspection and feel with her left hand revealed nothing on her arm.

When the last group reached the end of the woods (see the plan on the next page) some of the team were about 150 metres down Kiln Lane whilst Elaine had stopped near the public footpath at the end of the wood. When everyone had collected by the footpath Bill asked each member if they had picked up on anything. The start of the wood was identified by several people with one interesting comment coming from Marion who said that at the entrance to Highwood Bottom her spirit guide had told her 'what we are looking for is just a stones throw away'. This was interesting because the haunting involves a large block of stone next to the footpath sign and now buried in the hedgerow, The Witch's Stone.

21:50 As members were by the Witch's Stone; Steph decided to walk back up the path where she felt the tickling on her arm earlier (at a point along Kiln Lane). As she walked up the path just

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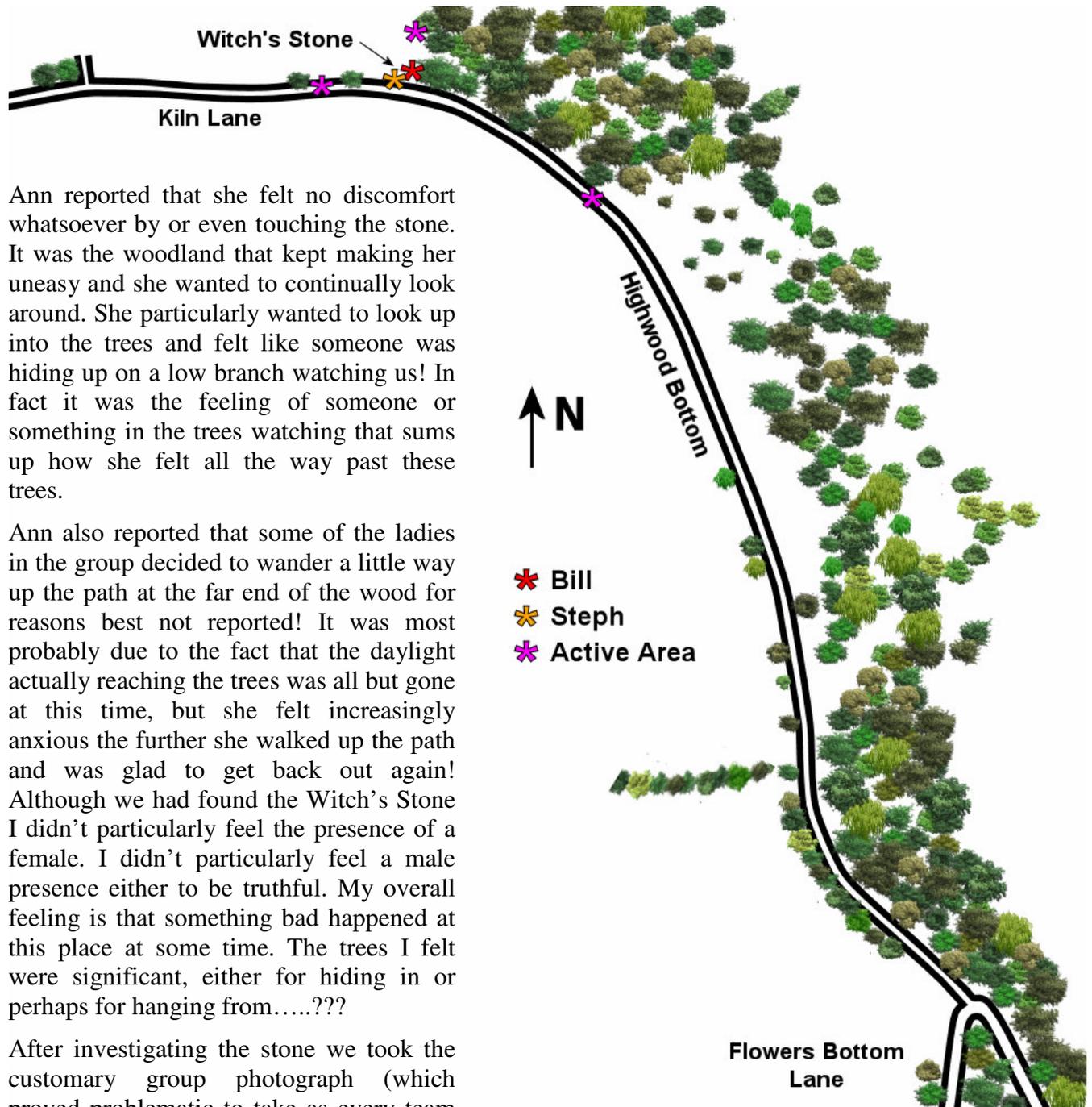


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round a bend, she got a burning sensation in her right thigh. She returned to the spot with Bill to see if he could sense anything but he felt nothing.

