

INVESTIGATION REPORT – Team 3



Investigation Site	Tring Park
Investigation Date	4 th February 2011
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Sarah

Background

This area has seen numerous sightings over the last few hundred years of both Roman soldiers and Parliamentarian troops from the English Civil War. The former as the park lies astride the old Akeman Street Roman road and the latter as troops were camped there during the attack on Berkhamsted castle.

General

The night was a very windy one with the wind coming from the southwest. The air was filled with very fine spots of moisture carried almost horizontally on the wind. The sky was completely filled with clouds.

Pre-Vigil

On the walk to the first site, Sarah thought she saw a darting movement from behind one of the trees on the avenue toward the bridge. She mentioned this to Bill. Unfortunately Bill was looking in a different direction at the time.

Vigil 1: A41 Bridge – 21:00 to 22:00

For this vigil Bill positioned himself on the east side of the avenue of trees by the third tree from the north (the bridge) end. Sarah positioned herself by the second tree from the bridge. Both faced roughly east-southeast across the park. For the team positions see the plan on the next page.

This area was a very noisy one due in part to the wind blowing in the trees. There was also a considerable amount of noise from the A41 thirty metres away to the north.

Sarah noted that the evening was very windy and blustery with slight drops of rain and also quite dark. This added to the atmosphere of the investigation, as gusts and strong winds blew leaves, twigs and grasses making movement and noises.

21:13 Vigil starts.

21:17 Sarah saw a string of blue flashes in front of her toward the A41.

21:18 Bill measure the temperature on the grass at +7°C.

21:25 Sarah felt like something leapt next to her. Sarah was very jumpy.

21:27 Sarah heard a thud - was it a car?

21:30 Bill hears a sound like a large animal breathing heavily out of its nose (like a snort) coming from the southeast. It sounded as if it had come from a short distance away (the noise was a fairly quiet one but still very distinct) and would have come across the wind. The park is used as pastureland for a herd of cows but there was no sign of them anywhere across the park from the area of the bridge (you could see reasonably clearly for a distance of four hundred metres across the park).

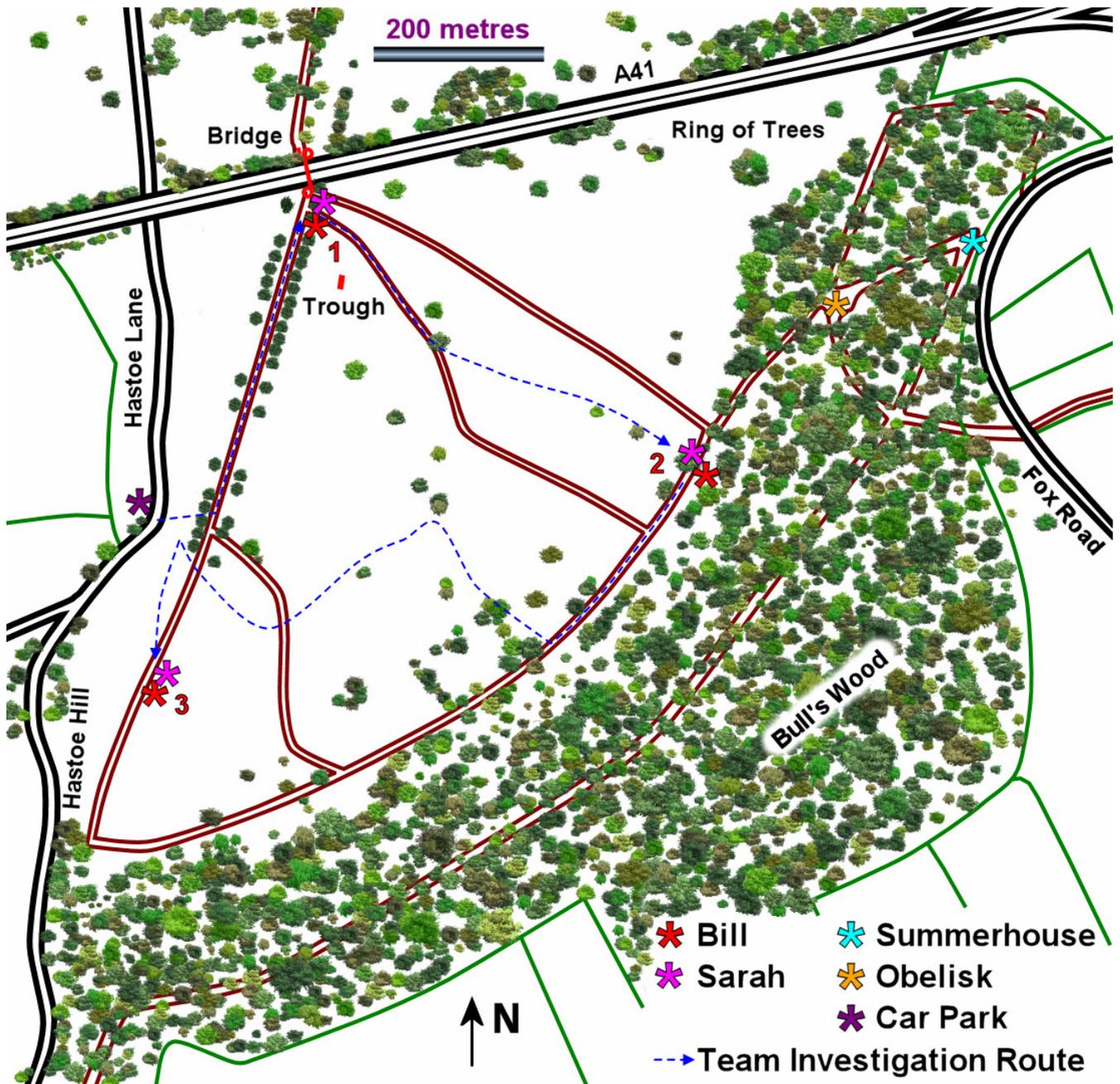
Sarah heard a big crack from the tree – wind - but saw another blue flash on the grass. Sarah felt something was still close to her left.

