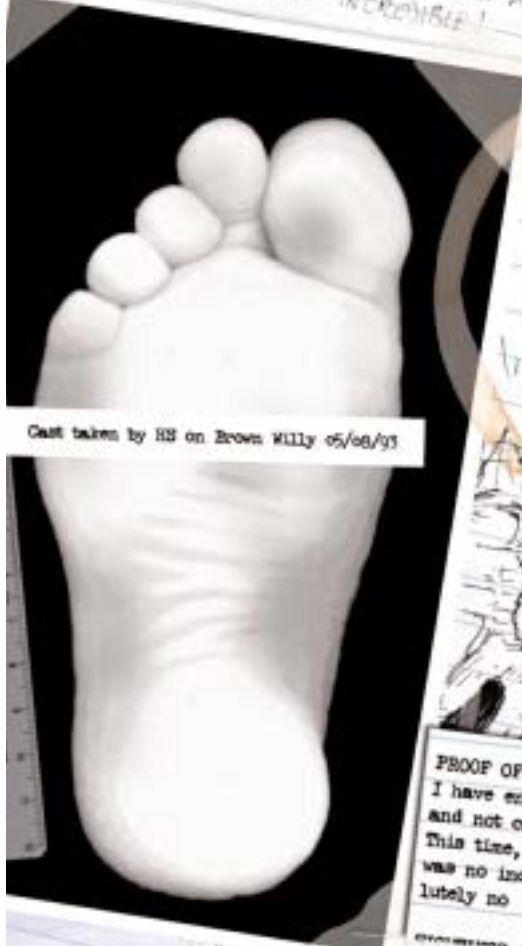


THE LEGEND OF BROWN WILLY

PARANORMALISTS DOSSIER ISSUE 1



BASED ON DIMENSIONS
AND IMPRESSIONS OF PRINT LEFT
AT A CREATURE SIX TO SEVEN FEET
TALL AND WEIGHING APPROXIMATELY
FIVE HUNDRED TO SEVEN HUNDRED
POUNDS. INCREDIBLE!



Cast taken by HS on Brown Willy 05/08/93




Paranormalist File 1034/
Sasquatch on Bodmin Moor.
Following reports and sightings
Screening reports and sight
Investigation have opened this
This file contains observations
quatch in Cornwall, 1980.



Frame 44 from the Major Patterson-Bell
Gorilla, taken at Red Creek, California

PROOF OF VERACITY

I have enough evidence to suggest that the likelihood of this
and not comparable to the regrettable *Beast of Dunkery Beacon*
This time, I examined the cast I took by the roadside extremely
was no indication that this cast had been made by a rubber-b
lutely no Made In China stamp in the plaster.



While you wait for the next part of our latest adventure, 'The Legend of Brown Willy', we at Crocanapple thought you might like to know a little bit about who we are and how the idea of the 'The Paranormalists' was born. There's also a chance to see some of Hitchard Screening's original documents, background on other West Country cryptozoological phenomena and a chance to become part of 'The Paranormalists' yourself.

Paranormalist File 1034/SQ1 Sasquatch on Bodmin Moor.

Following reports and sightings of a giant hominid on Bodmin Moor, I, Hitchard Screening have opened this Paranormalist File 1034/SQ1 as part of the continuing investigation carried out by The Paranormalists.

This file contains observations and findings pertaining to the existence of Sasquatch in Cornwall, England. All the contents are true to the best of my knowledge.

PROOF OF VERACITY

I have enough evidence to suggest that the likelihood of this being a hoax is low, and not comparable to the regrettable Beast of Dunkery Beacon incident in 1991. This time, I examined the cast I took by the roadside extremely carefully, and there was no indication that this cast had been made by a rubber beast foot, and absolutely no Made In China stamp in the plaster.

SIGHTINGS AND EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS

There have been three eyewitness accounts of this Sasquatch. I have interviewed the three witnesses and these are the transcripts of their accounts. Each subject was attached to Pete Fortunes lie detector machine to check authenticity of account.

Witness 1

Subject Name: Mr Bary Gimlin.

Age: 36

Occupation: Polo Shirt Salesman

Time and Date of Sighting: 01:20am 03 August 1993

Location of Sighting: A30, Bodmin Moor.

