

INVESTIGATION REPORT



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| Investigation Site | Cranfield |
| Investigation Date | 23 rd April 2010 |
| Report By | Bill King |
| Team Members | Bill, Steph, Andy F, Elaine, Richard, Trevor |

Background

A legend tells of a rider, Lady Snagge, who was waylaid by thieves on the Wood End Road in Cranfield which resulted in her death. She was riding along the road to meet her lover and ran into a rope that the thieves had tied across the road to dislodge any passing riders. Unfortunately the speed at which she was travelling, coupled with her failure to spot the rope, resulted in her being decapitated. The thieves, with little regard for what they had just done, quickly stripped the body of its fine clothes and jewellery before fleeing.

Over the centuries, Lady Snagge's ghost has been felt riding along the lane, either in search of her murderers or completing the journey she started in life. In the church of St. Mary the Virgin in Marston Moretaine you can see the red veined alabaster tomb with a monument to the memory of Thomas Snagge and his wife Elizabeth.

General

For this event we had not planned any vigils but would instead walk from the area near Cranfield Court to the north of Wood End Farm following the path towards Brogborough. We intended to walk as far as we could, preferably up until we met the A421, a total distance of just over 6.5 kilometres. During the outbound walk we would see if we picked up on anything and undertake vigils etc. as we thought appropriate.

Equipment List

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|---------|---|
| Bill | Digital Infrared Thermometer: CHY 110 Digital SLR Camera: Pentax K2000 EMF Detector: Hutech Notepad & pen, torch and watch |
| Steph | Digital Camera: Olympus μ Digital 600 Notepad & pen, torch and watch |
| Andy | Digital Camcorder: Sony DCR-DVD 306E Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-480PC Digital Camera: Panasonic Lumix DMC-FS15 EMF meter: K-II |
| Elaine | Digital Camera: Kodak C913 Notepad & pen, torch and watch |
| Richard | Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus EL-USB2 Temperature Data Logger |
| Trevor | Notepad & pen, torch and watch |

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Bill's Report

20:42 Investigation starts.

20:45 Bill measures the temperature at +10.5°C on the road and +4.5°C on the roadside vegetation.

21:01 The LPS team have crossed the first field and enter the second, adjacent to Holcot Wood and pause for a few minutes to take photographs near a pond by the wood (shown by the ✖ on the plan at the end of this document).

21:03 Bill measures the temperature at between +5.5 and +6°C on the path by the pond.

21:19 The team pause for a photograph at the edge of Holcot Wood making use of a convenient bench (shown by the ✖ on the plan at the end of this document).

21:32 The team reach the northern most pond that bordered what was originally Holcotwood Farm. Little is left of the farm now but a few bits of masonry, mainly the building foundations and a corner between two walls of one building. The farm was still shown on the 1938 to 1952 Bedfordshire map.

21:33 We enter the area where Holcotwood Farm once stood and Bill explores some of the foundations.

21:45 The team leave Holcotwood Farm and continue towards Brogborough.

21:55 The LPS team reach the end of Reynolds Wood where we turned sharp right to continue following the path. The modern path here deviates from the older track as shown by the blue dotted line (. . . .) on the plan at the end of this document.

22:19 The team reach the end of the road to Brogborough Manor Farm and find they can go no further as there is a deep cutting slicing across the path where the redirected A421 is being constructed. This effectively reduced the length of the walk by 0.25 kilometres.

22:32 Bill's EMF meter goes off (3 beeps). At the time he was in front of the rest of the team and the only equipment he had on was his camera, checking with this revealed that it did not affect the meter. To have beeped the detected field must have risen above 10mG. Checking all over the area gave a reading of just 2mG (the normal minimum). This area is shown by the ✖ on the map at the end of this document.

22:44 Bill measures the temperature at between +5.5 and +6.5°C at the west end of the path which runs from the southeast by south to the northwest by west, passing to the south of Brogborough Manor Farm.

22:47 Whilst walking along the path which runs northeast by north towards Reynolds Wood Bill sees a black swirling mass near the ground just in front of the wood.

23:03 Bill starts a vigil on the path just 20 metres north-northeast of the track through the woods to the site of Holcotwood Farm whilst Andy F, Richard and Trevor go onto the farm site and Steph and Elaine walk up to where the path passes through Holcot Wood. Bill's position is shown by the ✖ labelled '1' on the map at the end of this document and the detailed plan of the area at the top of the next page. This detailed plan is roughly taken from the 1901 to 1902 Bedfordshire map of the area.

