


INVESTIGATION REPORT	
Investigation Site	Kempston, The Causeway and Ladies Walk
Investigation Date	25 th October 2013
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Steph, Andy, Dee, Jill and Tim



Background

The Causeway: Unusually a ‘Green Lady’ haunts a path in Kempston which starts at the end of Water Lane and runs past the River Great Ouse to All Saints Church. In 1968 a newspaper article told of how the ghost would jump out at children from behind the trees that lined the path or sometimes she would be seen gliding in ‘a sinister fashion’ through the mist that was rising from the river.

It became so bad that bell-ringers and Cub Scouts stopped going to their evening meetings at the church for fear of meeting her. It is believed that she is the ghost of a woman who drowned in the nearby river many years previously.

Ladies’ Walk: An area in Kempston known as Ladies' Walk is said to be haunted by numerous female spirits. Two are those of girls named Sophia and Frances who used to walk the area hand-in-hand and still do so after death. Other ghosts include Lady Snagge who is heard calling for her lost son, and another girl mourning the death of her Cavalier lover.

In 1736 the manor of Kempston Hastingsbury was inherited by Robert Kendall who later changed his name to Cater and who was knighted in 1738. When he died in 1739 the manor passed to Beckford Kendall Cater. In 1749 it was in the possession of his son John Kendall Cater after his marriage to Margaret Beaumont. John died in 1778 and the estate passed to his son, also called John. This latter John died intestate and the manor passed to his three sisters. One sister was called May and the other two, who were twins, were named Sophia and Frances, the very two who are said to haunt the path. In 1796 Sophia married Robert Sherbourne and Frances married the Rev. Oliph Leigh Spencer with each taking a third of the manor. In 1801 the three sisters sold the manor to William Long.

General

The night was a very windy one resulting in a lot of noise from the surrounding trees. There was also a lot of noise from traffic on the nearby A428 and Cemetery Road and crickets in the vegetation. The Causeway and the northern end of Ladies’ Walk were very dark despite the nearby street lights. The sky was fairly clear at the start of the investigation becoming cloudier later.

There was a slight mist from the river later in the investigation. There were sounds of passing traffic (frequent), wind in trees, occasional aircraft, occasional distant barking of dogs, crickets in the undergrowth, occasional bird calls and occasional voices of young people from under the A428 bridge.

Initial Walk

For the first part of the investigation the team walked the length of The Causeway from the parking area at Church End to the end of Church Walk in Kempston. Part way along this path is Ladies’ Walk and the team walked this second path until just short of Cemetery Road before returning to The Causeway to complete the walk. For the walk route see the plan on the next page.

20:50 The team start the walk.

20:52 Just after entering The Causeway the team synchronise watches.

