

INVESTIGATION REPORT



Investigation Site	Edlesborough and Mentmore
Investigation Date	21 st May 2010
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Steph, Andy, Elaine, Dee, Sarah, Trevor, Sam

Equipment List

Bill	Digital Infrared Thermometer: CHY 110 Digital SLR Camera: Pentax K2000 EMF Detector: Hutech Notepad & pen, torch and watch
Steph	Digital Camcorder: Sony DCR-DVD 306 Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-480PC Gauss Meter Digital Infrared Thermometer: Tecpel DIT-512 Digital Camera: Olympus μ Digital 600 Digital Camera: Pentax K-m 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
Trevor	Notepad & pen, torch and watch
Richard	Digital Camera: Kodak M1063 Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus W210s Notepad & pen, torch and watch
Dee	Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-5500PC Digital Camera: Fuji FinePix F31fd Notepad & pen, torch and watch

Edlesborough

Background

The ghost of Dick Turpin is believed haunt the village of Edlesborough (and dozens of other places in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire) specifically on the narrow road from the church to the Tring Road (B489).

Turpin had a hide out at Butler's Farm near Northall where a window allowed him to see coaches travelling along the road to Dunstable as they passed Ivinghoe Beacon. Once he had spotted a coach he had time to ride across country and waylay it before it reached Dunstable. The window in the farm is now blocked up. Now his ghost is said to haunt the narrow road that runs between the church dedicated to St Mary the Virgin and the Tring Road on dark nights.

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General

The night was a very still one with a gentle breeze coming from southeast. The sky was clear with a moon in its first quarter. The area was a quiet one with occasional, distant, car noises.

Investigation

For this investigation it was planned to walk along the path which is very likely to have formed a possible part of Turpin's route from Butler's Farm (now Butler's Manor) towards the Dunstable road (the track is shown on the 1880 map so it predates that time). We started the investigation with a walk around St Mary's churchyard, as it was still light, then followed the path most of the way to Ivinghoe Aston.

On the way round the church, looking at the old headstones, one that took Trevor's eye was dated 1860.

20:45 Bill measures the temperature at between +16.5 and +17°C on the path just below the church.

20:50 As Steph is walking down the footpath she hears gravel move behind her as she is walking. She looks back to see if it is another member but the nearest member is Trevor walking some way back and she notes that she cannot hear his footsteps.

Whilst walking along the first stretch of track towards the Parish boundary, Andy, Sarah and Dee took some photos and chatted. Suddenly, at around the halfway point to the stream, Dee suddenly faltered in her steps when she felt a sudden and disorienting sensation of urgently needing to "get out of the way" or "off the road". Sarah and Andy were witness to Dee's reaction. Dee explained that she had felt like she was going to be run off the road. This point is marked by the ✖ on the plan on the next page.

21:03 Bill measures the temperature at between +15.5 and +16°C on the path just before the stream.

21:05 Trevor notes that as we were coming up to a small stream, on our right was a fairly large wrought iron gate, too elaborate for field use, but you could imagine a farmer saying that he knew just the use for an old gate kicking around.

21:15 Due to circumstances beyond his control, Richard's arrival at the site was delayed so he did not along the track until this time.

At this point Dee and Sarah decided to return to the point of Dee's 20:50 experience to do a proper vigil. This will be detailed at the end of this section.

21:18 As Steph walks past the second tree on the right after crossing the bridge, she gets the feeling that her ribcage is being crushed. She stops to take a few deep breaths and the feeling eases. She does not have an explanation, health wise, for this feeling. This point is marked by the ✖ on the plan on the next page.

Elaine and Sam decided to stay and do a vigil by the tree whilst the rest of the team continued to walk along the path.