Whilst at the Witch's Stone Marion walked up the footpath to the right of the stone and had the name *Bartlett* and *Bartletts Bottom*.



Ann reported that she felt no discomfort whatsoever by or even touching the stone. It was the woodland that kept making her uneasy and she wanted to continually look around. She particularly wanted to look up into the trees and felt like someone was hiding up on a low branch watching us! In fact it was the feeling of someone or something in the trees watching that sums up how she felt all the way past these trees.

Ann also reported that some of the ladies in the group decided to wander a little way up the path at the far end of the wood for reasons best not reported! It was most probably due to the fact that the daylight actually reaching the trees was all but gone at this time, but she felt increasingly anxious the further she walked up the path and was glad to get back out again! Although we had found the Witch's Stone I didn't particularly feel the presence of a female. I didn't particularly feel a male presence either to be truthful. My overall feeling is that something bad happened at this place at some time. The trees I felt were significant, either for hiding in or perhaps for hanging from.....???

After investigating the stone we took the customary group photograph (which proved problematic to take as every team members' face came out extremely bright whilst the rest of the photograph looked all right.

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21:58 The teams split up with Bill and Steph remaining at the stone to do a short vigil whilst the rest of the team returned to the cars in Flowers Bottom Lane as Richard was arriving late and we could not get any mobile phone signals in the deep valley.

On the walk back, just before the cottage and purple flowers, where Marion had previously stopped, and with Ann on her left, Marion had a grey orb the size of a tennis ball whiz past her left ear and eye from left to right and disappear about a foot in front of her. Marion made the comment that 'before anybody asks it wasn't a moth or I would have screamed'.

Vigil 1: By the Witch's Stone – 21:58 to 22:18

In this area there was faint road noise coming from the southwest by west.

22:05 As Steph is looking down Highwood Bottom, in the direction of Flowers Bottom Lane she gets the impression of a man on horseback riding toward where she and Bill are sat. The horse is brown and the rider is male, wearing a cape across one shoulder. His clothes appear to be dark orange/rusty in colour with golden brown trim.

22:09 Bill measures the temperature at +11.5 to +14.5°C.

Return Walk

22:10 As Elaine was walking back up the lane she picks up the name *Sarah Elizabeth*.

Cryers Hill

For this part of the investigation we did a vigil outside the entrance to the Garden of Rest in Four Ashes Road. The positions of the members of the team are shown on the drawing on the last page.

Vigil 2: Garden of Rest Entrance – 22:51 to 23:30

For this vigil Bill set up his video camera to the right of the first tree to the right of the entrance and facing east. Richard set his video camera up on the access driveway to the garden facing south-southwest along Four Ashes Road (see the plan on the next page).

For this vigil the sky was still overcast with a light covering of cloud and virtually no wind. The road we were next to was a fairly busy one with about one car every minute or so. Other car noises were heard coming from the north and west (The A4128). There were also the sounds of a tannoy from the west. This followed a large fireworks display which was on when we reached the Garden of Rest. Apparently it was part of West Wycombe Live, a concert featuring Bucks Fizz, Nik Kershaw, Altered Images, Howard Jones and a Take That Tribute in West Wycombe Park.

23:00 Elaine was sitting on the wall and could hear heavy breathing coming from the memorial garden and felt like she was going to be pulled backwards.

Steph picks up the word *Braeburn*.

Marion gets the name *Peter* and the rhyme *Peter Peter pumpkin eater*.

23:01 Bill measures the temperature at between +11.5 and +12.5°C.

Marion has an awful rotten putrid smell waft past her.

23:02 Marion reports that she feel someone with her.

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23:03 The sound of music is heard by Bill coming from the north.

Steph picks up *Australia*.

23:05 Steph feels like she is sitting in the middle of a field. Her surroundings appear to change. There is a building nearby which Steph thinks is something like a church or inn. It is not a house as in someone's home but a place where people go to.

