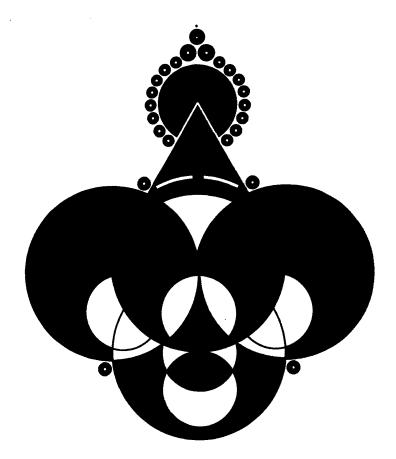
1998 CROPCIRCLE DIAGRAMS



by Peter R. Sørensen
Black and White Prints
The **50**+ Best Formations

Created on a Mac laptop computer from aerial observations

© **1998 Peter R. Sørensen** Sept. 14 "Dindy's Cottage," #2 the Green, Alton Priors, Wiltshire SN8 4JX England

ABOUT THE DIAGRAMS

I started making crop circle diagrams when my predecessors retired. There were giants in those days, foremost among them (chronological order), John Langresh, John Martineau, and Wolfgang Schindler.

Aerial photography is, of course, the ultimate way to document the circles. But, if you are interested in the raw power of their symbolism, photos have some drawbacks. They are practically always shot at an angle, with circles distorted into ovals. There are tramlines and often hideous walk-lines in the crop. Diagrams eliminate these and other distractions, and present our eyes with the stark power of the designs, permitting their magic messages to pass directly into our inner being.

Therefore, when good diagrams became few and far between, I started making them on my laptop computer for myself. (At first I gave them away to friends. But when the demand increased, and the task of copying, organizing, and distributing sets became a significant drain of time and energy, I began charging.)

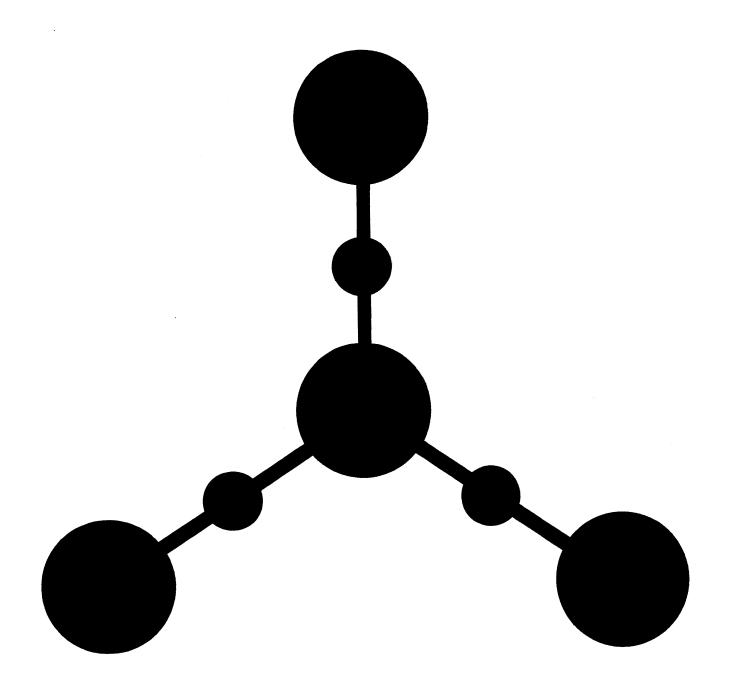
Although I use a computer to simplify the drawing process, I employ an artistic method, rather than a mechanical one. I start with aerial video shot of a crop formation (my main "mission" is video documentation of the phenomenon — the diagrams are an off-shoot). I freeze-frame the video at the moment when it is looking straight down. Then, by eye, I start constructing circles on the screen that roughly approximate the aerial image — sort of sketching in the basics.

With 40 years of experience in art and graphics, I have a reasonably good eye for proportion. So, I next start to tweak the sizes and positions of the circles, making them larger or smaller by a few percentage points, and moving them left, right, up and down, a pixel at a time.

Eyeballing the designs this way is certainly not the most accurate method! Although I'm confident that *my diagrams are generally better* than 95% accurate, a diligent ground survey with measurements and compass bearings *would be* unquestionably superior. The trouble is, it takes two people a lot of time to properly survey a crop formation. And then, if a dimension or angle is notated incorrectly, the resultant diagram can be disastrously wrong.

So, my diagrams are not mathematically perfect, and you should *not* use them for geometric analysis (*a la* Martineau). But they are fine for aesthetic appreciation of the symbols, and ideal for meditation.

Virtually all crop circle diagrams ever made have only been approximations of the actual formations. Crop circles are never perfectly round. They are usually slightly oval, and their edges have slight wiggles. Some people gloss over these difficulties. I always use an oval



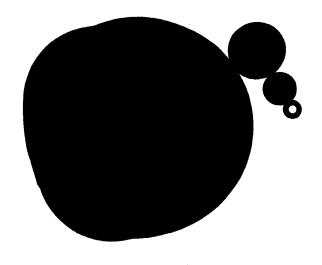
CHARLOTTESVILLE VIRGINIA, U.S.A.

U.S. researcher, Doug Rogers, reports this "tripodic" formation which appeared mid-May in tall grass near the University of Virginia.

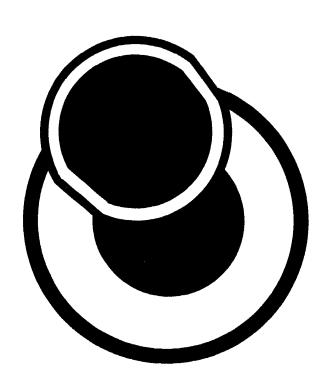
There have been no crop circles reported in that state before.

Louise Olivi (CCCS), found blown nodes and other positive clues.

CSETI founder, Dr. Steven Greer, moved to the area at about the same time.

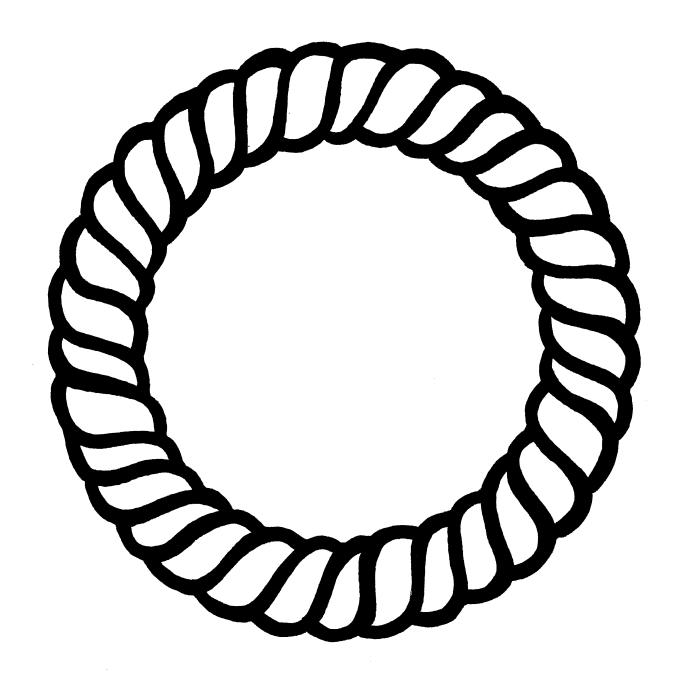






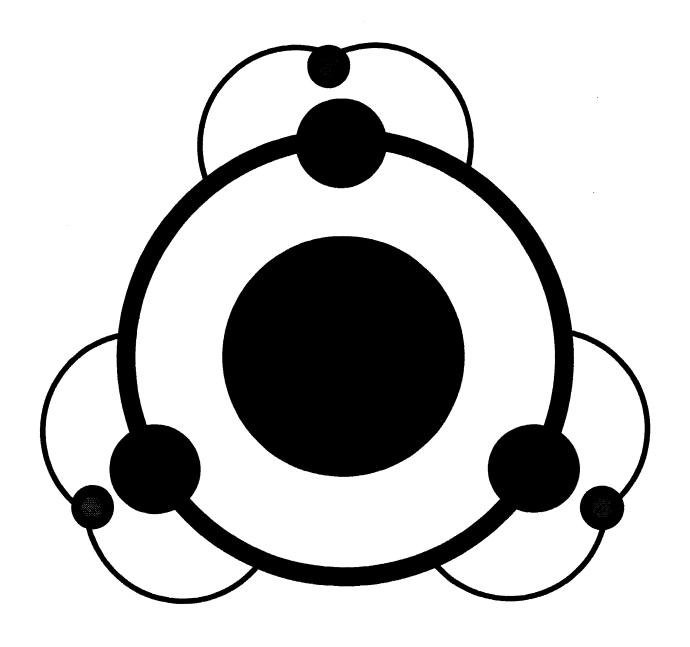
The WEYHILL ECLIPSE

April 19th, at Weyhill, Hampshire, England, in canola (oilseed rape). John Sayer reports the large ring is 116 ft in diameter, the tiny one just 4 ft. The lay of the crop was the worst I have ever seen in canola (!), with hundreds of plants actually broken *in-two*, *halfway* up their stalks, copious stamper scraping, and wholesale breakage at the base.



BELTAINE WHEEL

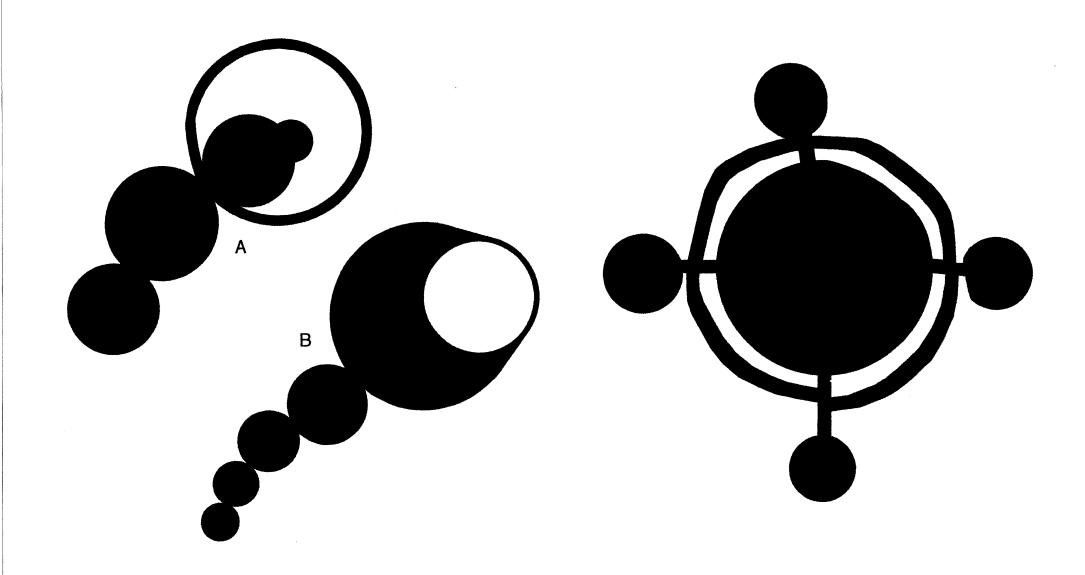
Arrived May 4th below the West Kennet Longbarrow, in sight of Silbury Hill. The 220 ft. circle with 33 surrounding "flames," is in canola (oilseed rape). In my opinion, inspecting it on the first day, this pretty design is manmade art, but cameras and audio tape recorders have been reported failing inside it. There is a good deal of variation in the individual flames, more or less as depicted.



CLATFORD TRIPETAL

Appeared May 10th about 140 feet across, in Oilseed Rape (Canola), near Goodworth Clatford, Hants. Uppermost circles are misaligned as shown. Its three-way symmetry reminds us of last year's Danebury Triad, nearby. The smallest circles have less yellow in their middles (gray)

Not yet investigated on the ground.



TWO "THOUGHT BUBBLES"

These two from early summer are of the 1994 "Thought Bubble" type.

A: Newton St Loe (near Bath), Somerset, 125± feet

B: Burntwood, Staffordshire, 150± feet (reliable researchers report the standing circle was originally unfinished, giving it "open jaws").

Diagrams from aerial photos by Ute Sayer.

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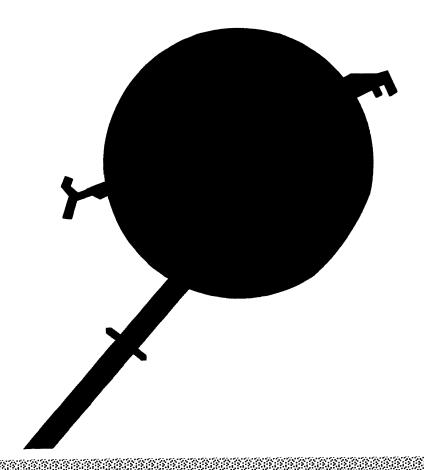
MARLBOROUGH MESS

This 75 foot, amateur "masterpiece" was discovered May 17th just North of Marlborough (SU 194-306), in Barley.

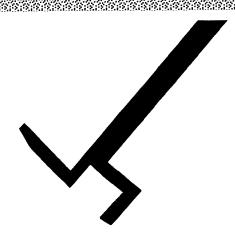
I made the diagram to *shame* the hoaxers.

If it was made by ETs, we have no hope — Aarrg!

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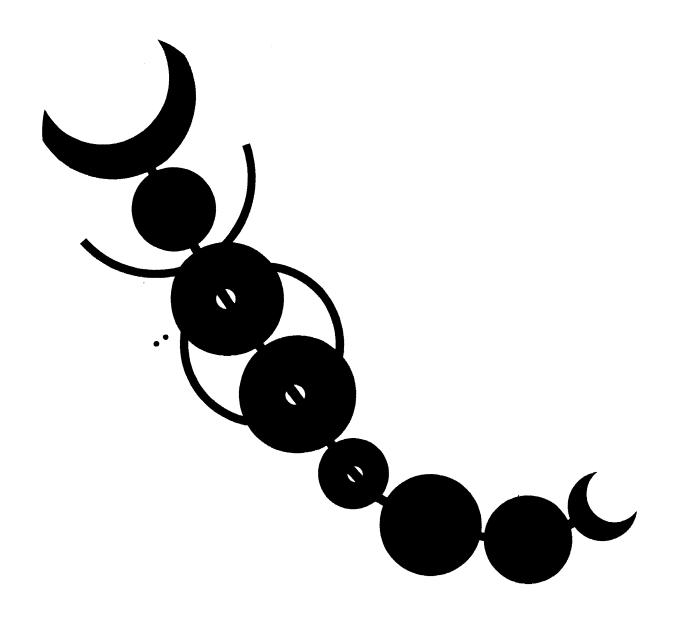
ROAD



WHY DID THE CROP CIRCLE CROSS THE ROAD?