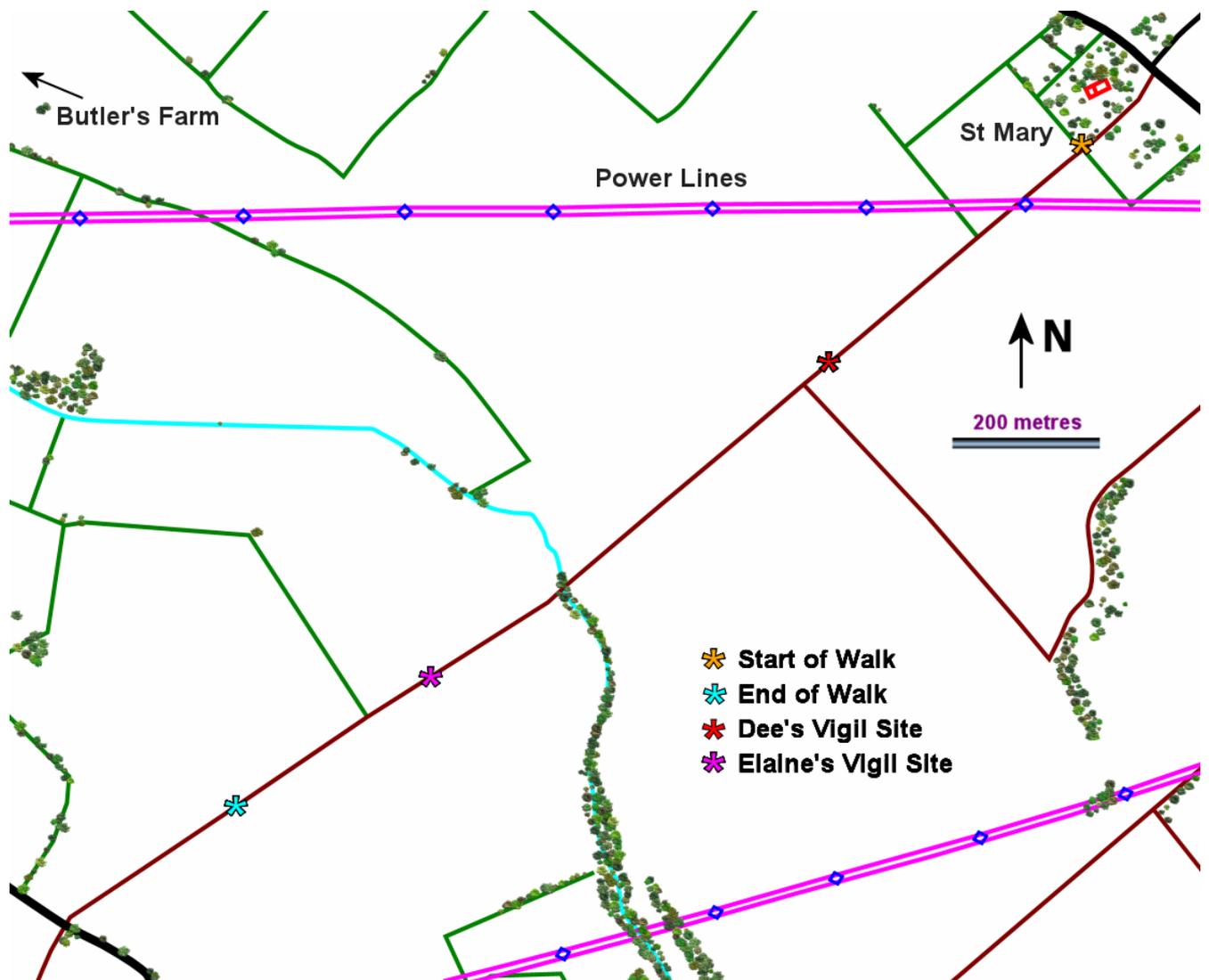
21:22 At this time, while being absolutely stationary taking photographs, a 'clomp' is heard behind Richard, like someone kicking or scraping the ground quite hard. Also not long after this, half way between the church and the footbridge, he had a sense of an old cart and two farmhands, near to the path. It is possible this is the same point where Steph and Dee had something at 20:50.

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21:23 Bill measures the temperature at between +15 and +15.5°C half way up the hill southwest of the stream.

21:25 Elaine was looking towards the church and saw two flashes of light just before the bridge, it turned out to be Richard.

While sitting by the tree Elaine could hear the sound of someone sawing wood with a handsaw. Elaine got up and looked around but could not see anything.

21:30: While walking along the footpath away from the church and after crossing a small brook, Andy was walking with Trevor when he felt that he had seen a black shadow behind himself and Trevor on the footpath.

Over the stream Andy and Trevor did some EVP work, this was Trevor's first odd occurrence of the night. He tests all of his equipment prior to an outing, replacing old batteries for new, leaving nothing to chance, but when he and Andy finished the EVP session Trevor's batteries were completely dead, no life in the digital voice recorder at all. He did not notice this until the team were at Mentmore a little later.