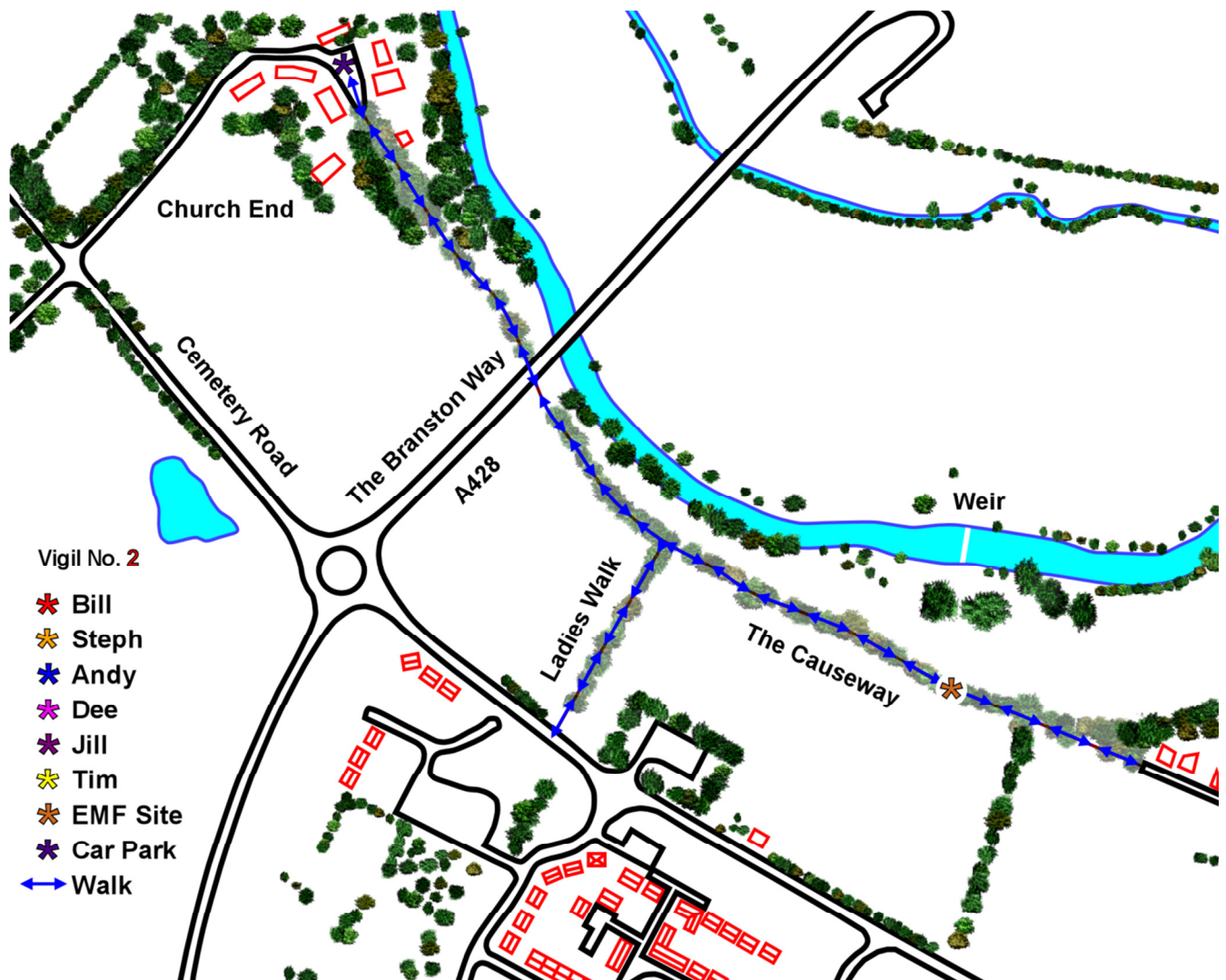
21:03 The team reach the southern end of Ladies’ Walk.

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21:06 Bill measures the temperature at +14.1°C near the southern end of Ladies' Walk.

21:17 Bill and Steph reach the end of The Causeway at the gate to Church Walk.

21:20 At a clearing between 2 gates, Tim had several spikes on his KII meter but this we believe turned out to be mobile phone activity so it was debunked. This area is shown as the EMF Site on the plan above.

21:21 Whilst waiting for the rest of the team to arrive at the end of the path Bill saw a large patch of light on the north side of the path about 2 metres from where he was standing and just beyond and to the left of where Steph was standing. It was just off his direct vision and lasted for a second. The patch was about half a metre in diameter. For the next couple of minutes Bill checked to see if the light was caused by cars on the nearby roads but at no time did any headlights point towards the footpath.

21:23 The rest of the team reach the end of the path.

21:24 The team have a brief discussion as to whether anyone had picked anything up. Both Dee and Tim reported unusual happenings so the team decide to return to those areas.

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21:26 The team start the return journey from the eastern end of the path.

21:28 The team reach the area where Tim had experienced unusual KII responses. This consisted of brief full scale bursts. Everyone checks their phones and ensure they are off or on flight mode. The area was the only part of the path with relatively new wooden fences either side lying around 120 metres from the end of the path.

21:29 Both Bill and Steph turned on their KII meters; in addition Bill activates his Electrosmog meter. Over the next couple of minutes several bursts are detected one of which sounded like phone tones on Bill's KII but the others didn't.

21:30 Steph gets a spike on her KII meter in the same place as Tim had a reading on his earlier in the walk.

21:33 The team continue the return walk leaving Bill, Steph and Tim checking the KII responses. Shortly after Tim followed the rest of the team.

21:34 Bill measures the temperature at +14.5°C.

21:35 Low level Electrosmog tones are heard again.