This oddity appeared in wheat at Winterbourne Bassett (SU 105-745) on May 23rd. There was a ring in 1993 that crossed a road, but this may be the only other one. The **F** looked interesting on the ground, and the 60± foot circle was OK.

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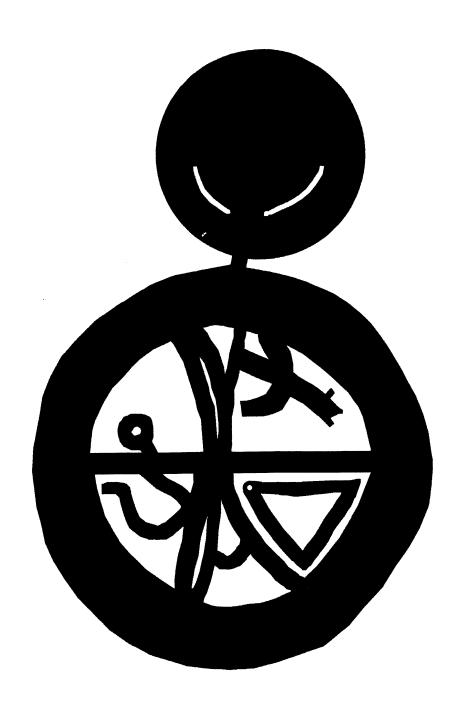
DRAGON LARVA

This nearly 200 ft. long formation in Wiltshire, near Lockeridge (SU 133 666) appeared in barley, May 25th (the same day as the Puzzle Ring).

The lay of the crop is splendid, and unusual.

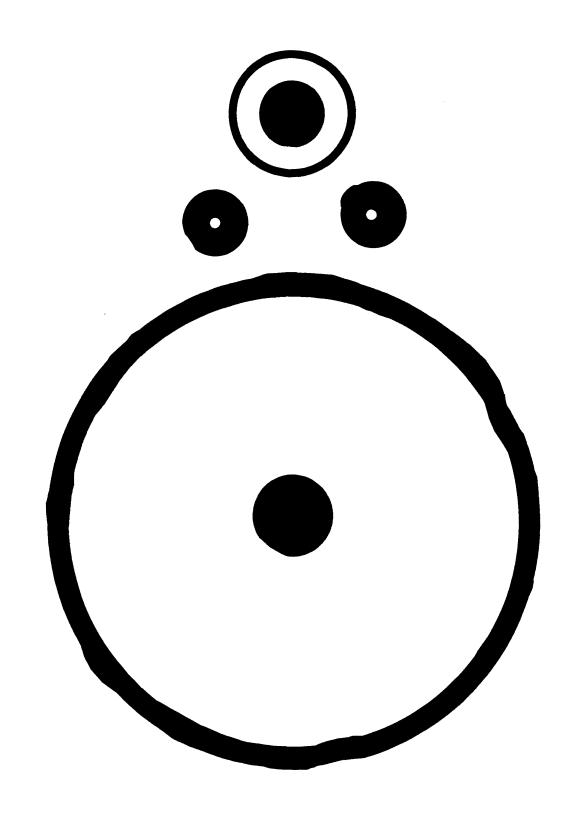
A very wide "construction line" runs the full length of the beast.

No magically bent stalks, but there were many magically standing ones.



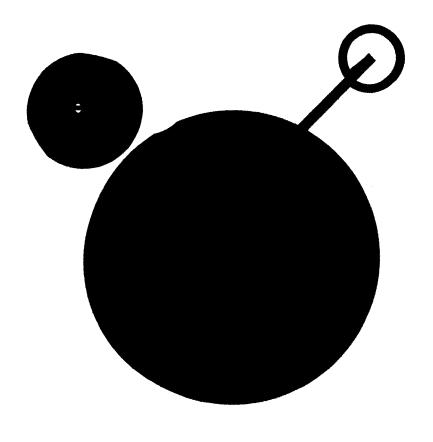
The PUZZLE RING

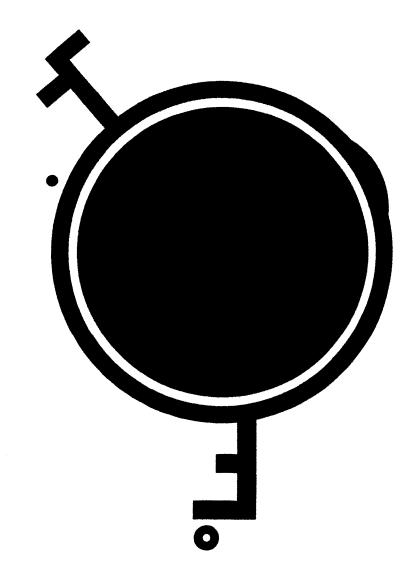
This 100± ft. formation in Barley appeared (on an old Roman road) by the A4 motorway at West Overton (SU 127-685), May 25th. I am puzzled! The lay of the crop is the most spectacular I've ever seen, but from the air it looks simply horrible. I couldn't find any "magically bent" stalks, but there were some magic standing ones. I'm stumped!



RING and CIRCLES

This formation appeared June 1^{st} in oats, a mile south-east of Avebury, where the road from East Kennet joins the A4 at West Kennet (SU 115-683). The ring was about 150^{\pm} diameter. There were many magically bent stalks.





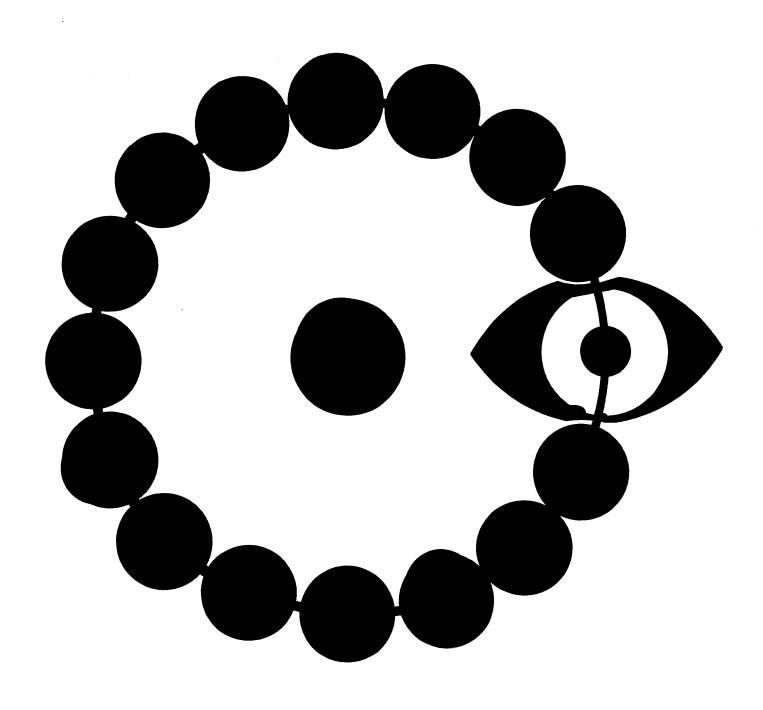
WAGON & HORSES CIRCLES

Appeared in wheat, south-west of Avebury, early in June behind the Wagon and Horses pub (SU 092-689) in Beckhampton. The 100± footer was likely made after a few pints — but by whom?

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CLASSICAL KEY

Discovered June 16th from the air by Andy Potter, in wheat, 60± feet long, at North Farm (SU 136-688), West Overton. The good old, 1990 Alton Barnes "weather symbol" style! It had a remarkable "bird nest" of twisted stalks in it's center, and the stalks in the little ring were bent halfway up their stems.

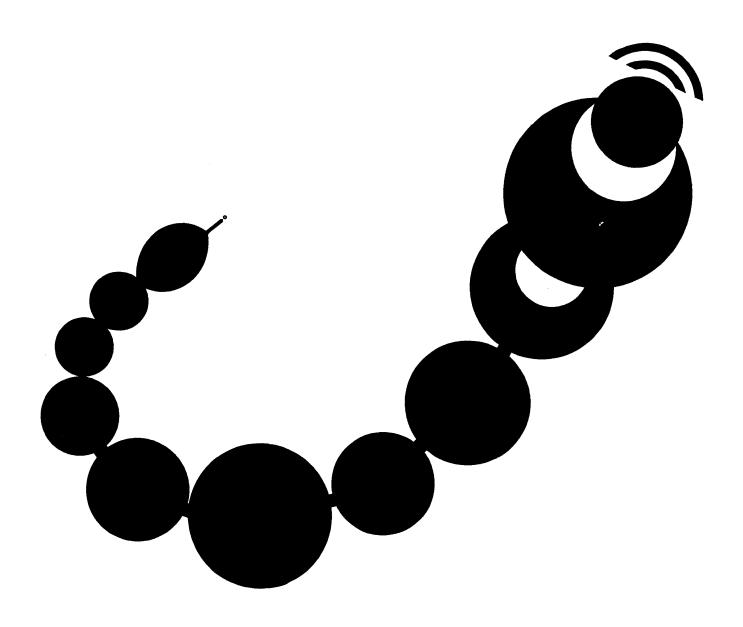


EYE NECKLACE

Appeared on June 5th or 6th on North Down (SU 055[±] 675[±]) along the A361 between Devizes and Beckhampton.

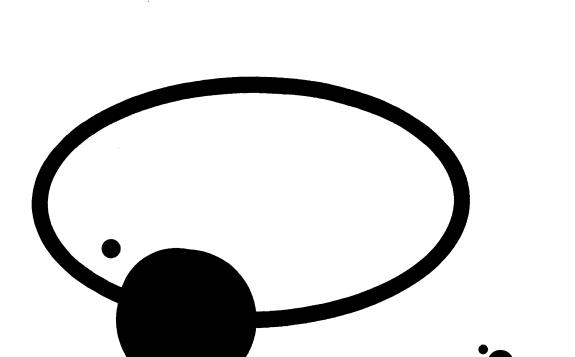
The formation is about 175 feet in diameter, in wheat.

All the solid circles except the pupil and the central circle have *two* swirls, one on each side, flowing in *opposite* directions!



LARVA at the LONGBARROW

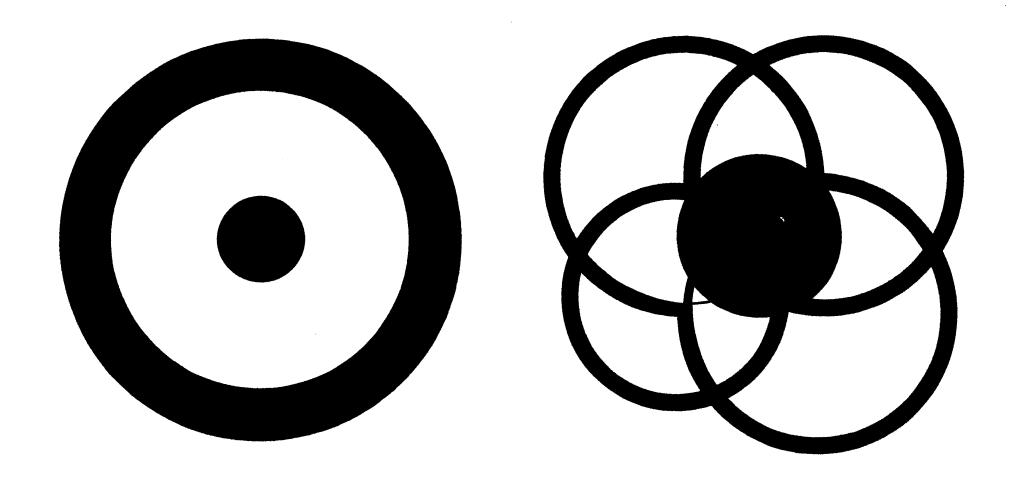
Appeared early in the second week of June, in wheat, near the West Kennet Longbarrow (SU 108-679), in the field next to the "Beltaine Wheel" formation. Very roughly 200 feet long. Heavily wind damaged. Has dual "centers" and bi-directional flow in many circles, like the formation with the eye and ring of circles. Andy Potter found several magically bent stalks in it!



COLLIDING COMET

This frightening formation appeared in barley, June 15th at Hill Barn in the same field as the "Dragon Larva" (SU 130-668).

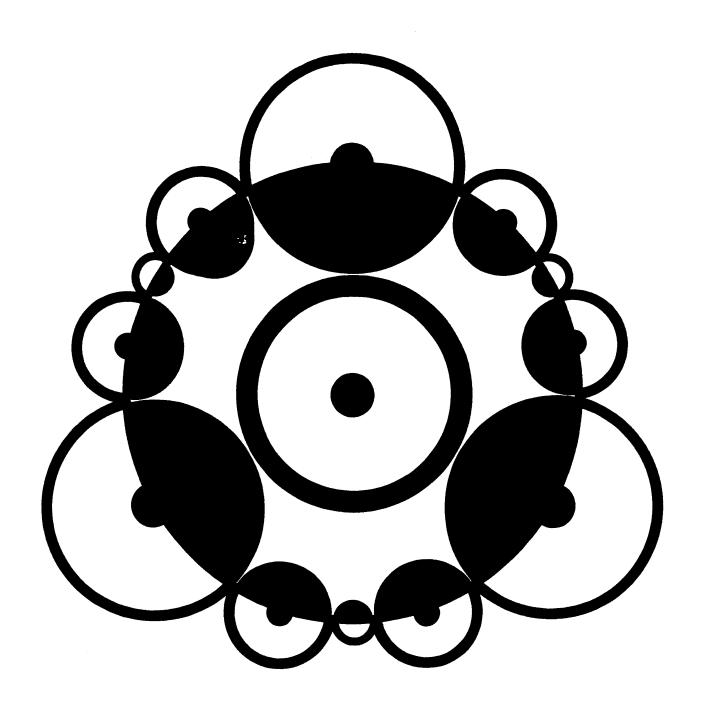
The oval "orbit" is about 80 feet long. Though a very different style, it brings to mind 1995's "Earth is Missing" formation, with a vengeance. (There are two movies this summer about doomsday collisions. Hmm.)