Marion gets the image of a young woman walking down the road carrying a baby with her left arm. She is wearing an old-fashioned country dress with large white apron and the baby is wrapped in what looks like a white linen shawl. Marion can just see a tiny bit of its head and a frilled white bonnet.

23:08 Elaine is drawn to the bend in the road.

23:10 Steph hears '*Ring a ring a roses*' and notes this may be something to do with the plague?

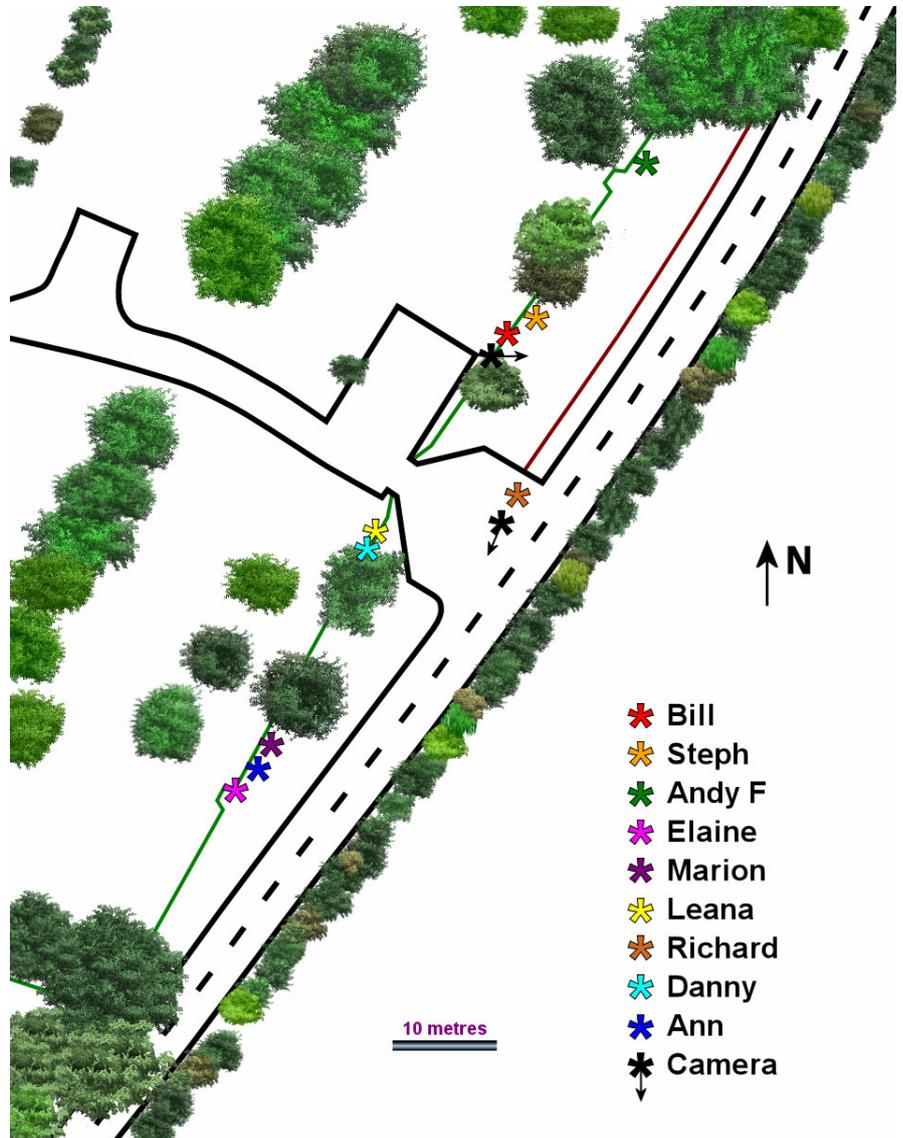
Marion reports that she can smell a lovely roast lamb dinner.

23:12 Marion gets the words *infant death*.

23:15 Marion gets the image of a man pulling what looks like a donkey cart, a small wooden one seat cart with two wheels. He is dressed in a white shirt with a round neck and buttons down the front. It's not a tailored shirt; it's quite baggy and has shirt tails. It reminds her of Victorian or Georgian, that sort of era, but these shirts were around for quite a while. He is wearing light coloured breeches. He is belting along and his fair hair is blowing around and his shirt is flapping.

Marion has a conversation with her guide

Marion: Isn't that a donkey cart? Why is he pulling it? Where's the donkey?