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- 21:31 After passing a fellow team member, Richard had a sudden sharp pain in his head and a tingly touch on the right-hand side of his neck.
- 21:44 Bill measures the temperature at between +15.5 and +16°C at the top of the hill southwest of the stream.
- 21:46 Elaine goes cold all of a sudden.
- 21:48 A warm breeze is felt high up on the path by Richard; with a rather distinct smoky smell, possibly from a distant house (as thought at the time).
- 21:49 The team report feeling a warm breeze as they return along the path down the hill (where Elaine and Sam had stayed and done a vigil marked by the * on the plan on the last page.). Bill measures the temperature on the path where the warm breeze was felt at between +14.5 and +15°C which was, if anything, slightly lower than previous measurements.
- 21:50: While walking with the team Andy felt a warm breeze cross the pathway. Andy could also smell smoke that came with the breeze which lasted a few seconds.
- Trevor noted that about halfway up the path, most of the group noticed a warm patch of air that seemed to come across the field, but it didn't continue it's course as if it were carried on the breeze, it turned down the footpath and even at the back, where Trevor was, it had a woody/smoky smell to it. In fact, the warm air patches continued a lot of the way back up to the church, but Trevor didn't notice the smell again.
- 21:54 While walking behind the group, and dropping back, Richard had a tightness in his stomach, also a slight touch or 'whisp' past his right ear (this was just before the small bridge over the stream).
- 21:57 Another warm breeze is felt by Richard from the right, from across the hedgerow.
- 22:05 Two more warm breezes/hot spots are felt again by Richard, but this time from the church side of the bridge.
- 22:14 Warm breezes continue to be felt by Richard while walking back as part of the group, and another distinct 'sweet' smell, identified by the entire group, is noted, although it seemed like rape seed or other flowers.
- Trevor reported that this was the last time he noted the warm air.
- 22:15 While walking back up the track Elaine feels a warm breeze on her face, this goes on while walking back.
- 22:22 An icy chill hits Richard's face, like it's frozen and rock hard for about four or five seconds.
- 22:25 As Steph is walking back along the path towards the church with Richard, she feels another blast of warm air on her face and notes that it is like walking in to a warm air stream directly in front of her.
- Further down the footpath Andy along with other members of the group again experienced a warm breeze but this time there was no smell of smoke.
- 22:27 Steph and Richard walk through what she describes as a large pocket of warm air. Both Steph and Richard comment on this as it happens.

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22:30 Richard is feeling slightly light-headed, although possibly it is the onset of a headache, while photographing the church on the way back to the road.

22:31 Steph notes yet another waft of warm air.

22:32 Steph is walking up the path next to Sam when Sam comments that the air smells like it has rained. Steph agrees that this is what it smells like to her too.

The other odd occurrence that Trevor had during the investigation was a feeling of cobwebs on his arm, several times he brushed what he thought were cobwebs away only to find nothing there, these occasions coincided with the warm air; he put these down to small gnats etc. on a warm night.

Vigil 1: Path from Church – 21:46 to 22:03

Team: Dee and Sarah

Location: Approximately halfway along the track between Edlesborough Church and the Parish boundary as shown by the * on the plan on page 3.

Conditions: Rapidly fading light; moonlight; little-to-no breeze; lower temperature than previously noted (though neither Dee nor Sarah had a temperature gauge with which to formally measure it).

Ambient sounds: Distant sheep; distant traffic; occasional aircraft; birds; very occasional soft rustling of hedgerow plants.

Dee and Sarah sat side-by-side facing in opposite directions. Sarah looked up the track towards the church and Dee looked down the track towards the boundary stream.

21.46 Dee and Sarah are just about to officially begin the vigil when they both hear a soft thud nearby like a deliberate footfall in the dirt. Both she and Sarah were being very quiet at the time and neither can explain the sound. Dee switches on her DVR and places it on the ground to her right.

Sarah reported that she heard a loud 'clomp' the other side of the bushes which sounded like a jump or a footstep, followed by a sheep's baa. However, the sheep were a long way off across the field. The 'clomp' was near.

21.47 The vigil officially begins.

21.49 Dee picks up the DVR from the ground and commences an EVP session.

21:50 Sarah saw a red dot up nearer the church on the path. This was not another team member with their laser lights, as they were all at least 100 metres in the other direction.

21.57 The breeze suddenly picks up.

21.58 Dee jumps when Sarah suddenly announces that she has a sudden 'warm breath' on her face.

Sarah had a whoosh of warm air across her face, which was much warmer than the air was normally, just as Dee had noted that there was a bit of a breeze getting up. These warm pockets were noted by the whole team on the walk back up the track to the cars.

22.00 Dee suddenly gets the name 'Martin'.

22.01 Dee hears distant footsteps and then sees torchlight as the other LPS members approach from the boundary end of the track.

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22.03 The others arrive and the vigil ends.