RING and FOUR-LEAF CLOVER

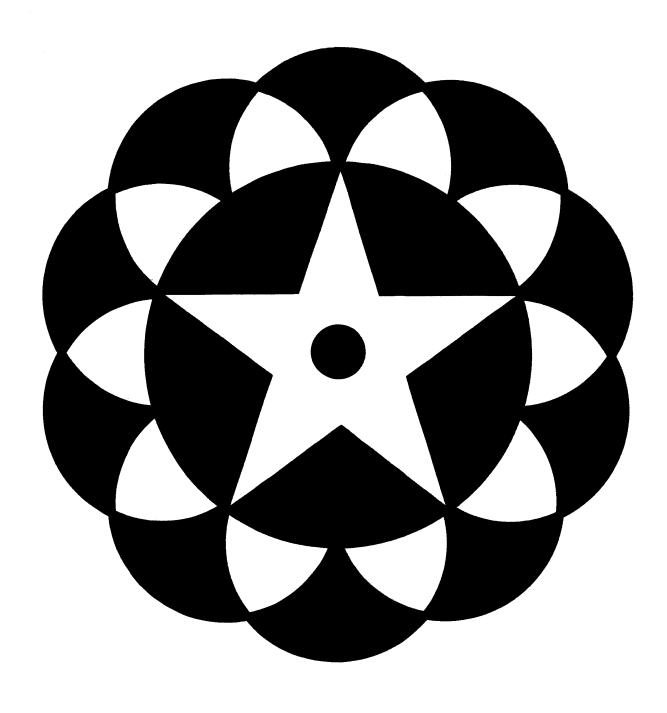
Discovered from the air June 19th by Daniel Darby, west of Chiseldon, Wiltshire, in wheat. The ring (at SU 174-794) was a striking 80[±] footer. A similar, smaller one appeared nearby in August. The Clover (at SU 175-794) was about 150 feet across, with a highly suspicious, unfinished(?) appearance.

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CLANFIELD BROOCH

This intriguing 152ft. geometry arrived June 19th in wheat, near Clanfield, a few miles SW of Petersfield, Hampshire. The egg-shape at upper-left is accurate.

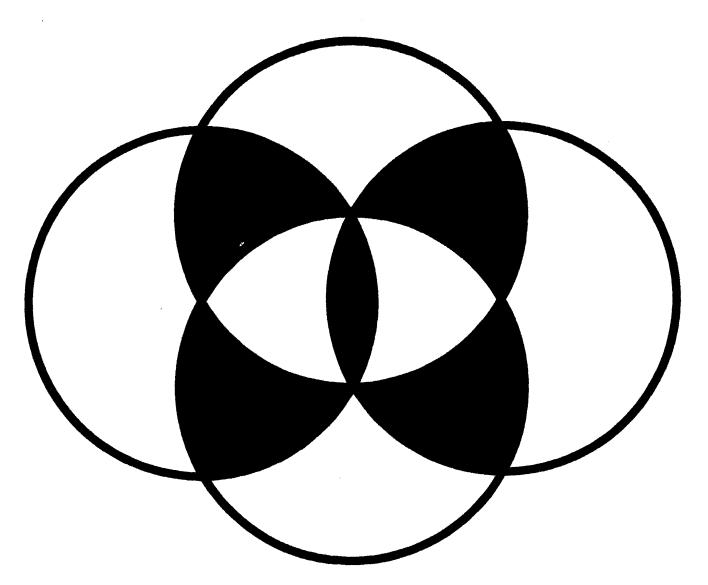


BECKHAMPTON MANDALA

This beautiful star surrounded by lotus petals, obviously reminds one of 1993's "Bythorn Mandala," as well as last year's "Hopi Star."

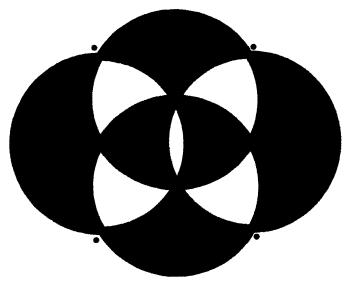
It appeared June 20th at Avebury Trusloe (SU 076-700), west of Beckhampton, on the north side of the A4.

The 220 foot diameter design, in wheat, is in the same field as 1995's "Beckhampton Spiral."



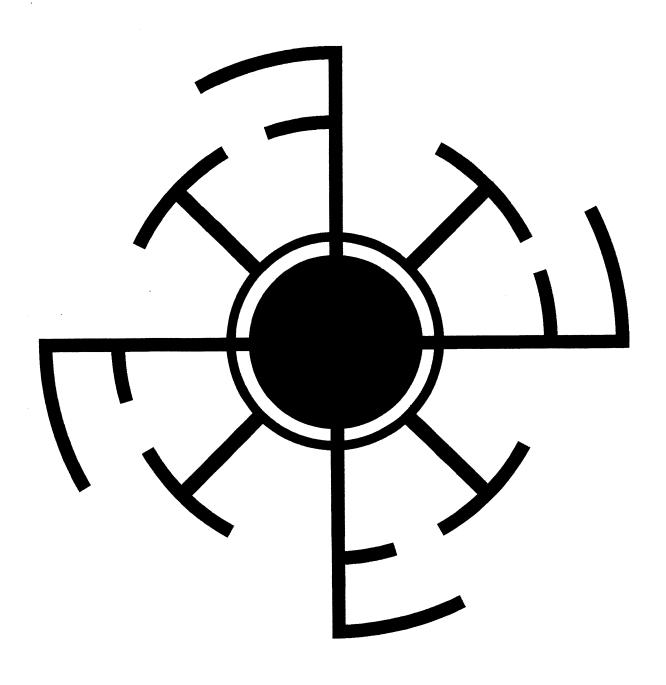
CAT'S EYES

The above feline (or reptilian?!) figure arrived on the Summer Solstice (June 21st), in barley, at Fyfield, Wilts. (SU 154-692), near the neolithic "Devil's Den" dolman stones. The 150± long formation features beautiful alternating overlapping layers where the lay of the crop flows together in the four "corners."



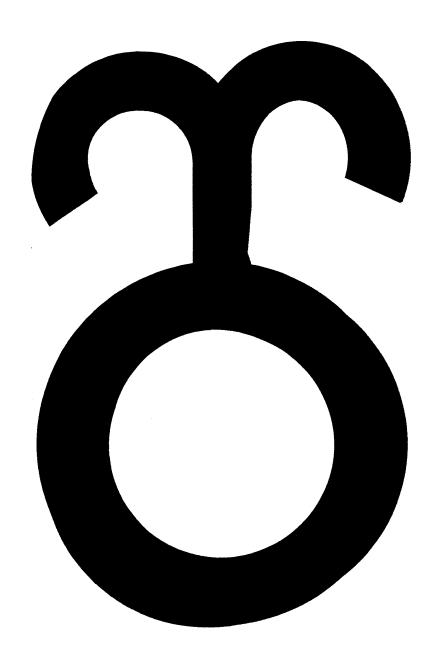
The figure at right arrived the following day, north of Alton Barnes near the Wansdyke (SU 123-650) in wheat. This formation has four grapeshot, with the plants bent halfway up the stems.

The two formations have identical geometry (a sub-set of 1994's "Flower of Life" formation), but flattened and standing areas of crop have been reversed..



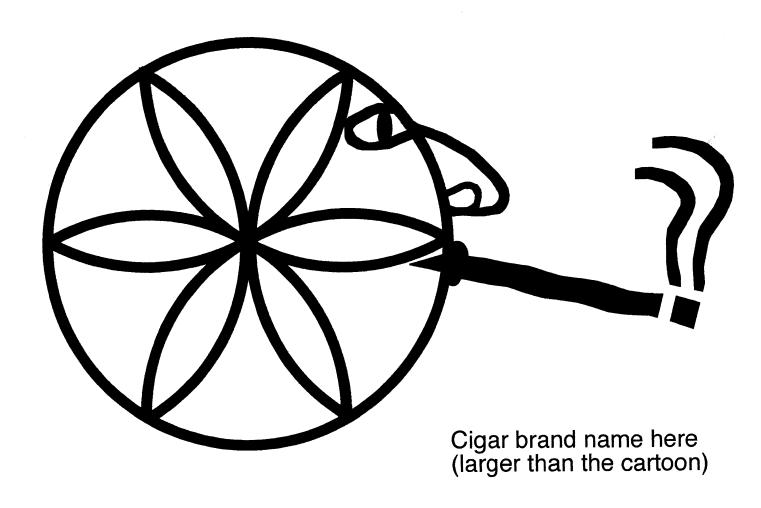
1998 CZECH REPUBLIC

Near Ostrava, June 27th in wheat, about 300 feet across. "Locals observed a green glow in the area shortly before the arrival of the pictogram." Others later saw a rosy light over the formation. From an aerial photo by Petr Novak



ARIES RING

Arrived north of Olivers Castle at Yew Tree Farm (SU 005-663), near Heddington, Wilts., in wheat, early July. It is roughly 75 feet high. Pretty from the air, it was featured in an advert about a new 03 area code.



CIGAR ADVERT

This cartoon, appended to a classical six-petal flower design, was found to the south of the A361 between Beckhampton and Devizes (SU 060-670), in wheat, across the road from the "Eye Necklace."

The name of a well known brand of cigars was written in large letters below. (I won't give them free publicity by mentioning the brand name!)

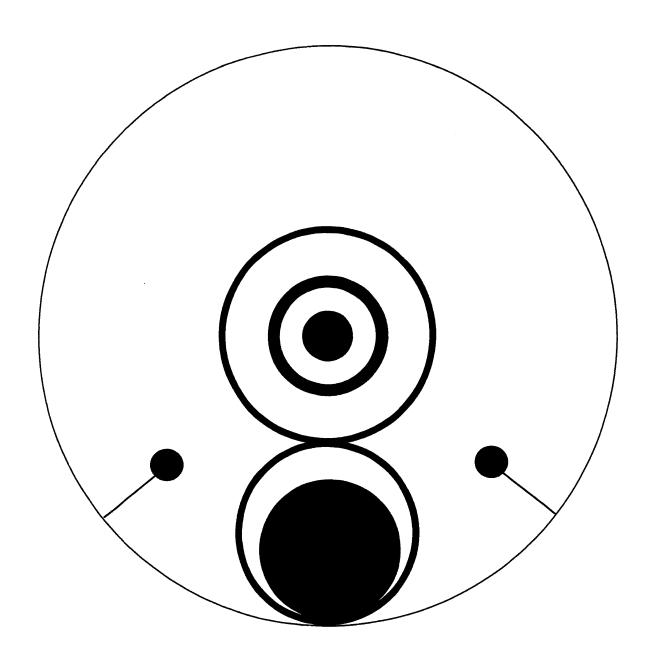
The lay was very nice everywhere — the face and cigar being just like the flower. In fact a few dedicated researchers, including ilyes, declare these parts genuine — a message from the CircleMakers telling us to stop smoking.

At least three croppies told me they take it very seriously, and have stopped!

One of them said he found magically curved stalks in the flower, but I'd have to see them to believe it. I found none, myself.

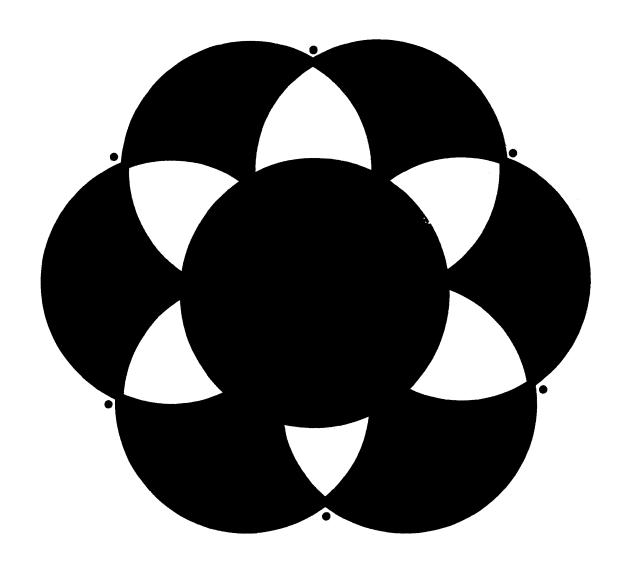
I am forced to accept that people can lay crop down better than I thought!

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DISC and CRESCENT

This very thin 250± foot diameter ring
— so fine you can barely see it clearly from the air —
with a pleasing formation inside, appeared July 1st
near Owslebury, Hampshire, in wheat.
The lines leading to the little circles are part of the design,
not walk-lines, as they point straight at the center,
and there was direct tramline access to one of the circles.

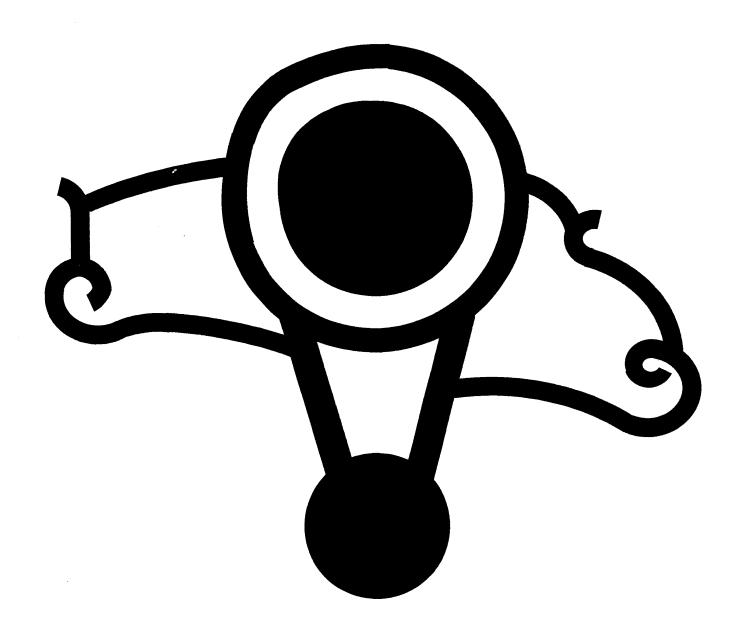


AVEBURY FLOWER

This disturbingly inaccurate* rendition of the Flower of Life sprouted next to the Avebury Stone Avenue (SU 104-695) in wheat, July 3rd. The 150± foot construction is apparently the work of the same entities responsible for the two "Cat's Eye" formations.

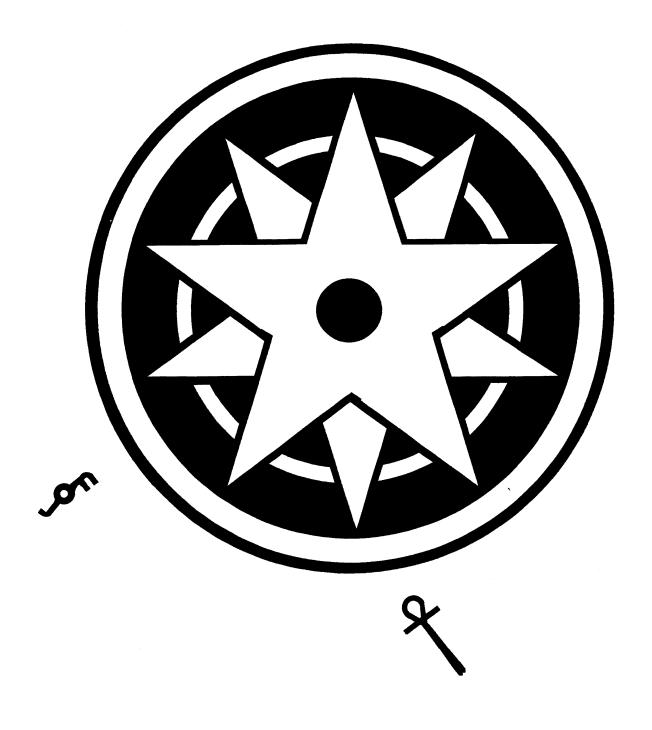
These are all based on overlapping circles, and have tiny signature circles with the crop bent halfway up the stems.