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- 21:33 A pip, like a single note from a bird, was heard by Bill coming from the north by east. It did not sound like a tree squeaking in the wind as it was very musical and short lived. Trees could be heard squeaking virtually ever minute all around the team's location but the sound did not resemble any of those noises.
- 21:42 A large patch of pale light is seen by Bill on the grass in from of Bull's Wood to the southeast by south, across the other side of the park. It was not the other teams as the lights from their torches could be clearly seen to the southeast.
- 21:44 Bill hears a rustling sound coming from the southeast by east. Another, identical sound was heard a few seconds later coming from the east. It is possible this was just due to leaves as there were a number on the ground.



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21:48 Bill hears a rustle in the grass to the south and just a few metres away.

21:50 When checking the bearing to the other teams Bill came up with different results than those obtained at 21:42. In fact the new bearings seemed to be out by about +10°. When later compared to the Ordnance Survey map of the area the first bearing was out by about +15°. This error was also confirmed the following day by taking a bearing between locations in Houghton Regis and checking the bearing on the Ordnance Survey map. All of Bill's bearings in this report have been corrected for the +15° error.

When the bearing of 21:48 was checked a result of southeast by south was first obtained which, after a few seconds, became south by east then eventually it settled down to due south. What was noticeable was that the reading varied if the compass was not held exactly horizontal which it is sometimes difficult to do on a cold night whilst wearing gloves.

Sarah thought she heard a footstep thud and *crime of passion* came into her mind.

21:53 Sarah saw another flash.

21:57 Bill measure the temperature on the grass at +6.5 to +7.5°C.

21:59 A spot of red light is seen briefly by Bill to the south-southeast.

22:00 Vigil ends.

Vigil 2: Bench below Bull's Wood – 22:00 to 23:00

For this vigil Bill sat on the bench whilst Sarah sat on the northeast side of a tree across the path from the bench and to the north. For the team positions see the plan on the preceding page.

In this area there was still a lot of wind noise as the area is surrounded by trees. In addition the wind was causing a lot of rustling coming from the west. There was also some traffic noise from the A41 coming mainly from the west. The wind was now coming from the southwest by west.