Mentmore

Background

There is a legend in Mentmore that the once Vicar of St Mary the Virgin, John Horneby, saw a corpse coming towards him across the green from the direction of Ledburn. It was 1697 and the vicar was so shocked that he hanged himself.

General

This was a very quiet area except for the occasional car and trains on the railway line through Leighton Buzzard. Initially there was the sound of talking coming from the garden of a house to the northeast of the green. There was almost no breeze and a clear sky.

When we arrived at the site Trevor rechecked his equipment as he had literally thrown it all back in his bag after Edlesborough. Only then did he discover that the batteries in his digital voice recorder had gone down and he had to replace them. Trevor put it down to dud batteries.

Dee and Sarah were, unfortunately, unable to join the team for this part of the investigation.

Vigil 1: Village Green – 23:09 to 23:40

For this vigil the team spread itself along the road to the northwest of the green. For the positions of the team members see the plan on the next page.

Trevor noted that as the team walked across the village green towards the road, Bill related some of the story, that something walks across the field. Trevor couldn't resist a face to face encounter, just to see who'd come worst off so, after climbing the fence and falling through the bracken he finally got to the field. The first thing he noticed was the wires going across it.

During the vigil Trevor did some quiet EVP work and took a few random EMF readings, which hardly registered, it was only the lights from the passing cars that provided movement.

23:10 While sitting on the bench Elaine was looking to her left and saw a white mist come from the road sign and go towards the house and vanish.

23:12 Throughout the night Elaine could hear what sounded like a dripping sound coming from behind her.

23:13 Bill measures the temperature at +9.5°C on the grass and +11°C towards the road.

23:15 Steph stands under a tree near the road side. She can hear talking from a house nearby and distant road noise.

23:16 Steph gets the impression of a procession of official looking cars. They are black and one has some sort of small flag on the front.

A car drives by and this is confirmed on Richard's sound recording. It went from right to left in front of him.

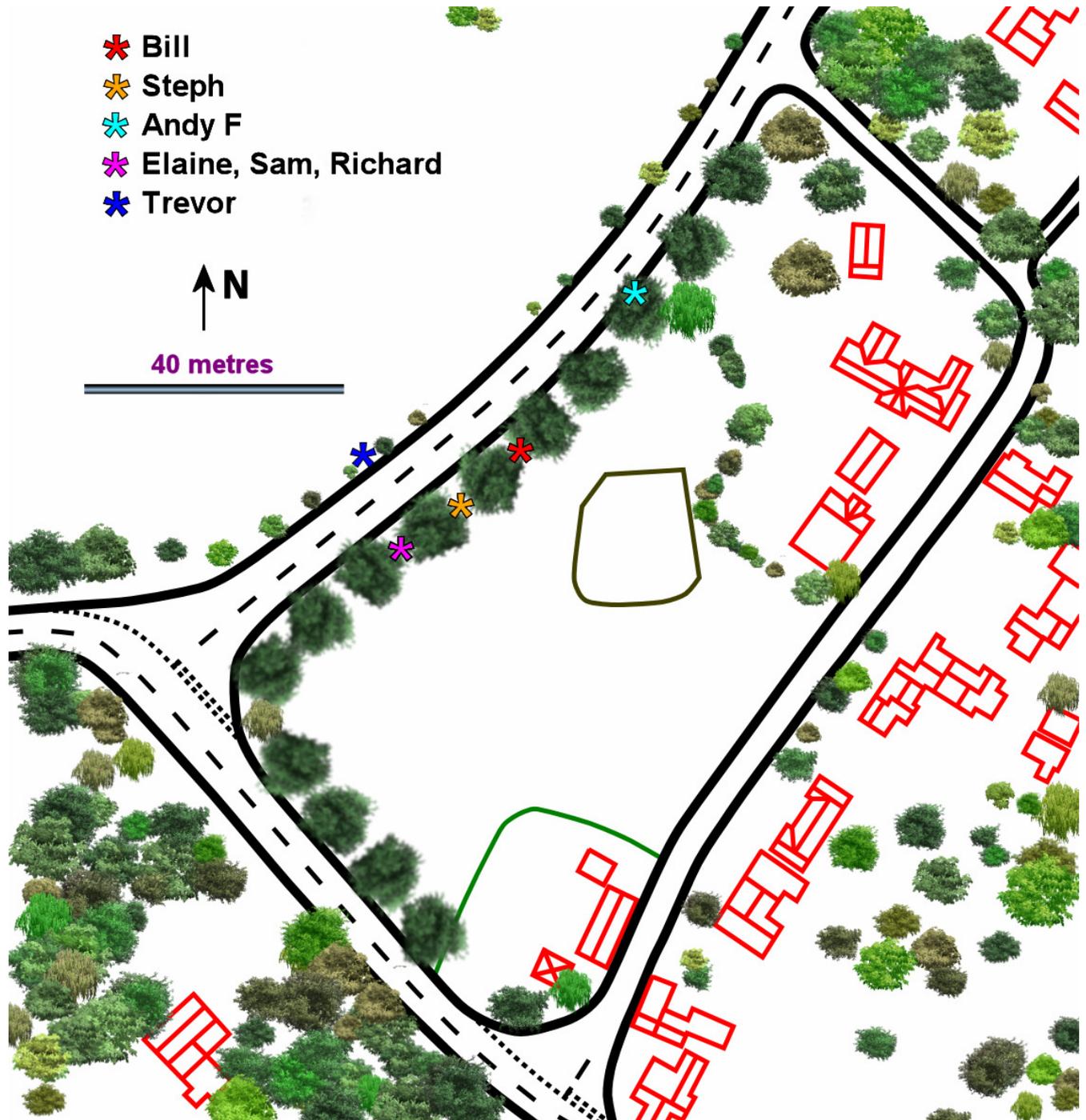
23:17 There was a click or 'clackety clack' that was heard behind all three of the team on the bench where Richard sat. It came from his left-hand side, over the green.