*I may well be missing something, but from the air this looks more like a botched job than a profound revelation of sacred geometry.



BALLOON in the CLOUDS

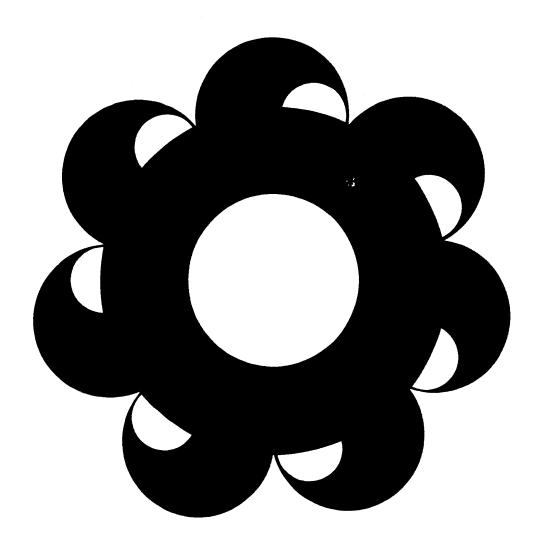
This graceful 131 foot design arrived early July, north of Marlborough (SU 192-712), in wheat. The Czech research team, probably first in the formation, reported clear stomper-board marks.



DOUBLE STAR

The series of pentagrams that began with 1993's "Bythorn Mandala," returned with last year's "Hopi Star," and again this June at Beckhampton, continued with this powerful white/black magic design, July 4th at Dadford, Buckinghamshire.

The 175± foot diameter design, in wheat, had two immaculate little signatures, (a third arrived later) which thrill some researchers, but look suspicious to others.

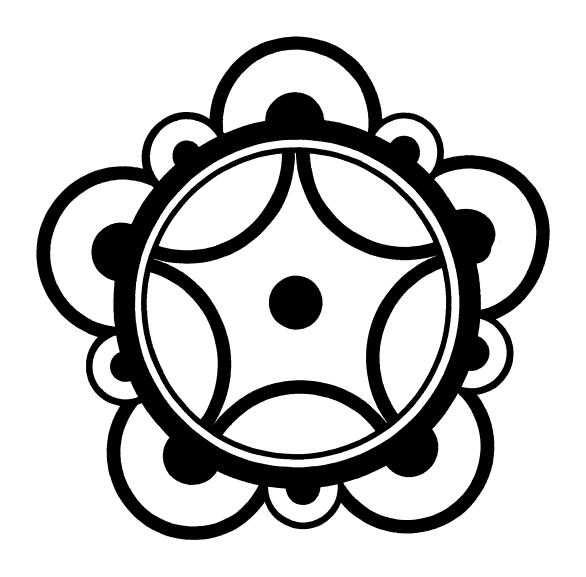


SEVEN CRESCENTS

Arrived near Danebury Ring hill fort (SU 335-375), four miles south of Andover, Hampshire, early in July.

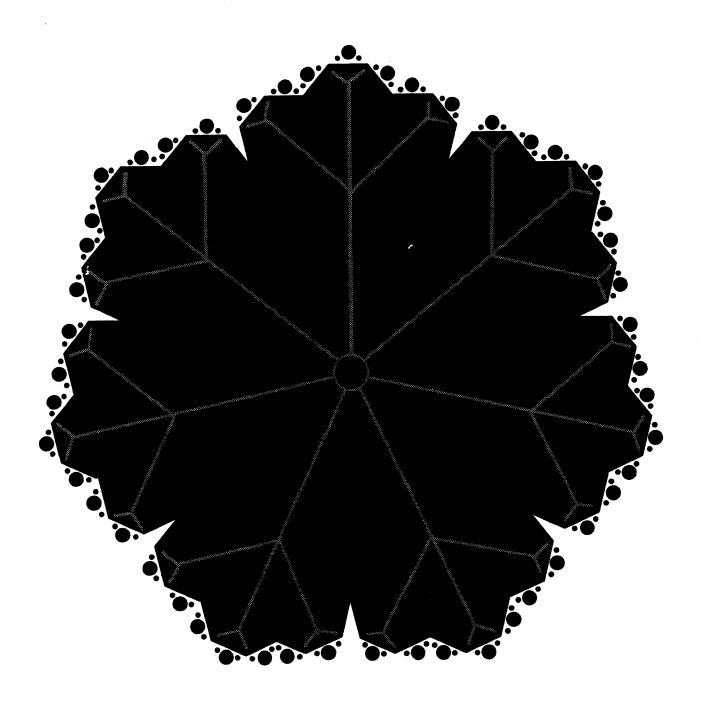
The formation, in wheat, was 150ft. across.

It is the first design based on seven units that I know of, although there have been sevens *hidden* in the geometry before.



DIATOM

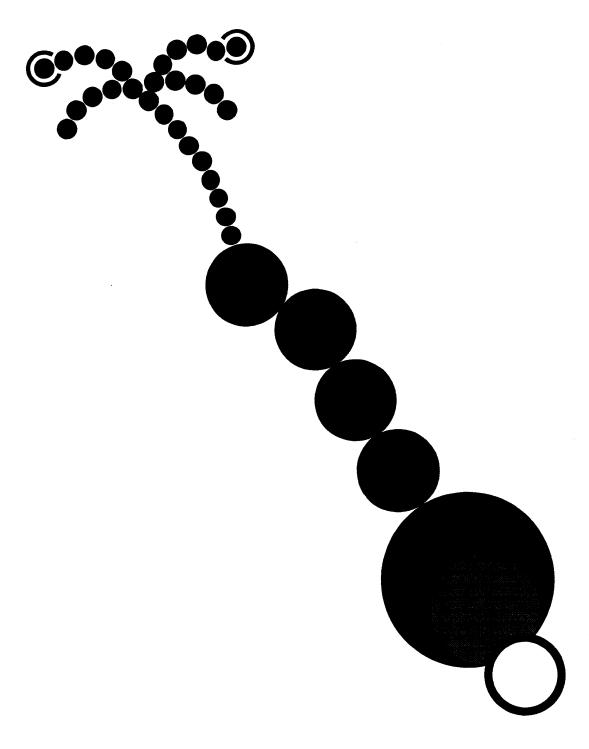
This formation, obviously similar to the "Clanfield Brooch," appeared in wheat near Farnham, Hampshire, on July 7th. The 220+ foot design suggests the microscopic sea creatures which compose the chalk that is so prevalent in England. Recent work by Steven Page & Glenn Broughton shows that crop circles frequently occur where chalk and greensand hold underground water.



SEVEN-FOLD SNOWFLAKE

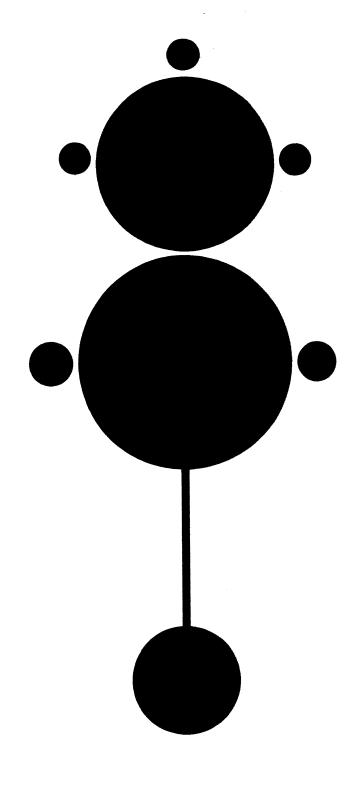
This stunning, 295ft. fractal arrived in the East Field (SU 119-629) at Alton Barnes, on July 9th, surrounded by 147 little circles, and with a thick, tightly twisted "bird's nest" of wheat in the center. The seven-sided geometry was *most unusual* — but *there were others* this summer. From the air it looked like a many-faceted jewel, due to the crop being laid in different directions within areas suggested by the gray lines.

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The HYDRA

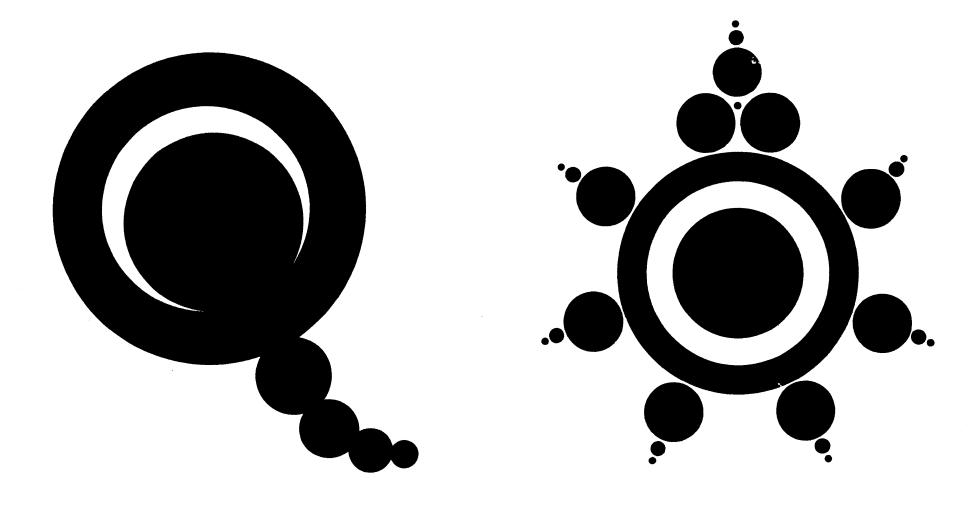
Emerged in wheat, July 10th, at West Woods (SU 125-661)
near Lockeridge Dean, Wilts., in the field where the famous "Whale" was in 1991.
The 300± foot beast is similar to the "Dragon Larva"
in the field across the road. But that one, and it's cousin near the Longbarrow, have meter-wide construction lines, while this one has none at all.
The shaded area in the large circle represents a roughly round area where the crop is laid differently.



CELTIC CLOCK

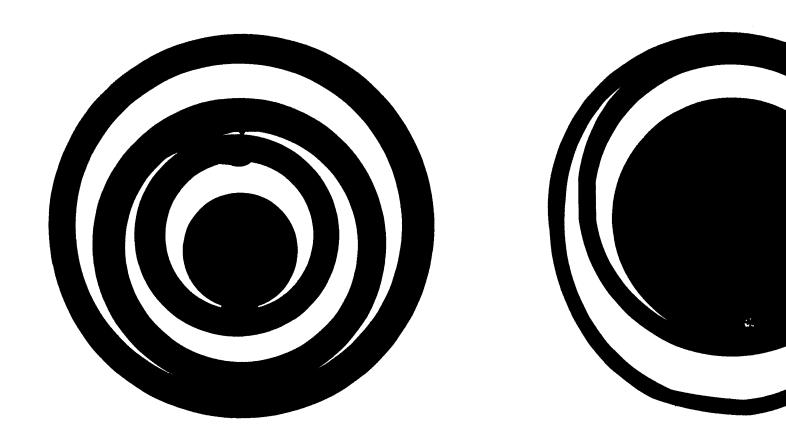
Arrived mid-July, north of Marlborough (SU 176-711), in wheat. The 180± foot-long formation is like a classical "dumbbell," but with an extra circle; while the small circles suggest the early "Celtic cross" or "quintuplet" patterns.

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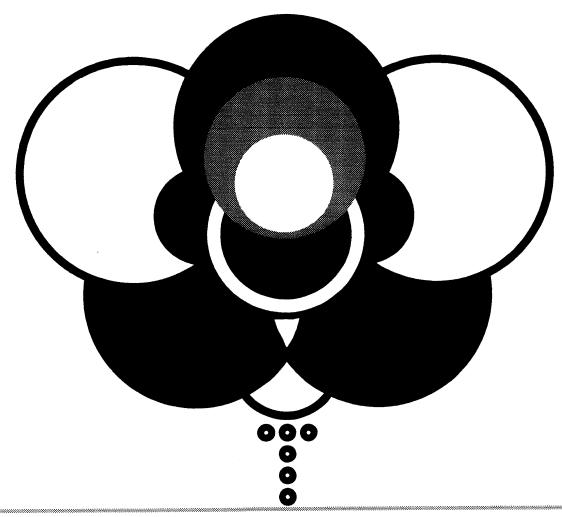
TWO AT DANEBURY RING

These two arrived in the same wheat field (SU 328-373) close to the Iron Age hillfort calledDanebury Ring, in late July or early August. They were both, 160± feet long, and about twice as far apart as shown here. The one on the left is a 1994-style "thought bubble" formation. The other is an innovative design, surrounded by circles which play games with the numbers six, seven, eight and nine. Researcher Ed Sherwood had recently written about the importance of Nine in the circle phenomenon.



TWO NESTED CRESCENTS

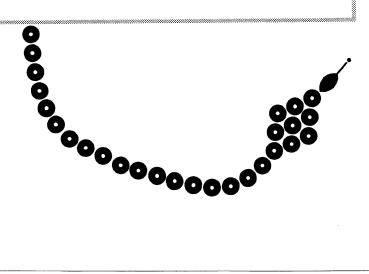
These were several miles apart in south Wiltshire, in late July or early August, in wheat. The one on the left was about a mile south-east from Danebury hillfort. I'm not sure where the other was. Both were about 80 feet in diameter, but small and rather rough compared to the great crescents in 1995.

