INVESTIGATION REPORT – Team 2

Investigation Site	**Edlesborough**
Investigation Date	11th November 2011
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Sarah, Dee

Background

Early in the 1970s a motorist was driving along the Leighton Road in Edlesborough (A4146) late one night and had just reached St Mary's church when he was surprised to see a monk standing in the road. The motorist stopped his car, got out and shone a torch towards the monk so he could see him more clearly. He just had time to notice that the monk was wearing a black habit when he vanished.

The ghost of Dick Turpin is believed to 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 St Mary's church and the Tring Road on dark nights.

General

The night was a windy one with overcast sky and a moist atmosphere leading to a definite haze. There was a full moon but it was not visible due to the thickness of the cloud layer. The wind was very blustery with some calm spells. Despite the lack of a visible moon the area was very light even at the east end of the church where there are no street lights. In the valley beyond the church it was quite foggy.

Vigil 1: St Mary's Church – 21:00 to 21:30

For this vigil Dee and Sarah sat at the west end of the church whilst Bill sat to the north on the west side of the north porch. Dee positioned herself in as sheltered a spot as she could find at the west end of the church, in an attempt to minimise the wind noise. For the positions of the team members see the plan on the next page. On top of the hillock, on which the church stands, it was very windy. The only sounds were the wind, rustling leaves and the moving trees. There were no noticeable sounds coming from the Leighton Road (A4146).

21:04 Dee spends some time trying to 'centre' herself, as the wind is very distracting. She places her digital voice recorder on the ground under her chair.

21:07 Dee 'hears' the words *delivery*, *signals*, *messages* and *deliverance*.

21:10 Bill measures the temperature at +7.5°C using his digital infrared thermometer and +11.4°C with a pressure of 995.8mb on his compass/thermometer. The latter is attached to his coat so it does not record the ambient temperature but will show any local changes in temperature.

Sarah was taking in the views in the dark, accustoming herself to the wind and blowing trees.

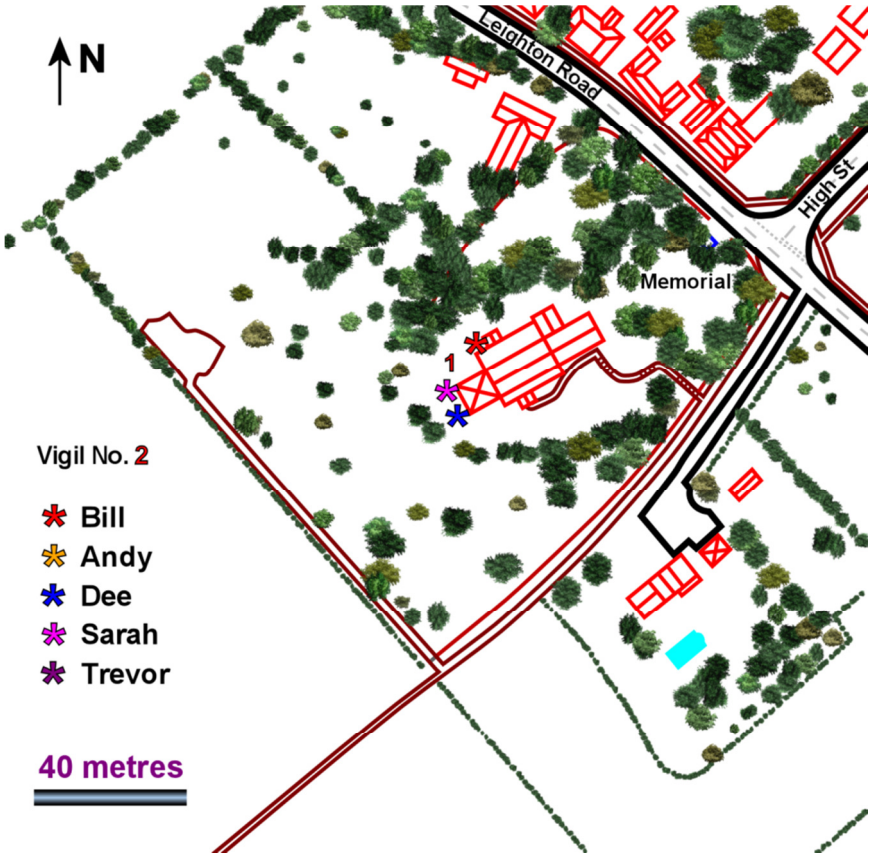
21:12 An odd sound, like a short, loud snort or briefly grinding gears is heard by Bill coming from the west-northwest (there are no roads in that direction).