21:36 Bill and Steph continue the walk.

Jill's Notes: This is Jill's first outdoor investigation with the group. At the start of the walk from Church End, Jill is feeling anxious that she will not be able to walk the entire length of the path due to longstanding leg/foot problems. However, she becomes more energised as the walk progresses and she feels very light-hearted and is enjoying communing with nature.

As she turns into Ladies' Walk from The Causeway and is about five steps into Ladies' Walk she stops because she thinks she hears the creaking of a wooden cartwheel in the field on her right. There is a gap in the hedgerow but she can see nothing except the lights on the road in the distance.

On the return down Ladies' Walk from the road end, near to where she had earlier heard the cartwheel sound, Jill stops because she has a great urge to touch the tree nearest to her on the left. Jill lays the palm of her hand on the bark of the tree and notes that it feels right and comforting.

Jill then continues along The Causeway with the others but stops at various points to follow her urge to lay her hand on particular trees along the way. The more she does this, the more she feels a spring in her step and is invigorated; surprised not to be troubled by pain in her legs and feet. Jill feels that she can walk all night!

Dee's Notes: After leaving the car park, Bill informs us that the moment we enter The Causeway the investigation begins. Dee hangs back along the path trying to get a sense of the location. It is a tree-lined path that runs parallel with – though not abutting – the river. At first Dee does not sense anything out of the ordinary, merely a sense of pleasure and invigoration. Dee notes that there is a wonderful sense of communing with nature, with the wind in the leaves emphasising the strong presence of the surrounding trees. We walk under the bypass bridge where some young people are hanging out to our right.

Approximately halfway along The Causeway we take a path to the right (Ladies' Walk) and proceed to walk the length of it almost up to the road at the end. After a short pause, we then return to The Causeway. Dee experiences nothing unusual on Ladies' Walk.

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The group then continues along The Causeway. Dee notes (via voice recorder) that at 21:13 she hears a short burst of what sounds distinctly like a lot of men shouting. It is coming from her left from over near the riverbank. It is clearly not the young people under the bridge; these voices were more like a considerably large group of men shouting (like playing football or running around). She cannot immediately find any kind of landmark to identify the spot, so after noting the incident on her voice recorder, she continues along The Causeway. She hears the male voices briefly again; the sound is loud enough for Dee to believe it is coming from somewhere close by, over near the river. The group eventually stops at the point where the path ends. We then begin the walk back along The Causeway towards Church End.

Approximately 100 metres before the bypass bridge, Dee feels the atmosphere change and stops. She tries to determine exactly what she is detecting, but cannot ascertain anything specific – she says on her voice recorder “the path ahead has become very dark compared to behind and I am a bit loathe to move on. The energy feels very different.” Dee turns back and walks back a few metres and stops.

At 21:31, while Dee is standing staring out towards the river in a small clearing, Andy comes up and mentions that he is drawn to a very large tree across the way on the riverbank. He tells Dee that he gets a “feeling of immense energy” and is drawn to it. Dee then moves further up the path to where she felt the need to stop a few minutes earlier. Tim joins her and they proceed back towards the bridge.

Dee once again experiences the feeling of the atmosphere changing considerably and stops. She senses that this is where she had heard the voices earlier. Tim surprises her by confirming that it is the exact spot, as he had (unbeknownst to Dee) noticed a particular treeline on the riverbank at the time Dee had first mentioned the voices.

Dee feels she should do a vigil in this area, so she and Tim set up several metres apart. Jill is several metres ahead towards the bridge/Ladies’ Walk.

Tim’s Notes: We met at the Church end car park around 20:30; it was a windy night with some medium to strong gusts making EVP almost impossible. The sky had some patchy clouds but mostly clear, there was some low mist forming as we walked along the first path towards the causeway but barely noticeable. The trees on either side of the pathways made a sort of tunnel and this made some parts of the pathways appear darker and also gave a feeling of wanting to look back over my shoulder.

Site Investigation: Tree – 21:38 to 22:00

For the location of the tree, where Andy first noticed it and the walk route to the tree see the plan on the next page.

21:38 Bill and Steph join Andy who had been drawn to a large tree about 50 metres away in the direction of the river and clearly visible through a gap in the trees lining the path. Andy felt that it was giving off masses of energy.

