



Raining Frogs and Discontented Poltergeist; Unexplained Phenomena on your doorstep

Stigmata, poltergeists and 'Bigfoot' all conjure images of a distant past governed by superstition and supposition. But the Rough Guide to Unexplained Phenomena could prove you wrong. From UFO sightings to raining fish in Great Yarmouth, it explores our unexplained phenomena at home and abroad.

Here are some unsolved mysteries from recent years...

- ❖ In March 2003, Nigel Lee was pelted with stones and coins by an invisible force as he worked as a garage manager in Doncaster. The garage had a reputation for being haunted by the ghosts of people killed in World War II, but the real curiosity, aside from apparitions and things moving around overnight, was the **continuous lobbing of small denomination coins**, witnessed on many occasions by customers and visitors. Nigel said he had collected about £7.
- ❖ In June 2005 thousands of still-living **tiny frogs fell from storm clouds** over the north-western Serbian town of Odzaci. One witness told the Belgrade *Blic* newspaper that he "saw countless frogs fall from the sky." The paper said they looked quite different from local frogs and those that survived the fall hopped away in search of water.
- ❖ A storm, again, features in the account of **hundreds of two-inch-long fish** that fell in a small area of the Norfolk seaside town of Great Yarmouth on 7 August 2000. Fred Hodgkins, a retired ambulance driver, saw them covering his garden when he went to investigate what sounded like "heavy hail." The wind had been blowing *towards* the sea.
- ❖ **Crop circles** have been noted recently for drawing attention to the prehistoric sacred sites in southern England and elsewhere. Regularly, since the beginning of the 1980s, formations have appeared in cornfields adjacent to Stonehenge. And in the summer of 2005, Avebury in Wiltshire was besieged by crop circles in every direction.
- ❖ **Ice-discs** are a relatively unfamiliar phenomenon, even to scientists, but have a striking visual appeal similar to crop circles. Several have been reported since the year 2000 in both Connecticut and Michigan, where circular plates of ice, many metres across, slowly revolve on the water circumscribed by a narrow, usually ice-free, ring or "ditch".
- ❖ Many people do not believe in **winged cats**. It sounds too fantastic. But these seemingly impossible creatures do occasionally exist. There are several modern, authenticated examples of cats with wings. The most recent report comes from Granny Feng of Xianyang city, Shannxi province who says the wings, which contain bones, make her pet look like a 'cat angel'.

From dogmatic scientists to enthusiastic believers, the Rough Guide excavates the sources of these tales of the unexpected, drawing on a huge archive of observations, discussion and illustrations.

'An unmissable read, packed with the weird and wonderful...' The Sunday Telegraph on the 1st edition

Notes for Editors: The Rough Guide to Unexplained Phenomena (2nd Edition)
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