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23:20 Steph gets an image in her head of a man walking up the field in front of her with a flaming torch in his right hand.

Richard felt a chill down his spine while back on the bench, having not been cold at all prior to this. Moments after this Richard noted that a small shadowy 'blob' appeared over the top of the hedge on the other side of the road, to the right of where a team member (Trevor) was stationed.

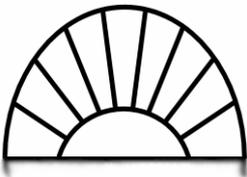
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23:24 Bill decided to try closing his eyes and letting his mind drift to see if any images would come to him. After a short while he saw what looked like an oval clay tablet but he could only see the top half as the lower half was hazy. It had lines on it like the horizon and a rising sun as shown in the drawing on the left. Next he saw three links in a chain as shown in the image on the right.



Steph can see a small dark figure on the opposite side of the road. It is just to the left of the gap in the hedge where Trevor went through in to the field. A team member sitting on the bench to Steph's right takes a photograph in that direction. This lit up the area and Steph cannot see anyone standing there. She writes this note and when she looks up the dark figure has gone.

23:26 Elaine could hear church bells ringing in the distance like they do for a wedding.

23:27 A repetitive sound was heard by Richard coming from what those with him believed was the house to their right, not being entirely sure if it was a child, animal or something else.

23:30 Bill notes that there is a lot of noise coming from the trees on the opposite side of the road to the west. This was where Trevor was located.

Steph feels like she is being watched from the village green behind her. She feels there is a pair of eyes on her.

23:31 A rustling sound is heard in front of Richard, out of view, but confirmed to be another team member moving around after coming into sight.

23:32 The same sound as noted at 23:27 is heard by Richard coming from the same direction.

23:33 Elaine was looking at the hedgerow on the opposite side of the road and saw a black shape; Elaine asked Richard to shine his light, it was Trevor standing in the field.

Another rustle is heard in the hedgerow in front of Richard, but slightly further over to the right-hand side. Also at this time Richard noted that it felt warmer, like a short heatwave, from his shoulders down to his chest.

23:34 Bill observes Andy crossing the road to the fence on the opposite side to the green.

23:35 A small dot of light is seen by Bill on the grass on the far side of the road and directly behind Andy.

Steph sneezes.

Steph feels lovely and calm. She also feels safe, almost like she could curl up under the tree and go to sleep and she would be fine.

23:36 Bill tries letting his mind drift again and this time he sees another tablet with a different pattern as shown on the right.



23:37 Steph keeps looking behind her as she feels that someone is there.

23:38 Elaine heard three gasps like someone taking their last breath. When she asked Sam and Richard if it was them they said it was not.

23:39 Elaine hears Sam's name called.

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23:41 Elaine could hear talking coming from her right which she thought sounded like Andy, but Andy was the other side of the road. When talking to Bill he said that he was talking to Steph.

Post-Investigation

Upon review of all Dee's digital photographs and digital voice recordings, no paranormal evidence or unexplained anomalies were found.

Examination of Andy's video, photographs and audio did not reveal any paranormal activity.