Dee 'hears' *lights over the church*, *Candlemas*, *Pinkerton*, *tawdry* and *James*.

21:14 Dee 'hears' *endeavour*, *ship shape/sharp* and *brides* (or *bridges*? like on a ship).

21:16 Several deep thuds are felt more than heard by Bill. There were about 6 and Bill got the impression they were coming from the south-southwest even though this was towards the chancel of the church.

Dee 'hears' *Francis* (or *France is*).



21:18 A number of flashes are seen by Bill at the bottom of his field of vision when he was facing west. The flashes would have been to the northwest which was the direction of the road and could have been car headlights as distant cars face towards the church as they come round a bend just 300 metres away. Though the cars are a lot lower down than the church the lights are just visible through the nearby bushes.

Dee picks up her digital voice recorder and begins an EVP session, gently calling out questions.

21:19 A deep, loud thud is heard by Bill that seemed to echo off the wall to his right (the west wall of the porch).

Dee hears loud, but distant, booms to her left (southwest?).

21:20 Another thud is heard by Bill followed shortly after by another.

Bill checks the lights of a car coming round the bend on the A4146 to the northwest but they did not produce the light effects seen by him at 21:19.

21:21 A lot of distant bangs are heard by Bill.

21:22 Dee ended her short EVP session.

A loud bang/boom was heard by Sarah to the southwest, toward the Ivinghoe Beacon area.

21:23 Another bang was heard by Sarah.

21:24 Bill measures the temperature at +7.5°C using his digital infrared thermometer and +12.6°C with a pressure of 995.9mb on his compass/thermometer.

Dee clearly 'hears' the word "*war*" in her right ear.

Another loud bang, and then a succession of big booms/bangs are heard by Sarah, which led her to believe she was hearing fireworks and the sound was carrying through the mist.

21:26 By this time Bill has watched about 8 cars on the A4146 but none produced the lights he had seen at 21:19.

21:28 Bill notes that the wind has dropped considerably in strength. Now there is hardly any breeze despite it having been very strong during the earlier part of the vigil.

Vigil 2: Leighton Road – 21:40 to 22:15

Because of the nature of this site it was decided not to do a sit down vigil as the traffic, about one car every thirty seconds at the start of the vigil, made it difficult to concentrate or to pick anything up. Instead the team leant against the wall by the war memorial or wandered around the area of the road to see if they could sense anything. The area is shown on the plan on the preceding page. The area in front of the church was a very busy one with traffic travelling along the Leighton Road and coming down the High Street which meant that their lights faced straight towards the war memorial. (In fact several cars stopped at the junction for an inordinate amount of time so that the team got the impression the drivers were watching them by the memorial.) In this area the breeze was moderate to fresh and coming from the south-southwest, though the direction did vary with location as the road is in the shadow of the hill on which the church stands.

For the first part of the vigil Bill leant against the wall to the left of the memorial then later walked up the centre of the road to the northwest as far as the end of the churchyard before returning. By this time the rate at which cars were passing had decreased significantly.

21:42 Dee switches on her handheld digital voice recorder. All Dee's entries from this point in time onwards are taken from her sound recording.

21:43 Dee notes feeling 'creepy chills' down her right arm as she is standing at the roadside near the memorial.

21:46 Bill measures the temperature at +7.5°C using his digital infrared thermometer and +12.7°C with a pressure of 997.5mb on his compass/thermometer.

21:48 Standing on the corner near to where Sarah's car is parked (road opposite the memorial), Dee notes that she is again experiencing the 'creepy chills' down her right arm.

21:50 Whilst walking around quietly for this vigil, Sarah did feel that the empty Bell pub was eerie. She thought she saw a shadow near a house move toward the road, but this could have been a shadow from a resident walking near their garden light. She did not pick up on anything else during the vigil.

21:51 Still in the main roadside area opposite the memorial (on the side where the LPS cars are parked in the High Street) Dee notes "Keep getting impression of a coach."

21:52 Dee notes "definitely horses…again!"