Witness Account: Well, I was on my way home having spent the day at a particularly exciting polo shirt convention in St Austell. It was incredible - there were shirts there that I'd never even dreamed possible. I mean, I was pumped man, really psyched on my way home. I was singing, and driving pretty fast down the A30. It was like dead, man, at that time. Had the road to myself. Well, I thought I had. This thing jumped out of the verge into the middle of the road. Just standing there, not moving. I was freaked. It all kind of happened in slow motion. I was screaming, and it was staring into my eyes as I hurtled towards it. It was big. Really big, like 8 foot tall, and covered in hair. His eyes, staring. Just staring at me. I managed to swerve, and I hit a tree. I can't really remember what happened after that. I kind of came around and realised I was running down the road, clutching a bunch of polo shirts in each hand. Hey, you want to buy a polo shirt?

Lie detector outcome: Readings suggest subject is telling the truth.



Witness 2

Subject Name: The Reverend Montgomery Siddlewood

Age: 78

Occupation: Parish Vicar

Time and Date of Sighting: 11.47pm 29 July 1993

Location of Sighting: in the graveyard of the village church

Account: I went out from the vicarage to the church to lock the door. It was awfully late, much later than when I usually lock the church. I'd forgotten to do it earlier, you see. I do tend to forget things these days. Well, I was half way down the church path, when it struck me how dark it was. I'd forgotten to take a torch, you see. So, I turned to go back to the vicarage for my torch and it was then that I heard the sound of someone walking on the grass, in the graveyard. My immediate reaction was that it must be my wife. But then remembered she passed away 12 years previously. Anyway, I looked in the direction of the sound, and at that point the moon came out from behind a cloud, illuminating the figure in front of me. It was huge. An enormous hairy man-like creature. But I wasn't scared. He was looking at me, into my eyes, but I wasn't scared. His eyes were friendly, ever so friendly. And kind, it felt to me. God is indeed in all of Earth's creatures. And that's when he ran away. Quite remarkable. And do you know what the strangest thing was about the entire incident? Actually, no sorry. I've forgotten what I was going to say. Lie detector outcome: No readings taken. Ironically, I'd forgotten to switch it on.

Witness 3

Subject Name: Mrs Beryl Pound

Age: 51

Occupation: Unemployed

Time and Date of Sighting: 11.16am 03 August 1993

Location of Sighting: Tesco Supermarket

Witness Account: I was looking for the tinned peas. I can't stand the frozen kind. Or the fresh ones. I like my peas soaked in brine. So, I was looking for the tinned peas, when I saw it, in the aisle by the baguettes. It was 11 foot tall, and covered in yellow hair. He had horns, and a tail. And five eyes. All of them blinking at me. It asked me to go with him, into the woods to live with him forever. I said no, and it got angry. It threw all the baguettes around the supermarket, screaming and going crazy. Then it knocked over a bunch of people as it ran out the door. Then it was gone.

Lie detector outcome: Everything Mrs Pound said was untrue. Apart from the peas. It would appear she really does prefer the tinned kind.



Behind the Scenes

Part 1

The real Minehead Elvis and the origins of The Paranormalists

By Mike Davis

It was in June 2001, while I was filming near Whitehorse in Canada's remote Yukon Territory, that I first heard the tale of 'Tagish Elvis'. It's a weird place the Yukon and in June with its long, long days it gets even weirder. So it comes as little surprise that the tiny outposts scattered along the Alaskan Highway produce so many, uh... eccentrics.



Joanne Churchman recording Willy roar "live" in Richmond Park

One of these is undoubtedly Gilbert Nelles. Since the early 1990s Nelles claims to be (and by all accounts has transformed himself into) a re-incarnation of Elvis Presley after being zapped by a beam from a UFO. With subsequent

intergalactic trips, a (reasonably) successful career performing as Elvis in the Yukon area and numerous courtroom battles to defend his name, it would be fair to say Nelles hasn't looked back since his 'Close Encounter' with the King.

Being a fan of Elvis and having an interest in all things paranormal I was hooked by the idea of this local legend. My initial thought was that he would make a great subject for a documentary. However, not only were a couple of programmes already in production at that time but I had heard first hand that he was a little unstable and a nightmare to pin down. I then started shaping a fictionalised version of his life story in my head. As this idea developed I automatically transplanted him across the Atlantic to what I considered to be the English equivalent of the Yukon - the West Country.



Now don't get me wrong, I'm a Bristol boy myself, whose Rs start rolling at the mere sniff of a Scrumpy and it certainly is not my/our intention to perpetuate the English stereotype of the straw-chewing West Country "bumpkin" but, you can bet your bottom dollar that if Elvis came along in his UFO looking for likely subjects around here, he'd find them in Somerset. Or more specifically Minehead. Which neatly brings former Minehead resident and Crocanapple number 2 into the frame - Simon Whalley.