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Guide: It's in the cart.

Marion: I can't see it...has it fell off?

23:18 Marion gets *articled clerk* and *Spencer Percy*.

23:19 Marion sees a lovely blue orb in front of the bushes across the road and gets the name *Natasha*.

23:20 Bill measures the temperature at between +11°C.

23:21 Two people walk out of the Gardens of Rest. They ask Richard for the time and if there us a phone box nearby before walking north along Four Ashes Road towards Cryers Hill. They were laden down with alcohol and it is possible they were in the Gardens of rest when we arrived.

23:25 Elaine sees blue flashing lights in the field opposite.

23:26 Marion gets the command '*be silent*'.

23:27 Bill has the song 'Baby One More Time' by performed by Britney Spears going through his head but he has no idea why (he doesn't even like Britney Spears). This goes on for the while vigil.

Ann reported that she thinks she must have been devoid of all further feelings (after Highwood Bottom) as she felt nothing unusual outside the Garden of Rest. The only thing she did keep thinking of, which is ridiculous because she saw or heard nothing to support it, was a spooked, runaway horse!

Post-Vigil

At the end of the vigil Elaine could see someone swinging their legs where Leana and Danny were sitting, Elaine asked if they was swinging their legs and they said no.

Acrehill

To access Acrehill required a steep climb to about 45 metres above the valley (in a distance of 250 metres) before a shallower climb for a distance of 400 metres to Acrehill. Because of the climb Leana and Danny remained with the cars whilst Marion, Ann and Elaine remained in the field at the top of the first climb and at the edge of Acrehill. Bill, Andy and Steph continued along the footpath to Acrehill Wood with the intention of doing a vigil looking up Acrehill. Unfortunately this was not possible due to the density of the undergrowth bordering the wood and a lack of access to the fields to the east. Eventually after walking the length of the wood we decided to return to the depths of the wood and do a vigil within the wood as it is on Acrehill, where the haunting is said to take place. For a plan of the area see the next page.

Vigil 3: Acrehill – 23:15 to 01:05

Once more this was a very quiet area apart from an occasional car on the road down in the valley (Bryants Bottom Road) and a lot of animal noises within the wood. The wood itself is a very dense and very dark one, so much so that it would be impossible to walk through without a torch. Again there was no wind.

For this vigil Bill set up his video camera facing back along the path to the south.

00:20 Elaine sat with her back towards the gate and could see a figure walking by the trees.

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00:22 Marion sees a red light on the trees on the opposite side of the road and a red light on the trees to her right.

00:23 Marion started to sing Pop Goes the Weasel.

00:27 Marion gets the name *Henry*.

00:30 Elaine could hear someone behind her but when she looked there was horses in the field, they was at the other side of the field.

Marion reported that she had a light touch on her right hand and had the name *Mary*, then *Mary Ann Davies* then *Mary Bignall*.

00:35 Elaine could hear someone standing behind her but when she looked no one was there.

00:37 Marion can see the back and left-hand side of a woman in a riding dress. It's mid-grey with the jacket edge and skirt edge trimmed in black. She can't quite put a date to this but the back of the jacket sticks out a bit so in could be a wealthy Elizabethan woman (not royalty) or Edwardian where the jacket would rest on a small bustle.