21:55 Now standing on the opposite side of the road by the metal gate at the start of the track that leads to the fields behind the church, Dee notes "Standing by the metal gate just noticed there's a sign that says 'bridleway'. Maybe that's why I'm picking up on horses…"

21:57 Standing at the roadside near the memorial, Dee notes that "the building over there" really makes her uncomfortable (the closed down pub opposite and to the left). (**Editor's Note:** This was the Bell, now closed, but when it was open there were reports of it being haunted.)

Bill did not pick up anything during this vigil.

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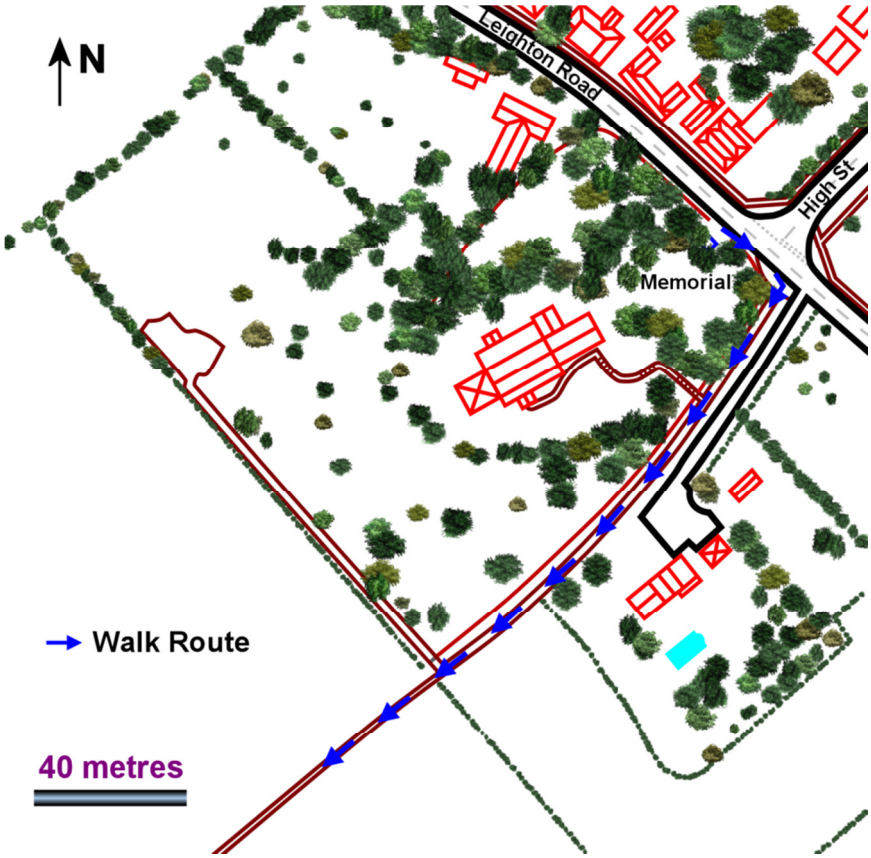
Post-Vigil

Everyone discussed the rapidly changing weather and the fact that heavy rain was forecast. We decided to take a walk along the trackway/bridleway to the fields and concentrate on visual investigation.

Walk: Path to Ivinghoe Aston – 22:40 to 23:00

For the final part of the investigation the teams combined into one to walk along the path from the church towards Ivinghoe Aston. The path followed is shown on the plan on the right. This path is not necessarily one Dick Turpin would have used, but the path is a very old one (appearing on maps at least as far back as 1879) and leads towards the area of Butler's Farm (now Butler's manor) so it could have been a path he used. The most likely route Turpin used would have been the Leighton Road to the southwest but with no footpaths and fast moving cars it was a route we chose not to walk.



As the team left the A4146 it started to drizzle but, as it was fairly light, it was decided to carry on with the walk. The team had only walked about 200 metres from the Leighton Road when it started raining heavily and a mist started to roll in so that visibility was markedly reduced. Because of this it was decided to abandon the walk.

Bill did not pick up anything during the walk.

Post-Investigation

None of Dee's digital voice recordings revealed anything out of the ordinary – there was mostly too much wind noise and traffic!

Sarah found nothing unusual on camera.

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Equipment List

Bill	Digital Camera: General Electric E1480W Digital Infrared Thermometer: CHY 110 Digital Compass/Altimeter/Thermometer: WS110 Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Dee	Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-5500PC Notepad, pen, torch and watch
Sarah	Digital Camera: Sony DSC-H50 Notepad, pen, torch and watch