

Police Incident Report



Report filed byDetective Inspector Molly Hines.....

Date of incidentTuesday 2nd September

Reason for investigation

A number of Harltown residents have reported that strange events occurred during the evening and overnight on Tuesday 2nd September. There have been several reports of flying toads on lily pads in the streets and in people's homes. In various places there is certainly evidence of pond weed and slime to a degree which makes it important to investigate these claims. The witness recounts below support some of these allegations.

Recount of interview with James Nilbar

James Nilbar, who is a keen amateur astronomer, was studying the stars at about 11pm on Tuesday night when he reports becoming aware of a shape blocking out the moon. He said that he noticed a green shape coming closer to his home in Newberry Gardens. As it drew near, he was able to ascertain that it was a toad on a lily pad. He said that by this stage he had realised there were many more flying toads in the vicinity of his home. He reported that the toads seemed to be exploring the neighbourhood and he recalls watching them for about ten minutes. Strangely, after this his memory is quite unclear.

Recount of interview with Esther Smith

Esther Smith lives in Hardacre Drive on the northern side of the town. At 11pm on Tuesday evening Ms Smith recalls that she was lying in bed reading. As it was quite a warm night, her bedroom window was open. She says that she first saw a piece of wet pondweed fly in through her window and land on her bed, followed by three large toads surfing on lily pads. She claims the toads flew into her wardrobe where they deposited slime on her best dress. More toads flew in through the window soon afterwards; she estimates there were about twelve in all. Ms Smith says that she only remembers the beginning of their visit, but thinks they were there for several hours. When she awoke in the morning, there was slime in three places on her bedroom carpet. She showed this to police officers from Harltown station and forensic tests have proved this contains toad DNA.

Conclusions

There are at least sixteen other eye witness statements similar to the ones above, leading our investigators to believe that something strange certainly happened on the night of Tuesday 2nd September. Most of the witnesses interviewed seem reliable and they report very similar occurrences. This, together with the widespread discovery of pond weed, slime and lily pads in the area, suggests that further investigation should take place.

Recommendations

- Every adult who was in the affected area on the evening of Tuesday 2nd September should be interviewed.
- The whole area should be examined forensically for more evidence.
- Toad experts should be consulted to see whether there is any precedent for the flying toads' incident.
- More detectives should be seconded to Harltown CID for at least the next month or until most of the unanswered questions have been resolved.

Signed

Detective Inspector Molly Hines