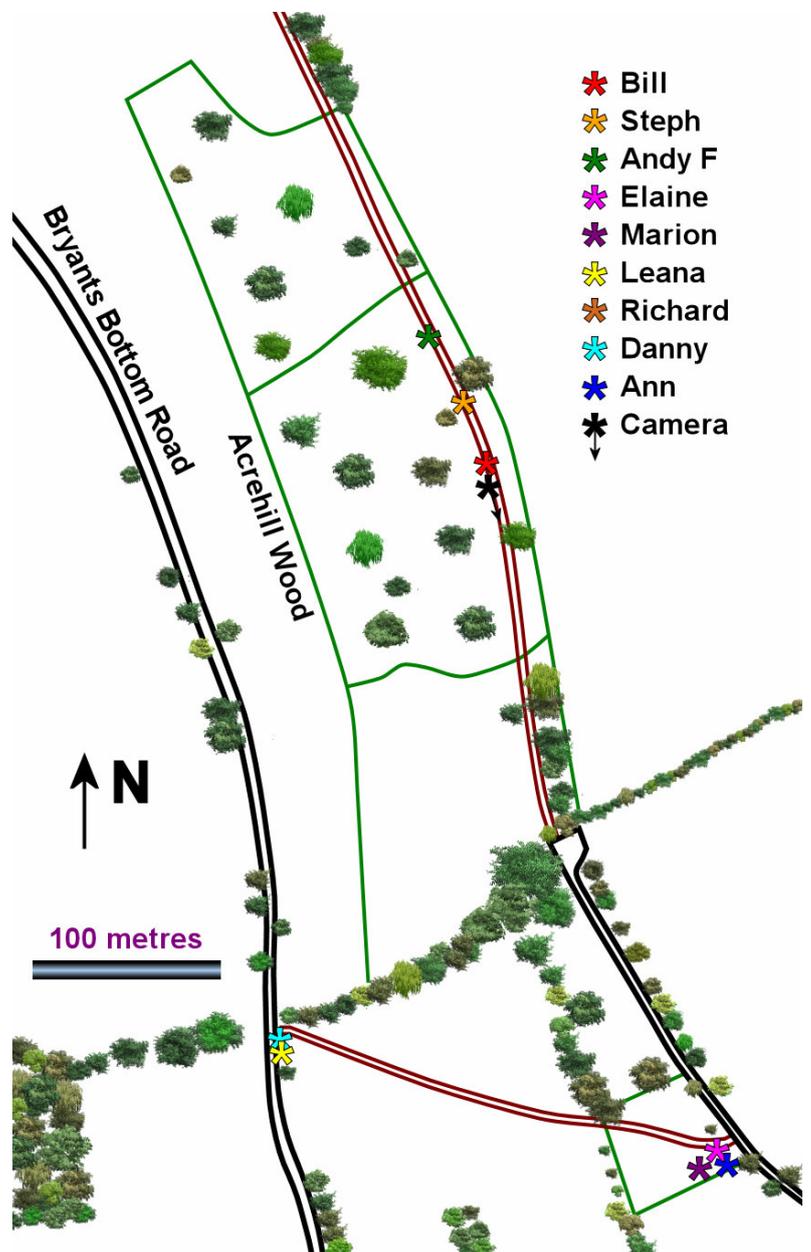
00:38 Steph notes the woods are very quiet and dark. She places her EMF on the floor to her right.

00:39 Steph feels very peaceful although she has a heavy head.

00:40 Marion sees a small pale blue orb above and in front of her against the sky. She also hears a very loud gunshot to her right. She report that she kept seeing tiny coloured lights all over the place.

00:41 Bill sees a bright patch of light to the south-southwest. The patch was a large one and was only briefly visible.

00:44 Steph sees a few small white lights to her front right that are darting around close to the ground.



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00:45 Bill sees another bright patch of light in the same area as the first (00:41). At the same time a car went by in the valley below so it is possible it could have been the cars headlights seen through the trees. The road runs along the bottom of the valley below the wood but at one point, to the south, the road does almost point towards the wood. The trees are very dense so the chance of a light shining all the way through them to the vigil point must be very slim, when this is combined with the fact that Bill did not hear a car the first timer he saw the light makes the car explanation less likely.

00:47 Bill measures the temperature at between +12.5°C.

00:50 The lights previously seen by Bill (at 00:41 and 00:45) are confirmed as being caused by a car as another is seen again as a car goes past.

00:52 Marion hears four footsteps like hobnail boots on wood to her right where the stile is.

00:58 A very large patch of red light is seen by Bill to the west-northwest. It appeared to be about 2 metres away which would have made it about 0.75 metres across.

01:00 Bill hears a sound like someone walking rapidly whilst wearing creaky leather boots. All told there were 5 steps and they sent a strong cold shiver down Bill's spine. When Marion heard the sounds of boots at 00:52 they were climbing over the stile and heading up the hill. Could it be these were the same that Bill heard as he was 450 metres away (500 yards) which works out at a pleasant 3.5 kilometres per hour (just over 2 miles per hour) stroll (though whoever it was must have been running late as they were walking rapidly as they passed Bill).

For this part of the investigation Ann reported that she must definitely have been on physic shutdown for this one because she really didn't hear, see or feel anything unusual there at all. She thinks that much, if not all, of the noises heard were from the horses in the next field.

The only thing that Andy F reported from the wood was a strange sound clip of what sounds like an animal making an odd noise.