When Andy speaks about being drawn to a specific tree, Steph gets a warm feeling coming from the tree. Andy, Bill and Steph make their way through the overgrown area between the path and the river where the tree is. On this side Steph doesn't get anything apart from a calm feeling.

21:40 Bill measures the temperature at +15.7°C on the path where Andy sensed the trees energy.

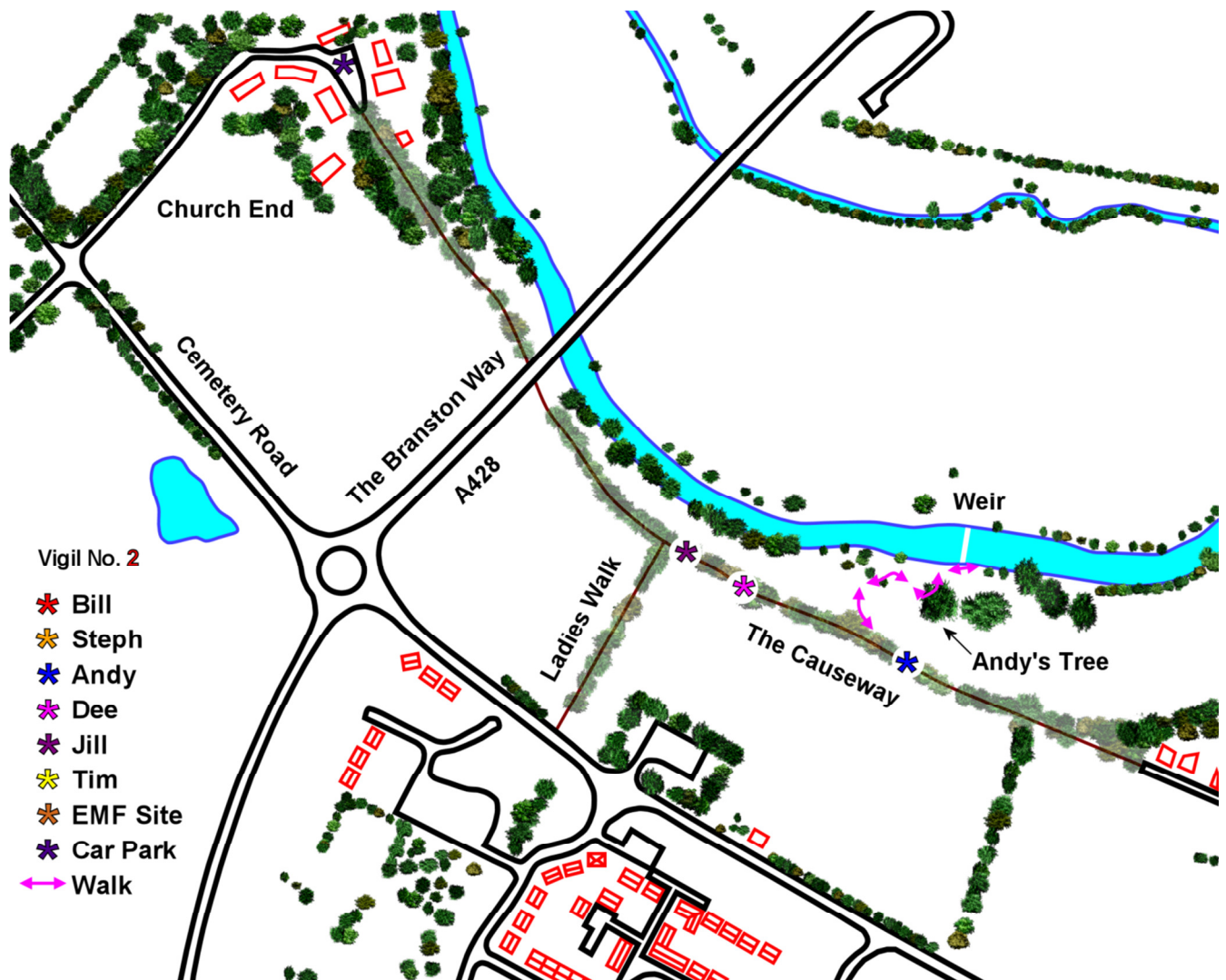
21:42 Bill, Steph and Andy leave the path and try to find a way through the dense growth in the intervening field to reach Andy’s tree.