The first gig under the Crocanapple banner was a live performance in January 2004 called 'Presley and Jones Ride Again: The UFO Tour', part of a cabaret night in aid of Cancer Research at The Water Rats in Kings Cross, London. Together Simon and I had taken the 'Tagish Elvis' (now called 'Minehead Elvis') story, set it in the West Country and given our hero (now a painter and decorator named Clive) a partner in crime, a character called Terry who claimed, even more unconvincingly, to have met Tom Jones, also in a UFO, above Minehead, creating a bickering, singing comedy double act. Shortly before our big night, we had enlisted Rob Crouch to direct the piece for us. Thus, Rob became the third member of Crocanapple.



Crocapple, from top:
Mike Davis, Simon
Whalley & Rob Crouch

To mix metaphors, our Bermuda right angle was now a triangle and the circle was complete. The seeds of what would become The Paranormalists were sown. We expanded Terry and Clive's story into, initially, a sitcom pilot for TV, so

our next move was to film a few scenes. This resulted in a short film called 'Stars', filmed on location in Minehead and also featuring Rob, playing against type as a mute, expressionless roadie, Sandy.

Mike and Si on Minehead Beach in a still from 'Stars'. Rob appeared as Sandy (Inset).



This idea eventually evolved into 'The Paranormalists': a kind of live action Scooby-Doo set in the West Country with Minehead Elvis now relegated to guest star amongst an assortment of other, eccentric local characters and the spotlight now turning to a mismatched band of paranormal investigators; Hitchard Screening, Murray Black, Linda and Pete Fortune. Minehead Elvis and his subsequent court battle became the subject of the Paranormalist's first adventure and the pilot episode.

Eagle-eared listeners will also hear that simpleton Terry (still played by Simon) survives as the local postman. Setting it in the early to mid 1990s seemed appropriate, it was a period that saw a renewed interest in the paranormal with the enormous success of the 'X-Files' TV show and 'Fortean Times' publication, the crop circles phenomena and David Icke.

It was our newly acquired Producer Andy Wilks (with whom I had

worked on 'Walking with Dinosaurs') that first turned us on to the idea of podcasting which was a pretty new phenomenon in early 2005. We had re-written our pilot episode 'Minehead Elvis' as a 40 min radio play and adapted it into 4 x 10 min parts in order to serialise it weekly in bite-size adventures that didn't take an age to download. We considered it an exciting new way to reach a bigger audience, bypassing the traditional broadcaster route that we all knew could take years of fruitless effort.

Leading the cast was Neil Edmond, fresh from Radio 4s 'The Consultants', who took the role of Hitch. His experience in radio coupled with a genuine interest in cryptozoology and the esoteric meant that he was able to bring a great deal to the table. Michael Cronin, primarily of 'Grange Hill' and 'Fawlty Towers' fame (but also a giant of the British stage) was the father of a colleague of ours and we managed to smuggle a script to him, never imagining that he would agree to take part. Fortunately for us he loved the character of barnacle-covered narrator Plutarch and was also supportive of a West Country-based comedy that draws upon the rich traditions and language of this part of the world.



So far the series has met with great success. Downloads have been bolstered by some great press; interviews with BBC Radio 5 and the Guardian as well as reviews and recommendations in The Independent and Fortean Times that you can listen to and read on our website www.paranormalists.co.uk.



And so that's where we are, welly deep into our latest six part adventure 'The Legend of Brown Willy', awash with untrustworthy journalists, shadowy genetic scientists and morris dancers. We wouldn't want to spoil anything but there's still plenty more to come as our Paranormalists finally get to the bottom of the mystery of

Neil Edmond (top) and Michael Cronin.

Bodmin Bigfoot. And after that, currently in pre-production, is a third episode concerning the Holy Grail that begins to tie up some of the series' bigger mysteries - how does Plutarch fit into all of this, what really happened to Hitch's father and just what is Murray's destiny?

Thank you for your support and for listening.

Next Time: Behind the Scenes Goes Into The Recording Studio

Mike Davis
Crocanapple

SW Paranormal



'True' stories from the South West

Our latest adventure 'The Legend of Brown Willy' concerns a mysterious, hairy biped sighted on Bodmin Moor in the West Country of England. Sound like we made it up? Well, we did. But don't get complacent, there are plenty of so-called true stories out there that can sometimes be stranger than fiction. Here's just one of 'em.