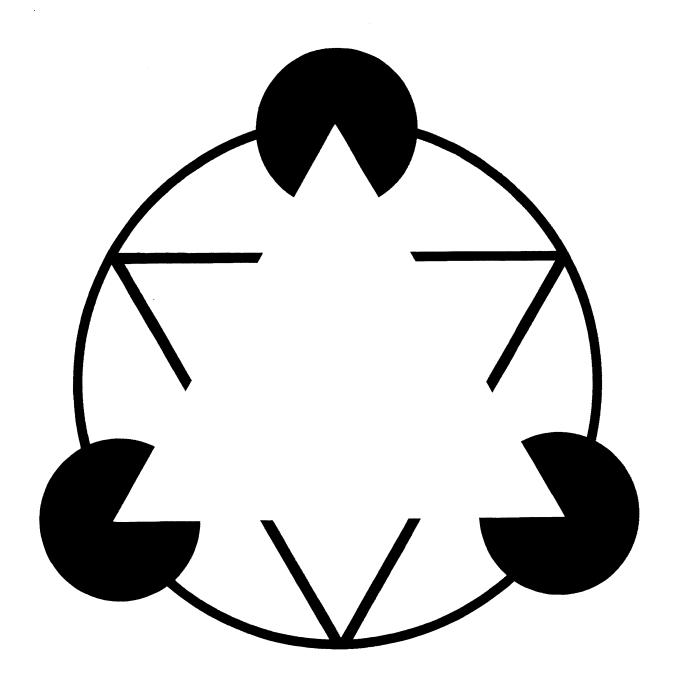


STINGRAY

Similar to this year's "Dragon Larva" series, in both design and construction, this awesome creature is *something* else again! It arrived on the A361, half a kilometer past the Beckhampton roundabout (SU 082-661), in wheat, July 21st.

The body is some 200+ feet wide, and the tail, which consists of 52 circles in all (this text block covers 17), must be over 300 feet if straightened. The shaded area represents crop laid counter to the surrounding crop.





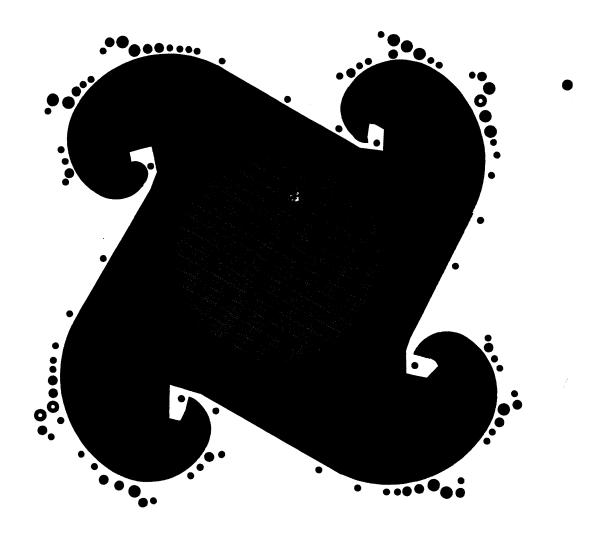
DARK TRIANGLE

This optical illusion formation appeared in Belgium at Leystraat Huise, near Oudenaarde, on July 22nd.

It is 91.2 meters (about 300 feet) in diameter.

The newspaper report says that hoaxers paid the farmer to let them make it. Hmmm.

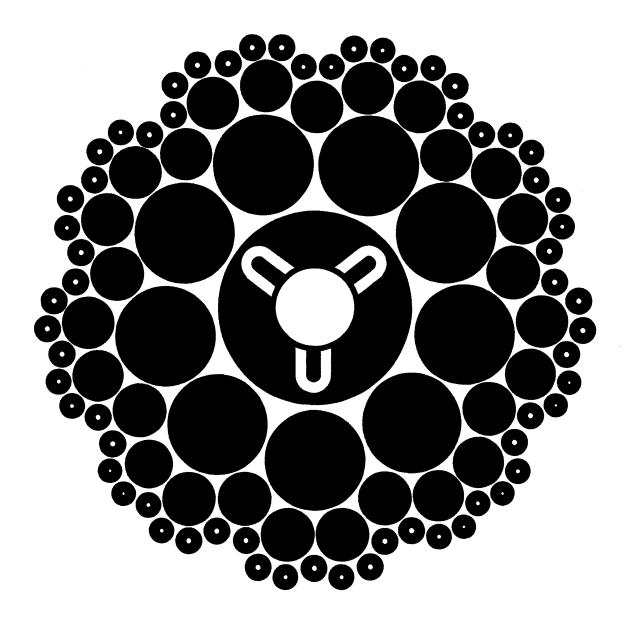
The name, suggested by Ulrich Kox, alludes to the triangular UFOs seen in Belgium.



SILBURY JULIA SET

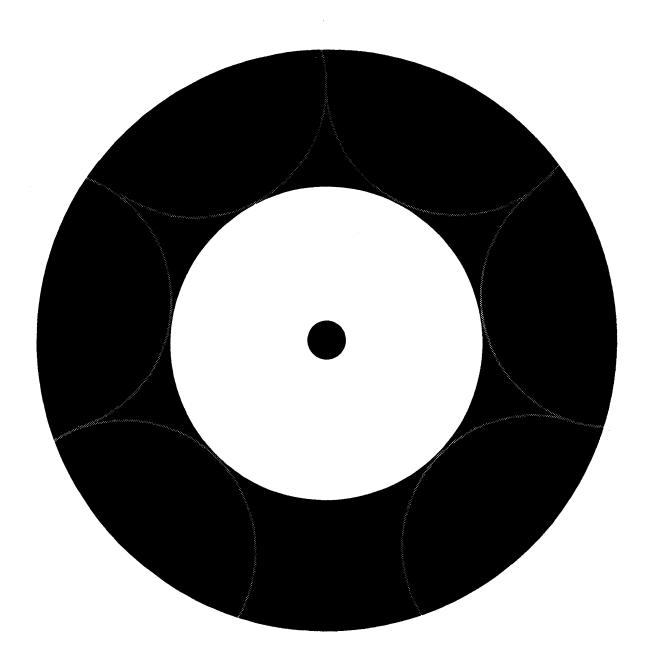
This four-arm* Julia set, over 200ft across, arrived on July 24th in the same wheat field where the first Koch Star appeared last year. This one is created very differently from the 1996 Julia Sets at Stonehenge and Windmill Hill, which were made entirely out of circles. The formation *is* slightly lopsided, the insides of the curves oddly angular, and there is considerable variation in the placement of the grapeshot. The lay of the crop follows the contours of the shape, except for a large circular swirl (shaded area) which isn't quite centered.

I have omitted a crude "D" which I *doubt* was part of the original. (Sorry, A.T!) *There are an infinite variety of Julia sets, with different numbers of arms.



BBC BUBBLE BATH

The BBC apparently commissioned "Team Satan," the infamous crew that made the NBC formation in New Zealand, to create this 150+ footer near Milk Hill (SU 095-630) at Stanton St. Bernard, Wiltshire — sparking heated debate. A few investigators believe that *it is in fact genuine*, and only *claimed* by the hoaxers. [See essay by *ilyes* on the CropCircle Connector web site.] Because it is "self-similar" on different scales, it is a fractal. The BBC "Country File" program will air in January.

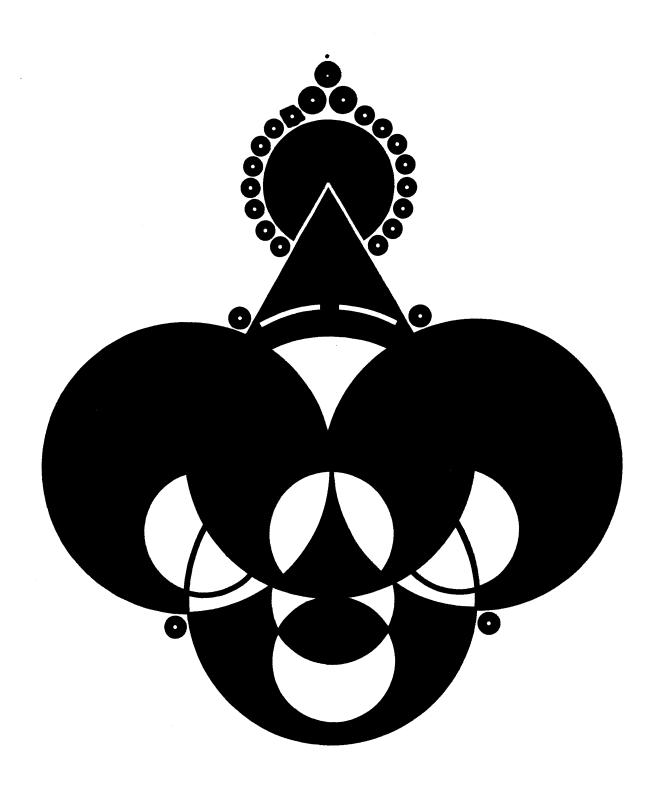


AVEBURY RING

An exceedingly large and thick ring appeared near Avebury (SU 106-704) in wheat, August 2nd.

The 300± foot diameter formation is in the same field where the "Web" or "DreamCatcher" was in 1994.

Six thin arcs can be seen in the laid crop, which *slightly* overlap one another in an odd way, and leave a large gap in the ring.

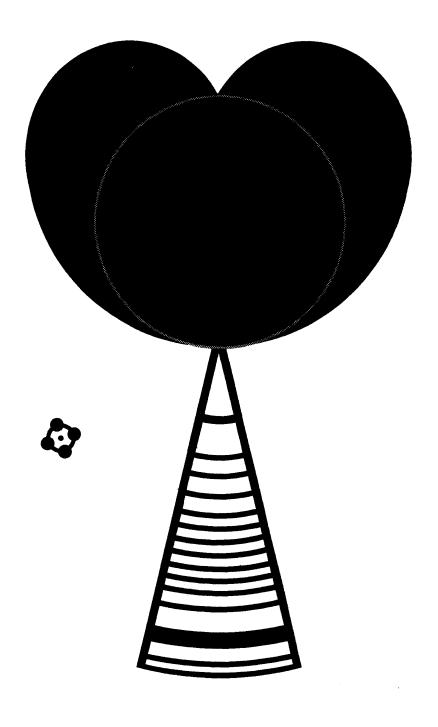


THE QUEEN

This remarkable 400[±] ft. formation arrived August 6th near Lockeridge (SU 139-666) in the same wheat field as the "Hydra."

She featured lays swirling in multiple directions within the big circles, which when seen from the air, created additional, gleaming geometry.

At the top of her crown is a tiny circle with stems bent halfway down, trade-marking her as the culmination of an evolving family of formations that began this year with the "Dragon Larva" (in the field across the road), and went on to spawn at least ten more, including the "Cat's Eyes," the "Avebury Flower," the "Hydra," and the "Stingray."

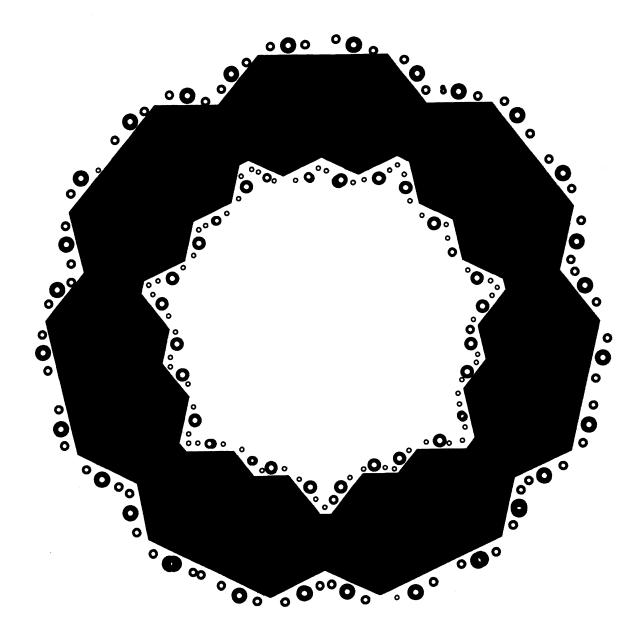


HEARTBEAT

This surprising, and positive, formation was found August 8th north of Portsmouth. It was about 150± feet long, in wheat The cartoid shape is very similar to the Mandelbrot Set crop circle, but the lay of the crop was very different.

This one formed around a large circle (gray line), while the crop in the M-Set simply followed the heart shape.

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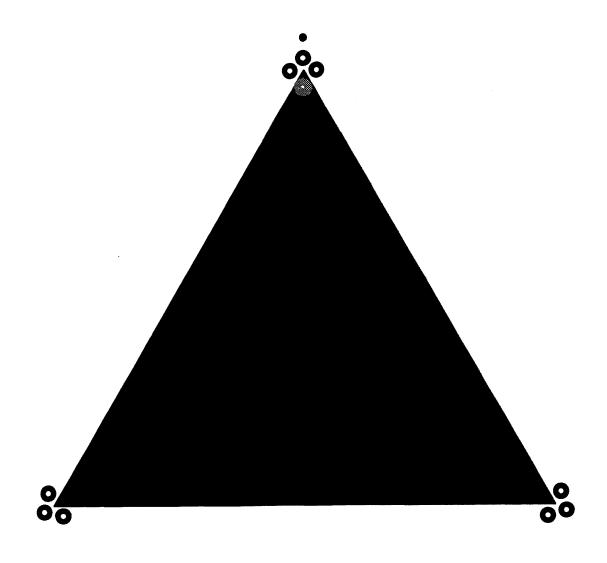
MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

This 300± foot wheat formation arrived next to Tawsmead Copse (SU 130-620) in West Stowell, Wilts., on August 9th.

It was the predicted sequel to the East Field's "Seven-Fold Fractal."

Many of the 175 little circles had spectacular "bird's nests"
in their centers, and there were a few that were like figure eights!
Since I am unable to distinguish bird's nests from standing or flatened centers in the aerial shot, I've simply rendered them all the same.

The circles are erratically placed, as shown, often due to conflicts with the tramlines.

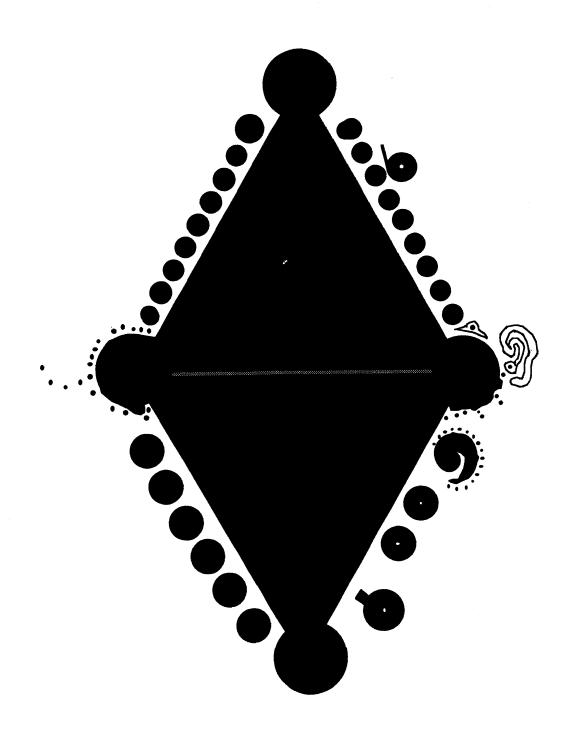


TITANIC TRIANGLE

At 100+ feet, the largest triangular formation in history arrived in Yatesbury Field (SU 075-703), Yatesbury, Wilts., close to the "Beckhampton Mandala," in wheat, August 10th.