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21:50 Bill, Steph and Andy reach the tree, a very large white willow.

21:54 Bill leaves Andy and Steph and walks over towards the river. As he approaches he notes that there is a lot of noise, this was because the source was Kempston Main Weir.

21:56 Bill returns to Andy's tree to find only Steph as Andy has headed off to find the rest of the team.

21:59 Bill and Steph head back to the path to find the rest of the team.

Post-Site Investigation

22:03 Bill and Steph reach the path and head in the direction of Church End.

22:04 The team regroup just east of Ladies' Walk.

22:07 Andy asks if we can do a vigil.

22:08 The team split up to do a vigil. Bill, Steph and Andy head back towards where Andy observed his tree.

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Vigil 1: The Causeway – 21:45 to 22:00

Whilst Bill, Steph and Andy F were investigating Andy's tree the rest of the team decided to do a vigil.

Jill is seated on The Causeway facing the river. Dee positions herself with her back to a tree on the back of The Causeway facing the river. She looks out at the riverside treeline Tim had noted (above) through a clearing in the avenue of trees. Dee wants to do an EVP session, but the strong wind in the trees precludes that. Dee settles and does some breathing exercises to relax and 'open up'. For the position of the team members see the plan on the preceding page.

21:48 Dee gets a very strong image of people driving lots of cattle near the river in her mind's eye.

21:49 Dee experiences a clear mental impression of seeing many sets of legs wearing sandals or strange footwear as though they are walking by as she is bowing her head and looking from under her hair.

There is a sudden, extremely loud 'crack' as though a heavy branch falls on the path just behind Tim to Dee's left, but when both of them search the area with their lights, there is nothing at all obvious in the vicinity to account for the sound they both heard.

21:50 Dee hears some distant young voices briefly over her left shoulder and behind (most likely the young people leaving the bridge).

21:52 Dee hears the male voices shouting (as before), though this time they are not as loud and they are somewhat drowned out by very loud clacking and cracking sounds, like heavy sticks being hit against each other. To Dee, it almost sounds like battle sounds, though not with metal. She cannot pinpoint exactly what she is hearing. Tim does not hear the sounds, though they are extremely audible to Dee.

21:53 Jill notes that nothing untoward is happening.

21:54 Dee notes several flashes from Tim's camera.

22:00 Jill gets an impression of cows in fields all around.

Post-Vigil

Jill tries to take some photos but her camera display says the battery pack is low and should be replaced. When Dee approaches, she acknowledges that the camera is showing an almost empty battery pack. Jill finds this odd because the battery was fully charged before she left the house. The camera is fairly new and has never malfunctioned.

As Dee is packing up her stuff after the vigil, Andy comes up and is ecstatic as he tells her that he went right over to the huge tree to which he had been drawn earlier. He explains that he was feeling low before he went there (after a long, hard week) and that being near the tree made him feel amazing. Dee can palpably feel the positive energy radiating from Andy and it makes her feel good too.

Vigil 2: The Causeway – 22:15 to 22:45

Andy returns to the gap in the treeline whilst Steph and Bill remain to the west where there is a gap with a large post from where they and Andy managed to access the area around the tree. From this location the tree is clearly visible.

Bill and Steph sit on the south side of the path facing across the path towards the Great Ouse. Bill sat beneath the branches of an overhanging oak tree.

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Dee and Jill decide to do a vigil at the junction of The Causeway and Ladies' Walk. Jill positions herself on the static bench and Dee positions herself on her chair opposite Ladies' Walk (to Jill's left) so that she has a clear view of both paths.

For the position of the team members see the plan below.