The Beast(s) of Bath

In 1979 there were a number of sightings of an ape-like creature just outside of Bath, in the South West of England. The creature was variously described as a chimpanzee, baboon, spider monkey, gibbon or lemur. The consensus was that it had probably escaped from captivity and chosen to make it's home in the area. But was it something more sinister?

In July, Ron and Betty Harper observed that bark had been stripped off an oak tree near their cottage on Brassknocker Hill at Claverton Down, five miles south of Bath. Their goat was also, apparently, badly frightened.

At first the damage to the tree looked to be the work of a squirrel.

However they usually only strip the top of branches whereas this appeared to be the work of a much larger animal that had seemingly been hanging from underneath the branch. The bark appeared to have been stripped from the tree as high as 20ft up and the marks were made by teeth said to be 10 or even 20 times the size of a squirrel's. By August 1st, up to 50 trees had been stripped in this way.

It was said that all the birds seemed to have disappeared and the wood had fallen strangely silent. 81 year old Brassknocker Hill resident Frank Green wasn't taking any chances, and took to strolling around the area with his shotgun.

A man driving through Monkton Combe at night encountered an animal "3ft to 4ft tall with bright white rings around its eyes, like a spectacled bear". And local bobby Insp Mike Price spotted, what he thought was, a chimpanzee in the woods, justifying to himself that "Men from Mars aren't hairy are they?" Yet the creature was never formally identified.

By September of that year word of this beast had spread as far as Germany. A daily newspaper ran the headline 'Beast of Bath Destroys British Wood'. The article went on to describe how a monster was at large on Brassknocker Hill, terrorising residents and devouring wood with vampire-like teeth.

Not unusually in cases like this the beast was to transform, a few years later, into something quite different. Now it was a sinister-looking quadruped that everyone seemed to be spotting in the area.

In 1984 a strange looking creature



Yours to keep
for only
£5 or \$8!!!

Get the Paranormalists at
CD quality!

We are currently producing CDs of Minehead Elvis, complete with original artwork. Brown Willy will follow soon. Cost is £5 or \$8 US, plus postage. To pre-order email us on paraproductio@mac.com

Payment via Nochex (no signup required) or PayPal.

was reported to be holding up traffic on Brassknocker Hill. Local reporters who raced to the scene were disappointed, but nevertheless surprised, to find an Alpaca, a type of llama, that had escaped from its paddock. It was promptly reunited with its owner.

More recently a large black animal has been spotted by a number of people in Batheaston, sparking concern that a panther or black leopard could be living wild in the area. One of the latest villagers to come face-to-face with the big cat was Karen Hanley, who encountered the animal on an evening stroll: Mrs Hanley (50) and husband Peter watched in amazement as the black cat walked slowly around the drive leading to the village's Archery Club ground staring straight at them. "I couldn't quite believe my eyes," said Karen, who works in Bath's Safeway store. "I didn't want to think it was a big cat but when we looked again there was no mistaking it. It was looking straight at me but as soon as it got sight of us, it turned and walked away. At first I thought it was just a moggy but when you looked at the cat in proportion to a barn it was next to, it was huge. It was black, had long legs, a long body and its tail was long and pointing straight out. I have seen enough wildlife programmes to know a big cat when I see one."

There have also been sightings of a big cat in and around Shockerwick, between Batheaston and Box. Shepherd Richard Alvis, who works in the hamlet, is convinced big cats or worse are in the area. A few years ago he had a large lamb killed - and he is certain the attack was not by foxes.

"The cats are around this area, there is no doubt about it," said Mr Alvis.

"The area is perfect for them - rabbits, pheasants, deers - all perfect food sources for them. And I know many people who have spotted them. When that lamb was killed a few years ago it had its throat ripped and legs mauled. Foxes and dogs just do not kill in that way."

Neither, we could add, do chimpanzees or llamas!

Blood and Sand! It's the Paranormalists Competition...

Strange creatures, unearthly lights, and unaccountable chills run amok!

That's why we want to hear your stories.

The budding paranormalist that writes in to us with the best, weirdest story will find it incorporated into the next thrilling instalment of The Paranormalists. You'll also receive a mystery prize. So if your neck of the woods is even more rife with the unexplainable than the West Country then get writing to hitch@theparanormalists.co.uk

Runners up will be posted on our website.

Good Luck

Plutarch