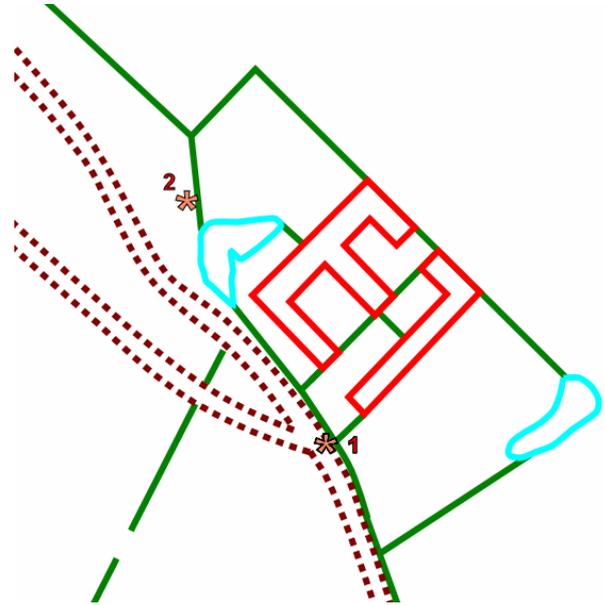
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23:05 Bill measures the temperature at between +2.5 and +3°C. He notes that it does not feel that cold. This may be related to the way the thermometer measures temperature which results in the measurements only being truly accurate on a black object. This was indicated by the temperature measurement Bill did at 20:45 on the dark road and nearby vegetation. If that measurement was correct then the vegetation measures 6°C lower than the true temperature. This would make the temperature on the path at the vigil site more like +8.5 to +9°C which is more believable. It is possible that the tarmac could have retained some heat if the sun had been shining on it but this seems unlikely as the road is shaded from the sun from about noon onwards.



Bill notes that there is a slight breeze coming from the south. The sky was hazy with a moon which was three-quarters full. This moon made most stars invisible due to light scattering off the moisture in the atmosphere whilst providing enough light to make the surroundings reasonably visible. Otherwise this was a dark site as there are no street lights or habitation nearby (the nearest is Brogborough Manor Farm 0.85 kilometres away). There was a constant noise from the A421 and M1 to the south.

23:11 Bill hears a pheasant going ballistic in the woods behind him. It was probably disturbed by Andy F, Richard and Trevor as the first sound it made was in their direction then it went south.

23:14 Bill notices that the team in the wood are moving around and getting closer to his position so he decides to relocate further north just past the pond. Bill's new position is shown by the * labelled '2' on the map at the end of this document and on the detailed plan shown above.

23:18 Bill tries a bit of calling out, asking any spirits to make their presence known including making knocking noises which he demonstrates by hitting the ground three times. There is no response. Almost as soon as he starts doing this he gets cold shivers.

23:19 The cold shivers Bill was getting have stopped.

23:20 Andy's team announce over the radio that they have finished in the woods and are leaving.

23:22 Andy's team walk past Bill. After they have passed he recommences the calling out session.

23:23 Bill measures the temperature at between +1.5 and +2°C.

23:24 Bill starts feeling very cold; this is most likely due to the ambient temperature and the breeze. None-the-less his cold shivers have gone.

23:25 Bill's cold shivers return. They may be due to the temperature but they only seem to be there when he is calling out and seem to go when he is writing his notes.

23:28 Bill finishes his vigil and heads off to rejoin the rest of the team.

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23:55 Steph and Bill are walking behind the rest of the team along the Wood End road. They both notice a warm breeze that Steph can feel on the right side of her face and Bill all down his right side. This was at the point where there was a gate into the trees on the left (Cranfield Court) and is shown by the ✱ on the plan at the end of this document.

Steph's Report

21:06 As the team reach the clearing by the first pond (shown by the ✱ on the plan at the end of this document) Steph feels calm and peaceful. She feels there was a settlement nearby with a small community of people.

21:41 The team are at the site of the old farmhouse. Steph is listening to Bill pointing out the remains of brick structures to the team. Andy walks past Steph's right. As he stops a few feet away from her, Steph then feels something hit her camera which is in her right hand coat pocket. She feels the camera hit her right thigh.

Steph notes she has been standing still, Andy was too far away to have knocked in to her and all that is around her are dead thistle plants. She tries moving around causing the thistle to brush against her coat but, although they are quite tall, they make very little impact due to being very dry and brittle.

22:32 The team are walking back along the path the way they came. As Steph walks on past the field with the red lights in, she gets the image of a hand bell being rung in her mind but there is no sound. This area is shown by the ✱ on the plan at the end of this document.

23:08 Steph and Elaine return to the bench (shown by the ✱ on the plan at the end of this document) and conduct a short vigil.

23:20 Steph hears a noise behind her in the woods. She can hear something moving about and Elaine notices the sound too as she also turns round to look. Steph thinks this is probably an animal.