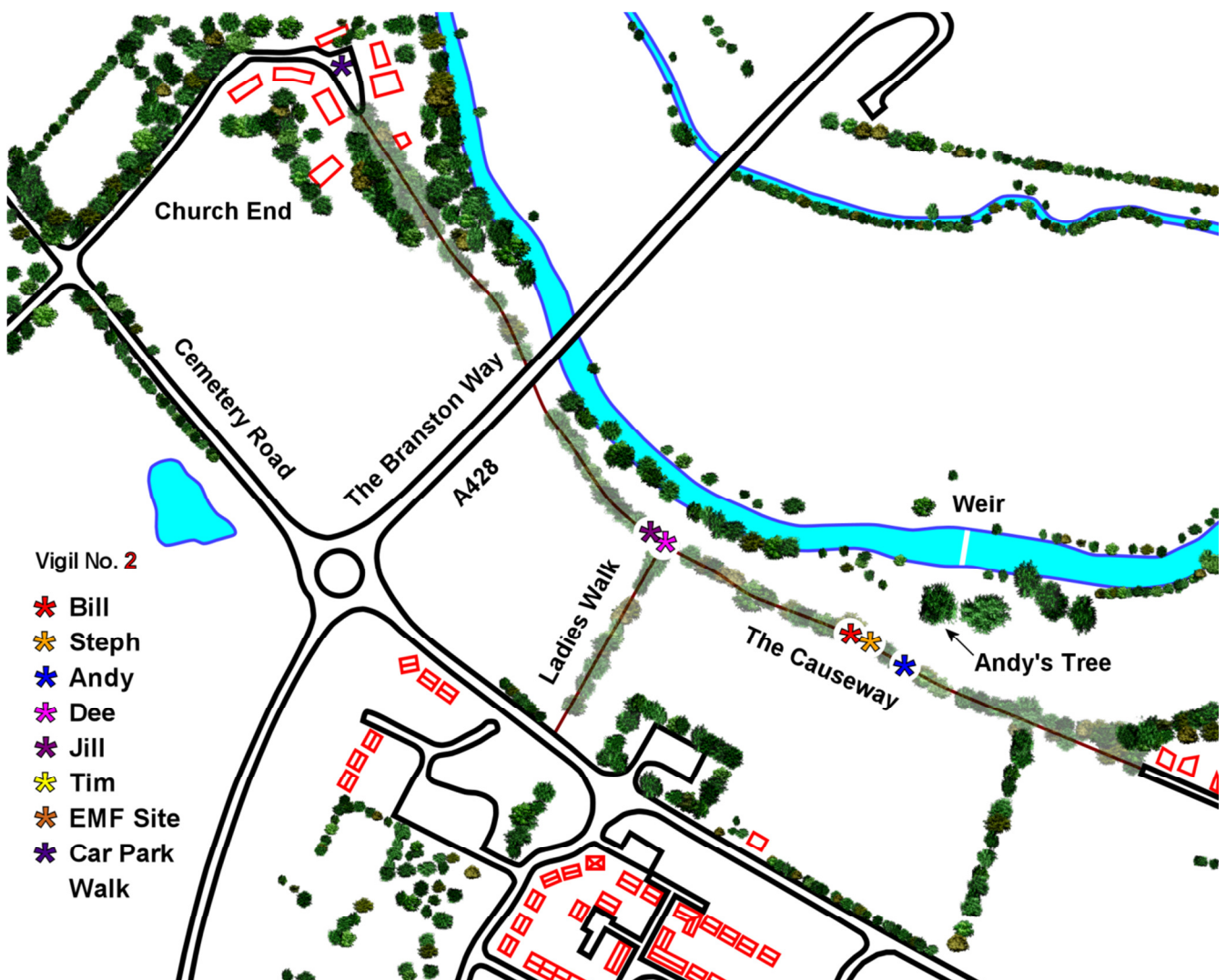
Steph notes that it is still windy but quite mild and damp feeling.

22:21 Bill measures the temperature at +15.2°C.

Steph's KII repeatedly spikes all the way up to the red indicator (20+mG). She is not sure what this is but does not have the pattern of a mobile phone signal. This stops briefly then spikes twice again before stopping.

Dee notes that the air feels like it is getting markedly colder. However, she cannot confirm this, as she has no equipment to measure the ambient temperature. Dee also hears what sound like light footsteps on the path slightly in front of her to the left. She can see no small animals or leaves blowing.

Tim thought he heard a single loud heavy footstep, nothing showed up on audio.



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22:23 Dee hears the 'footsteps' on the path again and tries to determine the cause. She can find nothing moving in the area from which the sound clearly came. Dee also notes that everything seems to have somehow become very calm and 'quiet' even though there is traffic in the distance causing sound and lights, and the wind is very loud and beginning to feel colder.