The stalks in the tiny grapeshot at the apex are bent halfway down their stems — the trademark of the "Dragon-Larva/Cat's Eye/Stingray/Queen" CircleMaker.

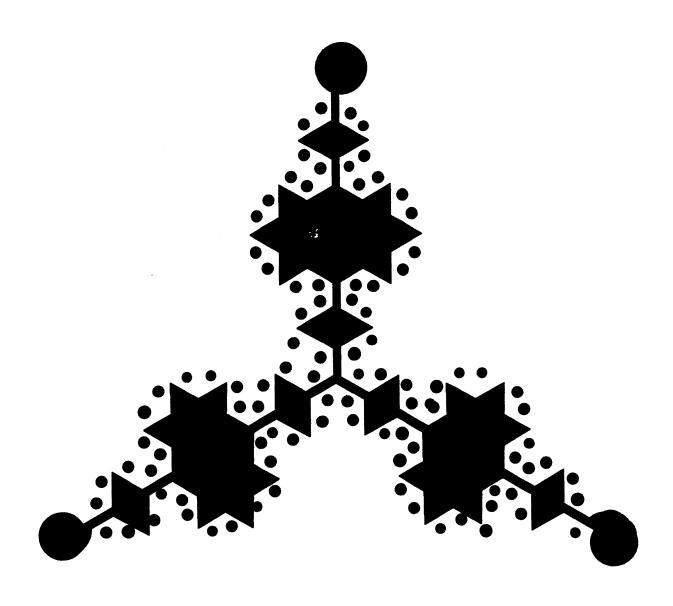
And there is a circular swirl with standing center *inside* the apex (gray). Master Nan Lu collected *magically bent stalks* from the formation.



LINSEED TRIANGLES

The first formation in linseed (flax) in *years* appeared at Stanton St. Bernard (SU 084-626) on August 17th. (Sadly, the blue flowers were already gone!)

It consisted of two conjoined triangles that were precisely laid, surrounded by many reasonably good looking circles, and *a lot of junk*. This would have been a knockout formation if all that ugly decoration had been left off!



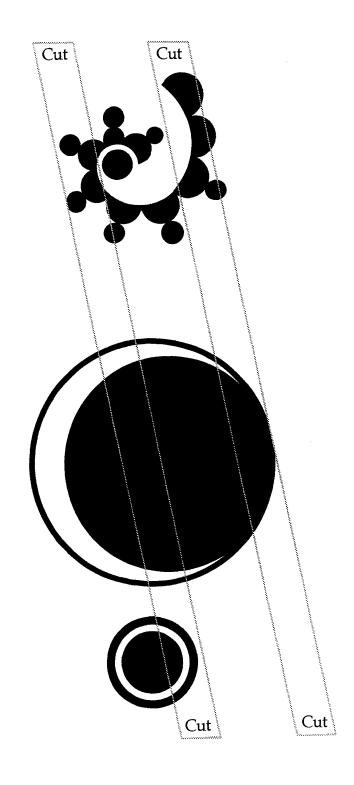
FRACTAL FANTASY

The Koch "Snowflake" returns in an utterly unforeseen* form!
Appeared August 17th north of Avebury, below Hackpen Hill,
near where another member of the family appeared in the same field
last summer, which was the final formation of that year.

This one is about 150 feet from corner to corner.

*AJ pointed out that it is based on an "inside-out Koch island"
which appears in "Fractals — Images of Chaos," by Hans Lauwerier.
Except the formation turns that inside-out... it's difficult to explain!

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SPIRAL and CRESCENT

This odd mix of elements appeared north of Bath on August 17th, in wheat, some 300± feet long. As far as I know, Ulrich Kox took the only aerial photos, and the farmer was cutting it out just as he flew over! The dotted diagonal areas represent where the combine obliterated the design. I have had to guess at the missing parts.



STANTON ST BOBARD

This formation mysteriously appeared on this piece of paper the other day in corny (BOB 808-808). Residents of the local village were mystified when a loud (bobbing) sound was heard for miles around. Initial ground tests show a high level of jam in the lay of the BOB. This is a one of the infinite varieties in the BOB set. On initial visits people speak of an overwhelming feeling of "slackness" rushing through there veins © 1998 Bob B. Bøbensen

I DIDN'T MAKE THIS - IT APPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY ON THE WALL AT THE BARGE. AMAZING!



Peter Sørensen Videographer / Journalist
40 Wakerield, #2 The Green, Alton Priors, Wilts. SN8 4JX

September 5, 1998

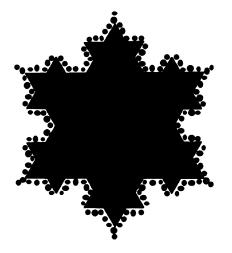
OPEN LETTER TO MARK FUSSELL: ANOTHER WEIRD COINCIDENCE

Dear Mark,

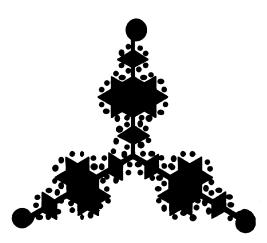
I've just discovered another of those bizarre things that convinces me that crop circles are far more mysterious than "just flattened corn."

Three background facts:

- 1) Supporters of the, it's-all-a-hoax theory, usually credit the circle-making crew known as Team Satan as the makers of the fractal crop formations, in particular the Koch Snowflake/Star of David.
- 2) For certain, Team Satan was hired by Mitsubishi to make a representation of a car in the East Field, for a TV commercial.
- 3) One of the last formations of this summer was an unusual inside-out variation of the Koch formation [thanks to A.J. for the tip!].



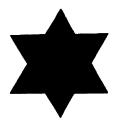


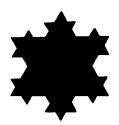


INSIDE-OUT KOCH

The original Koch Snowflake is a fractal made by starting with a triangle, adding smaller triangles to each side, and repeating the process:







The inside-out version is constructed by *subtracting* triangles:



Now, you may have recognized that **the Mitsubishi logo is the permutation at second from left**. Yup — their logo is three red diamonds arranged exactly like that. (The three diamonds are from an ancient Japanese coat of arms, far older that the math of Helge von Koch — so the car company didn't contact the hoaxers because the gang had already made a star/snowflake that was related to their logo.)

What strikes me as really odd, is that Team Satan is said to have constructed the Koch snowflake/star crop circle a *year* before they made the Mitsubishi car. What are the odds of this coincidence? How unlikely that there would be a car logo hidden in the math. That there was, and that particular company decide to commission a "crop car," and hired these particular guys — not a chance in Hell!

It would indeed be proof of their Satanic identity, if they had seen the future, and reverse-engineered the logo to fabricate the first star. A *devilishly* clever trick! (Following up later with the reverse Koch crop formation would be a brilliant, but humanly possible, in-joke.)

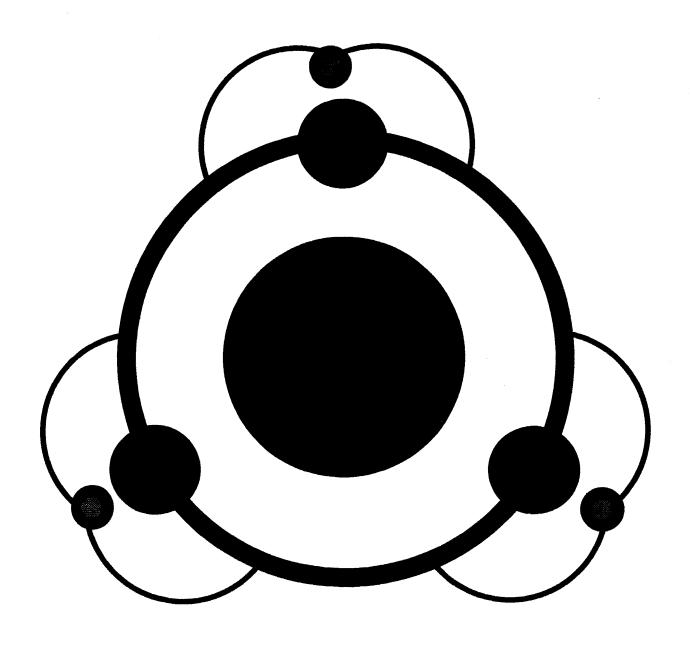
Or, if we assume that the circles are made by a benevolent, non-human agency (ETs?), we should be prepared to accept They might have powers similar, or greater, than the Dark Side. This scenerio feels like They are poking fun at Team Satan.

In fact, I think this this weirdness has just the flavor of what I would call cosmic humor. There are countless examples of this kind of thing weaving around, like Zen koans, through the circles mystery.

Whatever/whoever pushes down the crop to make the formations, there is something BIG behind the phenomenon, which has a god-like overview of everything involved. And I've seen other examples where it transcends time. Investigating this mystery, I feel like I'm peeling away layers of an onion that's crossed with a labyrinth! Whatever is going on, there is an unknown Intelligence — with a superb sense of humor — involved. And the World has been changed for the better, thanks to He/She/They/It.



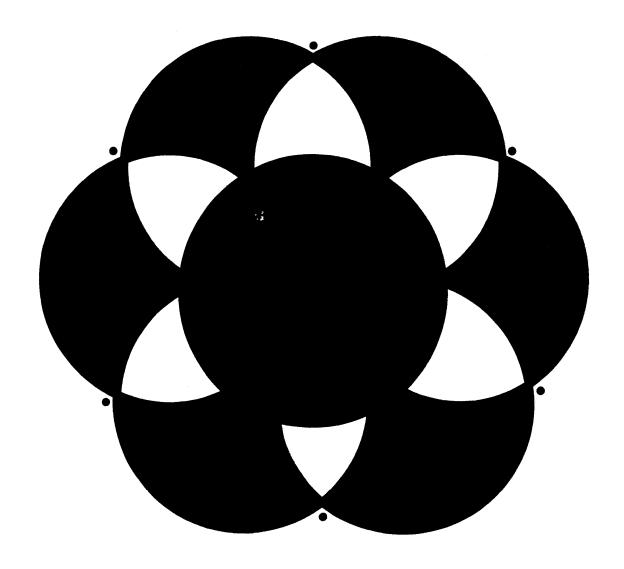
PS: Team Satan member John Lunburg says they were first approached by Mitsubishi in June of '98.



CLATFORD TRIPETAL

Appeared May 10th about 140 feet across, in Oilseed Rape (Canola), near Goodworth Clatford, Hants. Uppermost circles are misaligned as shown. Its three-way symmetry reminds us of last year's Danebury Triad, nearby. The smallest circles have less yellow in their middles (gray)

Not yet investigated on the ground.

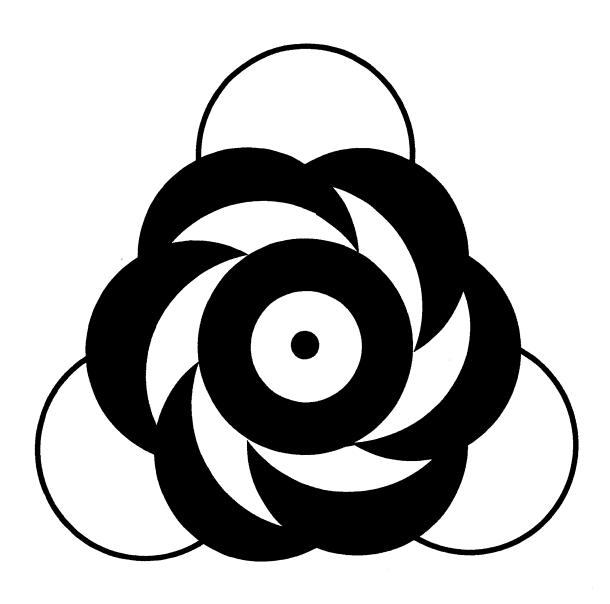


AVEBURY FLOWER

This disturbingly inaccurate* rendition of the Flower of Life sprouted next to the Avebury Stone Avenue (SU 104-695) in wheat, July 3rd. The 150± foot construction is apparently the work of the same entities responsible for the two "Cat's Eye" formations.

These are all based on overlapping circles, and have tiny signature circles with the crop bent halfway up the stems.

*I may well be missing something, but from the air this looks more like a botched job than a profound revelation of sacred geometry.

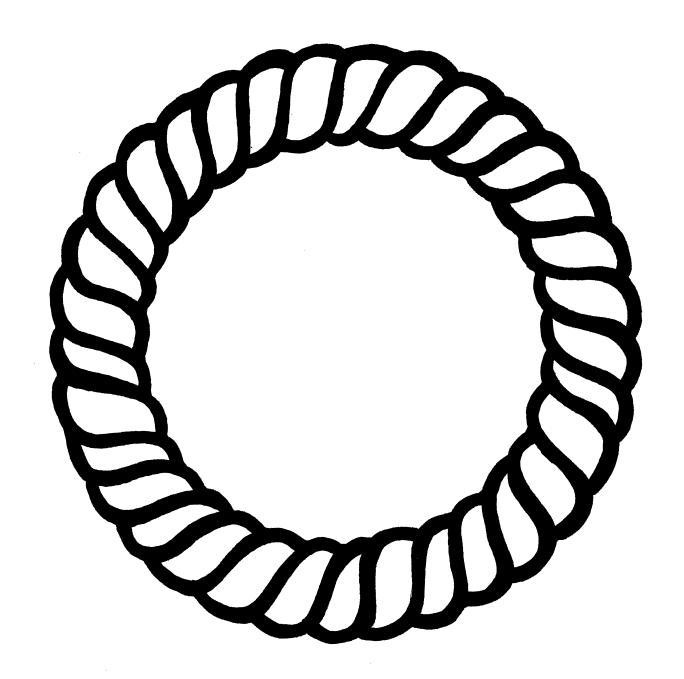


SPINNING CRESCENTS II

This handsome 300+ footer appeared August 19th 1998 near the Avebury Sanctuary, in wheat.

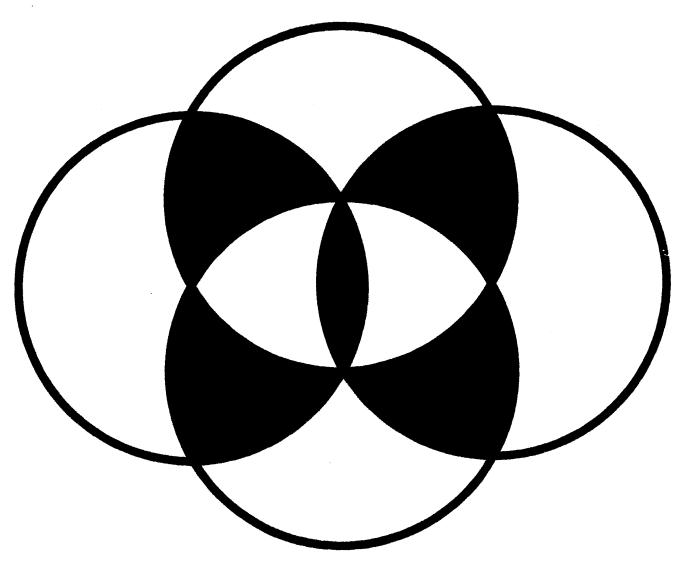
It is obviously similar to the first formation last year, the "Spinning Crescents," below Barbury Castle, and both are descended from 1996's "Littlebury Blossom.".