22:12 The team reach the second site, a bench southwest of the main path into Bull's Wood.

22:16 The wind is now so strong that it ripped the hat off Bill's head and throw it twenty metres away into the trees.

22:22 Just as the team settled down to do the vigil Bill again lost his hat. Bill tried to grab it with his right hand in which he was holding his pen and ended up sending the pen flying. The hat was easy to find as, this time, it only went four metres but it took several minutes to find his pen which had gone three metres in a different direction.

22:26 Vigil starts.

22:28 Bill measure the temperature on the grass at +6 to +6.5°C.

22:33 A loud crash in woods behind Bill is heard by Sarah. She thought she heard chain link, definitely metallic.

22:34 Bill notes that the fine rain has increased in level so that it can be clearly seen in the light from his torch.

22:36 A strange smell is detected by Bill that reminded him of a twin-tub washing machine. A twin-tub was the first washer Bill owned thirty-three years ago and the smell was made up of hot

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soapy water and the smell of the rubber used as hoses and seals on the machine. This lasted for about five minutes.

- 22:42 Bill hears a sound like someone whistling 'phewit phew' from behind him to the east-southeast. It is possible that it was caused by two tree branches rubbing together in the wind but he only heard the noise once during the vigil whilst hearing other tree noises several times.
- 22:47 A sound like someone wearing a waterproof coat and swinging their arm so the bits of fabric rub together is heard by Bill coming from the northwest by north.
- 22:48 Sarah had the feeling of someone looking into her face, again from the left, and had a pain in her left eye.
- 22:49 The wind drops to just a gentle breeze for thirty seconds, talk about blessed relief as the bench Bill is sitting on faces straight into the wind with no shelter.
- 22:51 Bill notes that the amount of fine rain has again increased so that it had become noticeable on his face.
- 22:55 Bill measures the temperature on the grass at +5.5 to +6°C.
- 23:00 Vigil ends.

Vigil 3: Bench to Southwest – 23:00 to 24:00

For this vigil both Bill and Sarah sat on the bench, Bill at the south end and Sarah at the north end. For the team positions see the plan on the page 2 of this report.

When the team first arrived there were a number of cows to the east and south of the bench but they wandered off after a few minutes down the valley to the east-northeast

- 23:22 Vigil starts.
- 23:33 Bill measures the temperature on the grass at +5.5 to +6°C.
- Sarah saw a blue flash halfway up the hill in the wood in front of the bench. Sarah had pain in her left eye, not sure whether the wind had taken its toll on her face!
- 23:40 Bill sees a pale patch of light which seemed to be on a bush about fifty metres away to the southeast.
- 23:44 A faint light is seen down in the valley to the northeast by east by Bill, at the south end of a line of bushes. The light lasted for ten seconds. It was not bright enough to see if you looked directly at it but was clearly visible if you looked slightly to one side.
- 23:47 Sarah shone her torch into the valley revealing that there were several cows in the area where Bill saw the light at 23:44.
- 23:50 Sarah saw a faint bluey-white glow back in the valley part of the park which we had walked up. There were cows in the area, but they had moved, and Sarah verified this by shining the torch first where the glow was, and then where the cows were. Bill also saw the glow at the same time and place. The glow was the size of a cow, but it wasn't a cow.
- 23:54 Bill again sees the faint light down the valley to the northeast by east. When a torch was shone into the valley there were cows near to the area but none where the light was seen. The area where the light was seen was very dark (there was a new moon and the valley is sheltered from

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any artificial light) and it was almost impossible to see the cows even though some of them were mainly white. If it was a cow then it must have been glowing. If it was in the area where the cows were then it would have been between 0.5 and 0.75 metres across.

Sarah saw another glow.

00:00 Vigil ends.

Equipment List

Bill	Digital Camera: General Electric E1480W EMF Detector: Hutech Digital Infrared Thermometer: CHY 110 Digital Compass/Altimeter/Thermometer: WS110 Notepad & pen, torch and watch
Sarah	Digital Camera: Sony DSC-H50 Notepad & pen, torch and watch