22:24 Steph's KII spikes once up to the orange indicator (10-20mG).

22:25 Steph's KII spikes repeatedly up to the orange indicator (10-20mG).

22:26 Steph's KII meter kept going off so Bill turns on his Electrosmog meter just in time to catch the end of the latest burst though there was not enough of it to tell what it was.

22:29 For the third time, Dee hears what clearly sounds like several light footfalls on the path slightly in front of her to the left and again in front of her and behind her, as though someone is stepping lightly around her. Nothing is visible on the ground or at eye level.

22:30 Dee notes a high-pitched, delicate ringing/clanging sound. She believes it is the sound of leaves or tree debris lightly hitting the signpost at the start of Ladies' Walk. (Note: Dee later tried to recreate the sound by lightly tapping the pole and it was not the same 'chinking' sound heard earlier).

Tim thought he heard 3 footsteps in the brush down the side of the causeway, again nothing showed up on audio review, this could have been due to the high winds.

22:31 Bill didn't think he had brought his phone but he found it in his trouser pocket. This may have accounted for the KII responses but most of his Electrosmog tones did not sound like a phone. When Tim's KII went off Bill was someway away at the end of the path (120 metres) so it is unlikely to have been due to Bill's phone but not impossible.

Jill experiences a strong smell of wood smoke. This lasts for approximately 3 minutes before fading away completely.

22:33 Jill hears what sounds like the distant sound of a chain clanking and a big wooden door closing.

22:37 Jill hears light 'footsteps' on the ground to her left then hears a very loud crack. She thinks Dee has stepped on a large twig or branch but Dee is still seated and shining her torch around.

Dee glances over to her right and thinks she sees someone standing next to/behind Jill who is seated on the bench a few metres away. Dee shines her torch to illuminate Jill and sees there is no one else there. At that exact moment, a very loud 'crack' occurs directly behind Dee's chair, which makes her jump out of her skin! Dee immediately spins round and can find nothing to account for the sound. Jill also hears it and shines her torch all around behind and can find no branches, sticks, or otherwise. To Dee, the sound was like the one heard on the path behind Tim during Vigil 1. Very loud, very distinct.

22:42 Bill notes that the wind has picked up and it feels colder. He measures the temperature at +14.2°C.

Steph can smell something clinical like being at a dentists or doctors surgery. This lasts for about 5 seconds before disappearing.

Dee sees a pinprick of light way over the other side of the river and wonders if there is someone walking over there with a torch.

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22:44 Jill mentions to Dee that she has heard another loud crack, this time behind the bench on which Jill is seated. Dee does not hear it, but investigates and can find nothing.

During the vigil Bill noted that there were several flashes of light from a camera coming from the direction of the A428 bridge over the path.

Post-Vigil

22:50 Jill is still near the bench and hears another loud crack, this time just behind her over her right shoulder. Jill checks the whole area thoroughly with her torch but can find nothing to explain the sound. Dee is not nearby, as she is a few metres away holding the team's radio.

The team regroup close to Ladies walk and then take a slow walk back to Church End with a short pause under the A428 bridge reaching the end of the path at 23:06.

Tim notes that, other than spending an evening with some new people he had no sense of anything on the causeway that evening.

Post-Investigation

The next day, Jill went to charge the supposedly flat battery in her camera. To her surprise the camera switched on normally and the display informed her that the battery was two-thirds full. The camera is only a couple of months old and has so far never malfunctioned.

The few photographs that Dee took on the investigation revealed nothing unusual.

Equipment List

Bill	Compass: Silva Type 7 NL Digital Camera: GE E1480W Digital Infrared Thermometer: Karknee DT-300 Electrosmog Meter: Cornet ED-7 EMF Detector: K-II Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Dee	Digital Camera: Canon PowerShot A3200 IS Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-5500PC Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Jill	Digital Camera: Canon IXUS 125 HS Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Steph	Digital Camera: Panasonic Lumix DMC-FS40 EMF Detector: K-II Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Tim	Digital Camera: Samsung WB720 Digital Voice Recorder: Philips LFH EMF Detector: K-II Full Spectrum Camcorder: Sony DCR-SX30E IR Headlamp