© 1998 Peter R. Sørensen Aug. 29th



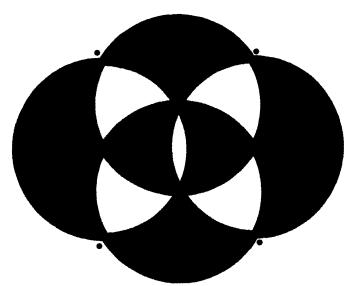
BELTAINE WHEEL

Arrived May 4th below the West Kennet Longbarrow, in sight of Silbury Hill. The 220 ft. circle with 33 surrounding "flames," is in canola (oilseed rape). In my opinion, inspecting it on the first day, this pretty design is manmade art, but cameras and audio tape recorders have been reported failing inside it. *There is a good deal of variation in the individual flames, more or less as depicted.*



CAT'S EYES

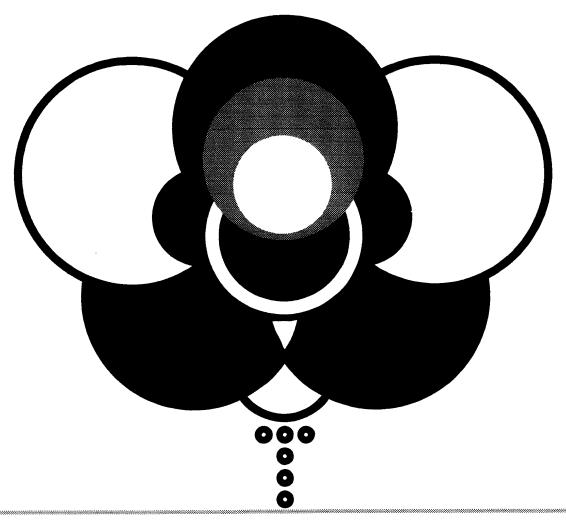
The above feline (or reptilian?!) figure arrived on the Summer Solstice (June 21st), in barley, at Fyfield, Wilts. (SU 154-692), near the neolithic "Devil's Den" dolman stones. The 150± long formation features beautiful alternating overlapping layers where the lay of the crop flows together in the four "corners."



The figure at right arrived the following day, north of Alton Barnes near the Wansdyke (SU 123-650) in wheat. This formation has four grapeshot, with the plants bent *halfway* up the stems.

The two formations have identical geometry (a sub-set of 1994's "Flower of Life" formation), but flattened and standing areas of crop have been reversed..

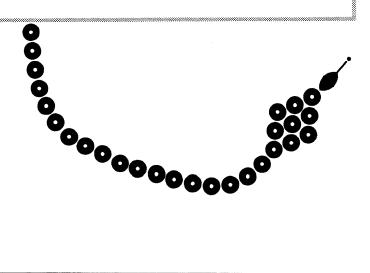
© 1998 Peter R. Sørensen

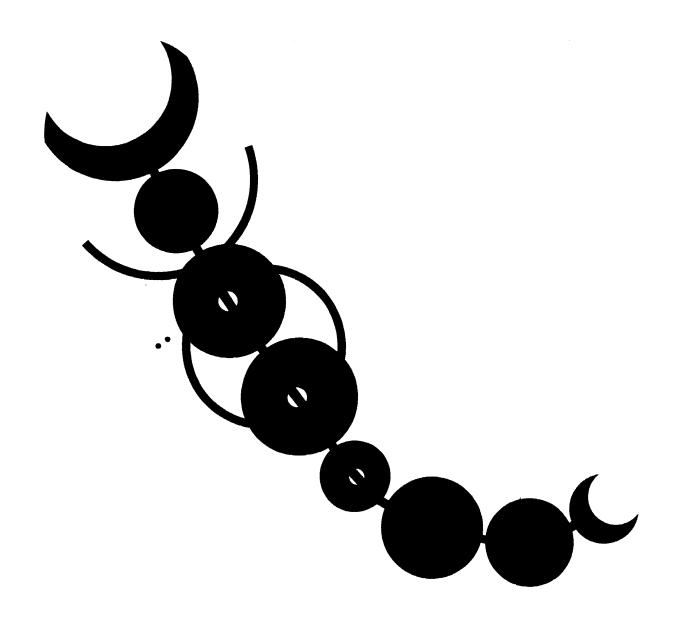


STINGRAY

Similar to this year's "Dragon Larva" series, in both design and construction, this awesome creature is *something* else again! It arrived on the A361, half a kilometer past the Beckhampton roundabout (SU 082-661), in wheat, July 21st.

The body is some 200+ feet wide, and the tail, which consists of 52 circles in all (this text block covers 17), must be over 300 feet if straightened. The shaded area represents crop laid counter to the surrounding crop.





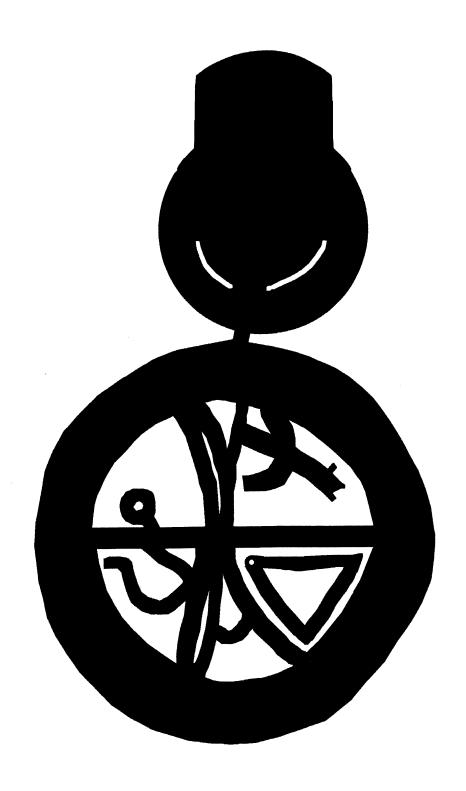
DRAGON LARVA

This nearly 200 ft. long formation in Wiltshire, near Lockeridge (SU 133 666) appeared in barley, May 25th (the same day as the Puzzle Ring).

The lay of the crop is splendid, and unusual.

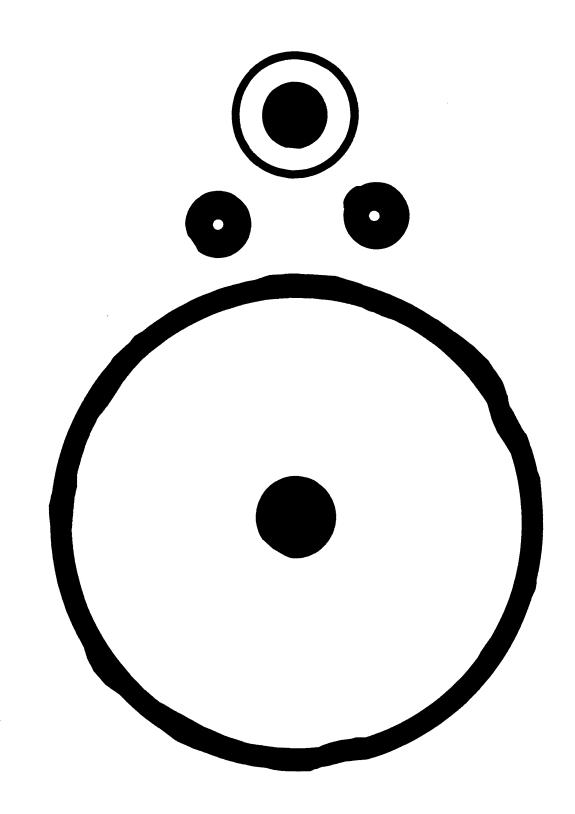
A very wide "construction line" runs the full length of the beast.

No magically bent stalks, but there were many magically standing ones.



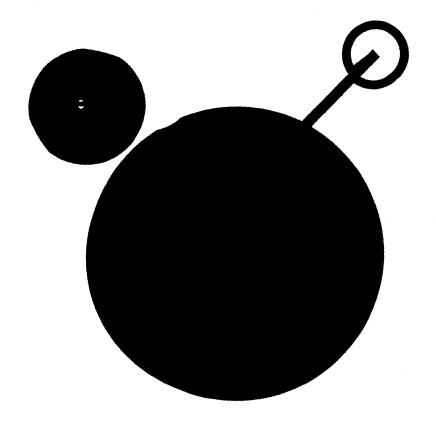
The PUZZLE RING

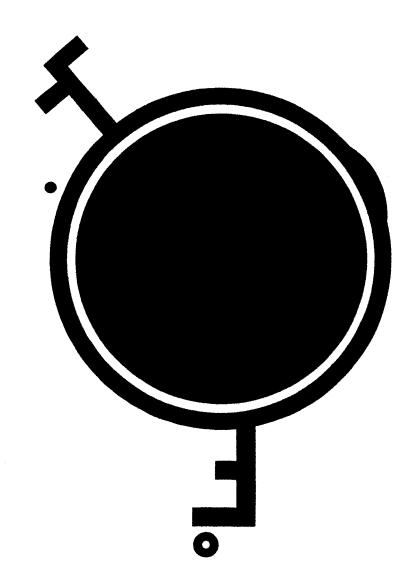
This 100± ft. formation in Barley appeared (on an old Roman road) by the A4 motorway at West Overton (SU 127-685), May 25th. I am puzzled! The lay of the crop is the most spectacular I've ever seen, but from the air it looks simply horrible. I couldn't find any "magically bent" stalks, but there were some magic standing ones. I'm stumped!



RING and CIRCLES

This formation appeared June 1st in oats, a mile south-east of Avebury, where the road from East Kennet joins the A4 at West Kennet (SU 115-683). The ring was about 150^{\pm} diameter. There were many magically bent stalks.





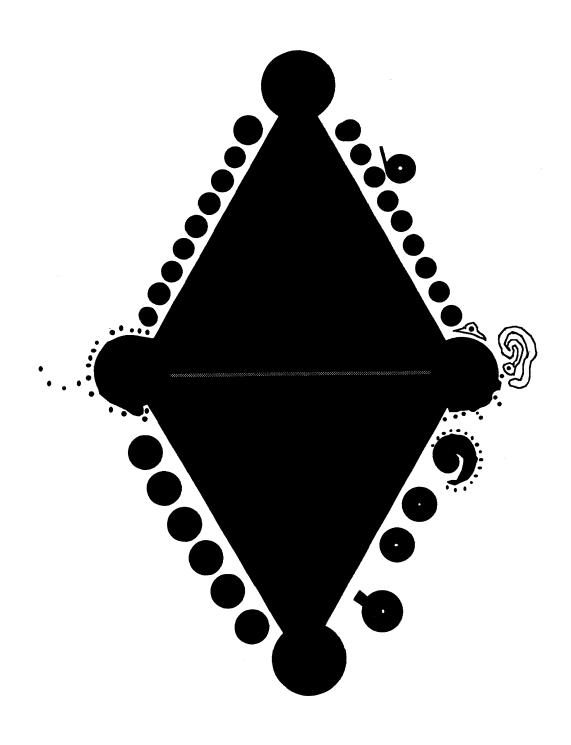
WAGON & HORSES CIRCLES

Appeared in wheat, south-west of Avebury, early in June behind the Wagon and Horses pub (SU 092-689) in Beckhampton. The 100± footer was likely made after a few pints — but by whom?

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CLASSICAL KEY

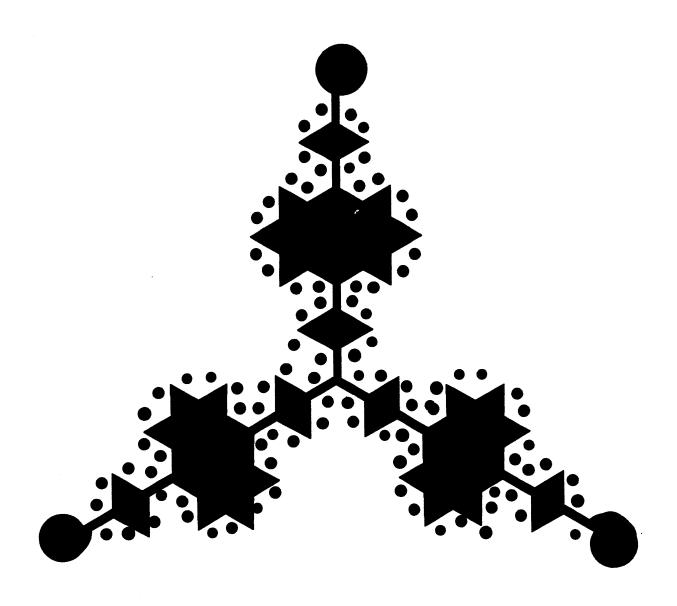
Discovered June 16th from the air by Andy Potter, in wheat, 60± feet long, at North Farm (SU 136-688), West Overton. *The good old, 1990 Alton Barnes "weather symbol" style!* It had a remarkable "bird nest" of twisted stalks in it's center, and the stalks in the little ring were bent *halfway* up their stems.



LINSEED TRIANGLES

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It consisted of two conjoined triangles that were precisely laid, surrounded by many reasonably good looking circles, and *a lot of junk*. This would have been a knockout formation if all that ugly decoration had been left off!



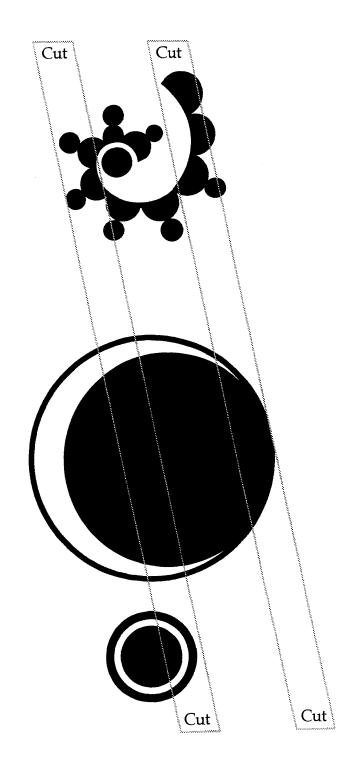
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This one is about 150 feet from corner to corner.