Andy's Report

21:22 During the walk, just past the second pond area, Andy felt his right elbow being tapped twice. There was no one directly near him who could have done this. However Andy was carrying his tripod bag on his right shoulder and wondered if the strap could have hit his right arm. In order to try and debunk what had previously happened Andy asked Elaine to hit his right elbow with the end of the strap. Elaine found this difficult and the effect was a lot lighter than what Andy had previously felt and therefore this incident remains unexplained.

EVP Experiment: This experiment took place at the ruin of the old farmhouse. This area consisted mainly of woodland and the remains of outer walls of where buildings had once stood. Most of these walls were just above ground level and were made of brick. One wall was about a metre high and was a corner wall.

The EVP experiment involved three members of the investigation team, Andy F, Richard and Trevor. Andrew and Richard were stood next to the remains of an outer wall and Trevor stood about three feet behind them and more in the clearing next to the wooded area. Andrew videoed the experiment whilst it took place and used a sound recorder. Richard used a different sound recorder but it is not known what this was.

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Andrew called out asking for any spirits in the area to make contact with the team. He asked for any names, did they live at this location? Did they die at this location? What year was it? Andrew asked for any spirits to talk in the direction of the red lights that both he and Richard were holding up. The experiment was then repeated by Richard who asked similar questions. Andrew then asked Trevor to call out any questions to any spirits who may have been nearby.

Richard informed Andrew that he was not picking up anything in this area and the experiment ended after approximately ten minutes. The team then took photographs of the area before leaving to rejoin the rest of the investigation team.

Examination of all Andy's camera and audio footage after the investigation has revealed nothing paranormal and Andy did not experience anything else on the night of the investigation.

Elaine's Report

21:13 When we first arrived at the field with the little pond (shown by the ✖ on the plan at the end of this document) Elaine was drawn to the fence the other side of the field.

21:26 While Elaine was walking along next to the field that was freshly ploughed she heard the noise of a horse snorting to her right but nothing was seen.

21:41 While looking at the ruins of Holcotwood Farm Elaine had the feeling of being watched, not in a nasty way.

22:49 As the team were standing looking around (near Holcotwood Farm) Elaine saw a black shape run from the bushes and back again, this was a little way behind Andy.

Richard's Report

No times are given, as no notes were taken and any information is sketchy to verify, what little there actually is here.

On replaying some of the EVP back, during a break during some chatter on the journey outbound, a 'clomp' is heard; possibly heavy footing.

During the main vigil, held in the woods at the ruined farmhouse and barns, nothing of any interest was noted - and disturbed - as team leader Andy decided to move, and any potential EVP was lost through excessive trampling of branches and walking into a tree in the process.

Summary: Despite a pleasant walk, and interesting exploration of the old ruined farmhouse, no audible voices were heard, and nothing was felt throughout the walk and no notable temperature differences logged in saved readings on the thermometer

Trevor's Report

This final report was provided by a new LPS member, Trevor, who joined us at Cranfield for his first ever LPS investigation.

This was my first outing with the group, and I was very impressed.

One of the hardest things for anyone is to walk through the door, not literally, and when they do, sometimes they're made to feel like an outsider. This, I'm pleased to say, didn't happen here. All the members there made the effort to converse some time through the evening. It is, and should be two way

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traffic, i.e. you are as interested in them as they should be in you, well done team; sometimes it's good to have a newbie's point of view.

We set off down the lane, and across the field. Being the gentleman, I went last behind the ladies, thinking anything that wants to get to them has to go through me first.

Being a dry night and fairly pleasant, I could imagine what the field would be like mid-winter, heavily ploughed, lashing down with rain, experiences I've yet to discover.

When we got to the pond with the overhanging tree (shown by the ✳ on the plan at the end of this document) it was just after nine, already dark, it would be no surprise to me if I heard tragic stories of children coming to grief here, water, trees and a swing, we've all heard it before.

Some people caught pictures of some orbs, but again I felt nothing. We moved onto the bench (shown by the ✳ on the plan at the end of this document) for the group photo.

Moving on past another small pond and another photo opportunity, we moved onto Holcotwood Farm, an old derelict site, just low brick walls, odd pieces of old iron scattered about, mostly overgrown.

We walked further on with no noticeable results until we could go no further, due to a new road being built, so we turned around to go back the way we came. Apart from the field of sheep with luminous green eyes that looked like aliens, and a peacock nestled high up in the trees, Bill's EMF meter went off suddenly, and we ended up back at Holcotwood Farm.

The ladies went up to the bench for a quiet time, Bill nestled under the bushes with the same idea while Richard, Andy and myself went in to do some EVP and some more photos.

Very strange feeling being asked to participate, trying to talk to someone or something that you cannot see, had I known, I'd have brought a list of questions as my mind went blank.

We picked up the others en route, and headed back across the field, again back of the queue, looking, listening, but I'm afraid to no avail. I enjoyed the evening, and eagerly await my next excursion.

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