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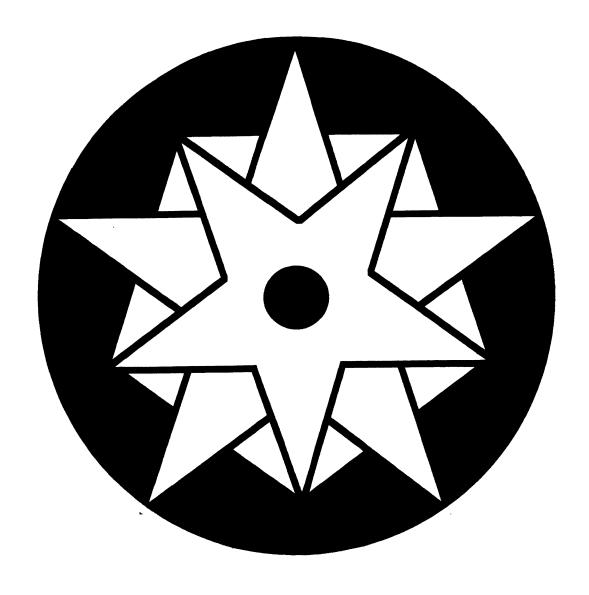
This odd mix of elements appeared north of Bath on August 17th, in wheat, some 300± feet long. As far as I know, Ulrich Kox took the only aerial photos, and the farmer was cutting it out just as he flew over! The dotted diagonal areas represent where the combine obliterated the design. I have had to guess at the missing parts.



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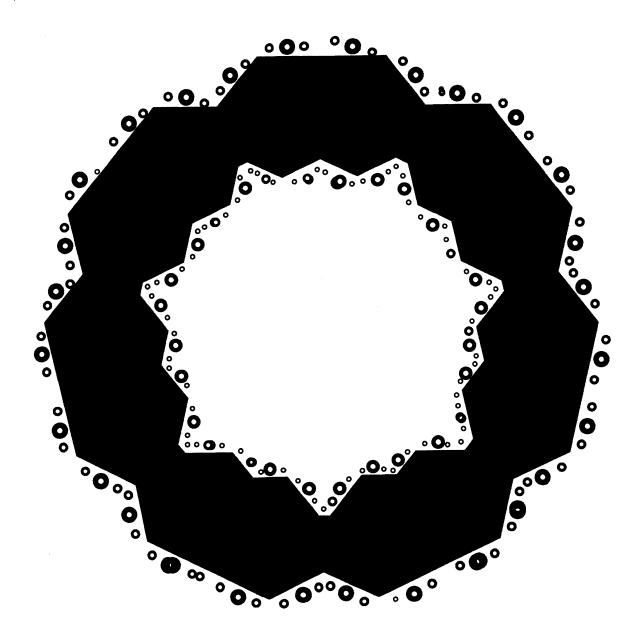
I DIDN'T MAKE THIS - IT APPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY ON THE WALL AT THE BARGE. AMAZING!



PENTAGON and PENTACLES

The splendid pentagram series continues with this 200± foot formation in wheat, August 8th, in the same field (SU 081-682) south of Beckhampton, Hants. where the "StingRay" is. The first of the series was back in 1993, at Bythorn.

Then there were *none* until last year, when we received the "Hopi Star," and now we've had *three* this summer — *so far!*



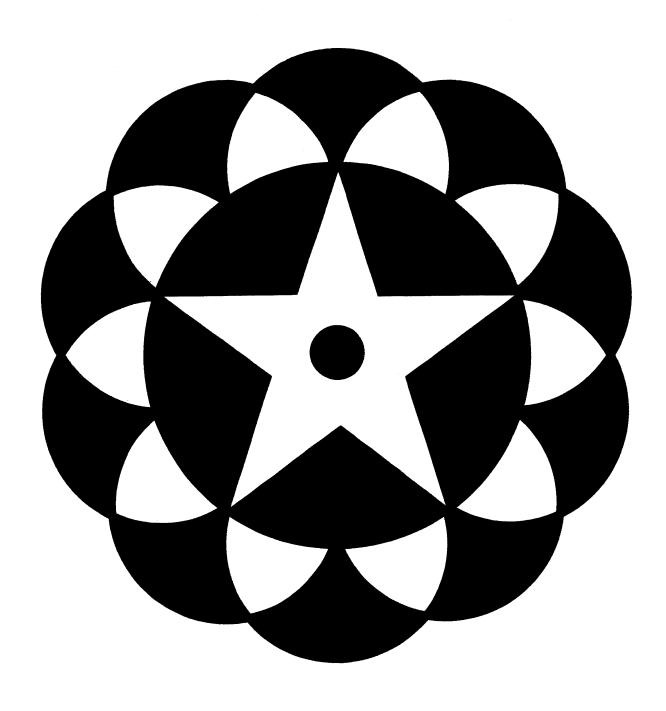
MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

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It was the predicted sequel to the East Field's "Seven-Fold Fractal."

Many of the 175 little circles had spectacular "bird's nests"
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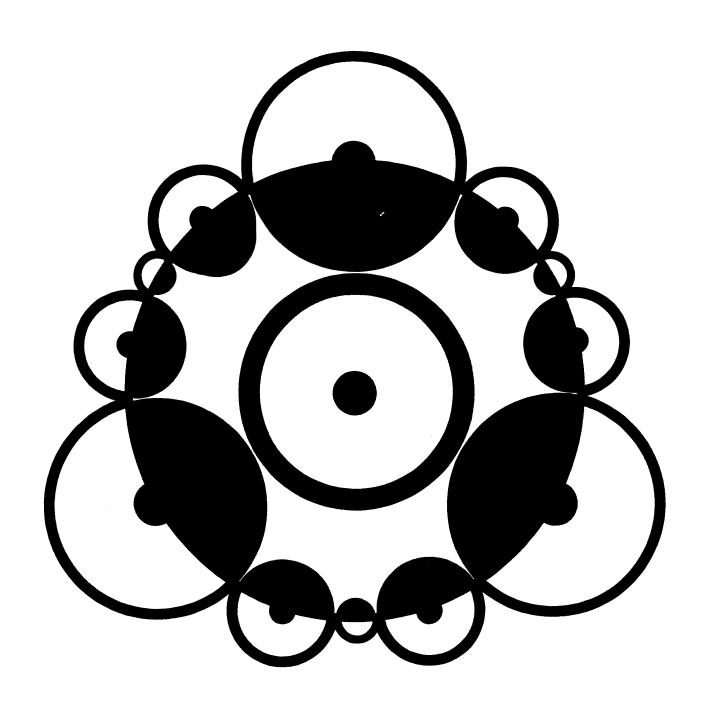


BECKHAMPTON MANDALA

This beautiful star surrounded by lotus petals, obviously reminds one of 1993's "Bythorn Mandala," as well as last year's "Hopi Star."

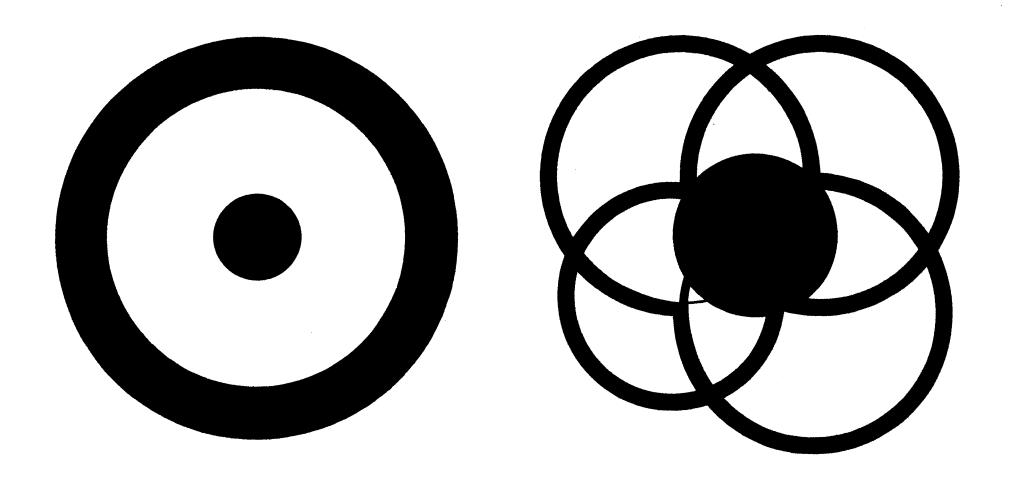
It appeared June 20th at Avebury Trusloe (SU 076-700), west of Beckhampton, on the north side of the A4.

The 220 foot diameter design, in wheat, is in the same field as 1995's "Beckhampton Spiral."



CLANFIELD BROOCH

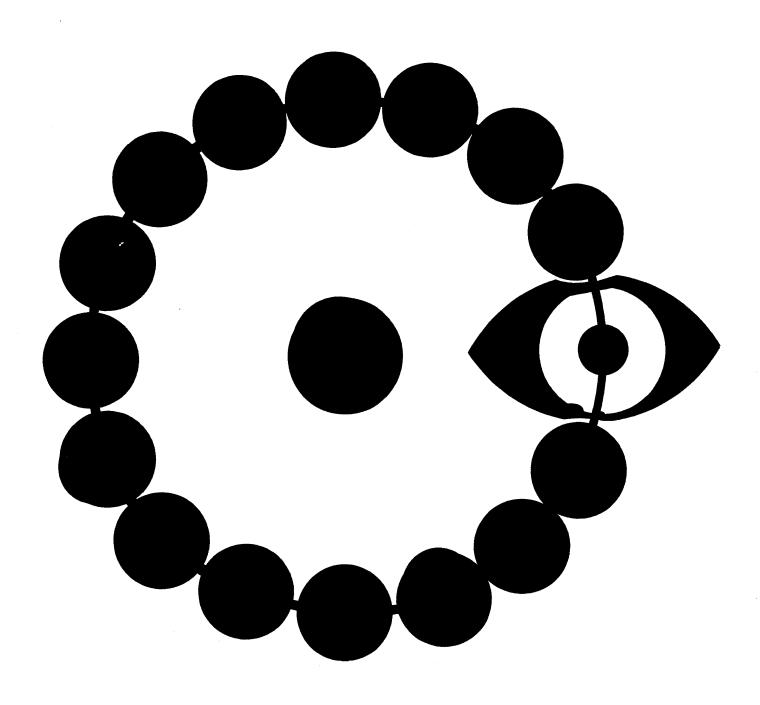
This intriguing 152^{ft.} geometry arrived June 19th in wheat, near Clanfield, a few miles SW of Petersfield, Hampshire. The egg-shape at upper-left is accurate.



RING and FOUR-LEAF CLOVER

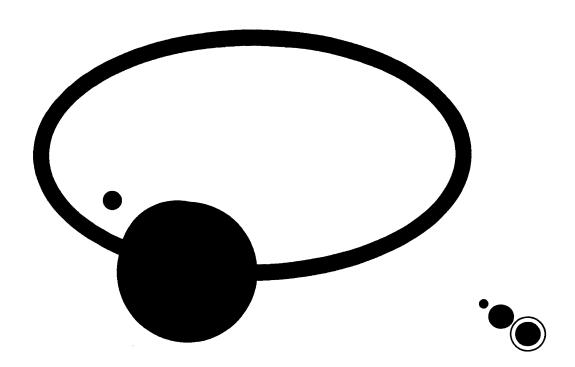
Discovered from the air June 19th by Daniel Darby, west of Chiseldon, Wiltshire, in wheat. The ring (at SU 174-794) was a striking 80[±] footer. A similar, smaller one appeared nearby in August. The Clover (at SU 175-794) was about 150 feet across, with a highly suspicious, unfinished(?) appearance.

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EYE NECKLACE

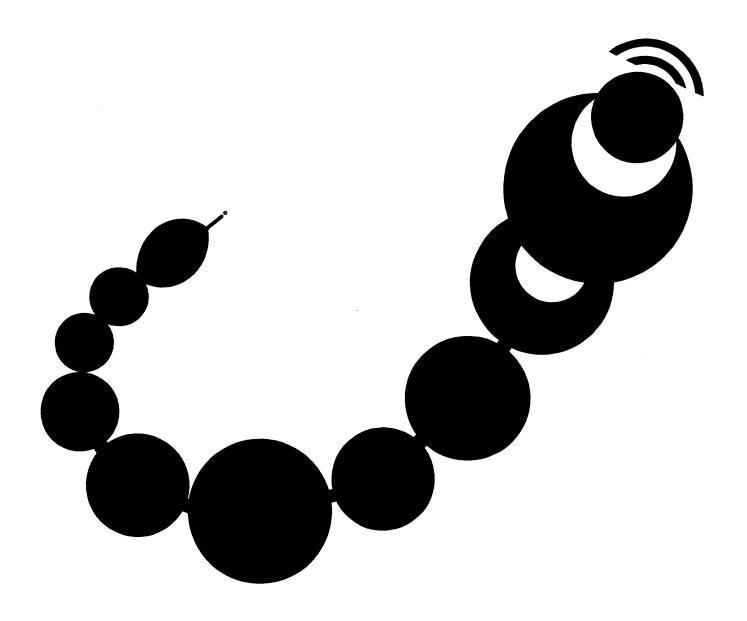
Appeared on June 5th or 6th on North Down (SU 055[±] 675[±]) along the A361 between Devizes and Beckhampton. The formation is about 175 feet in diameter, in wheat. All the solid circles except the pupil and the central circle have *two* swirls, one on each side, flowing in *opposite* directions!



COLLIDING COMET

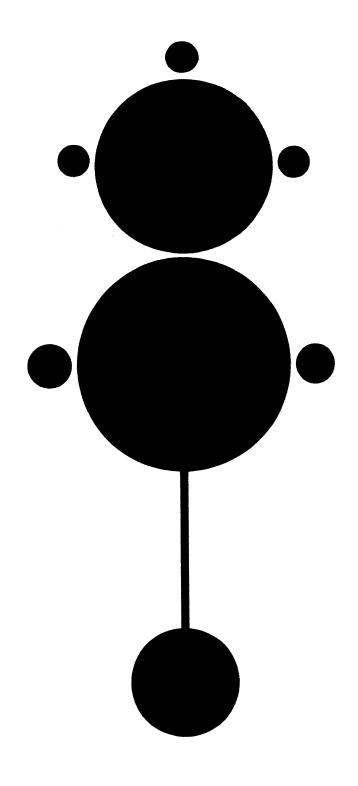
This frightening formation appeared in barley, June 15th at Hill Barn in the same field as the "Dragon Larva" (SU 130-668).

The oval "orbit" is about 80 feet long. Though a very different style, it brings to mind 1995's "Earth is Missing" formation, with a vengeance. (There are two movies this summer about doomsday collisions. Hmm.)



LARVA at the LONGBARROW

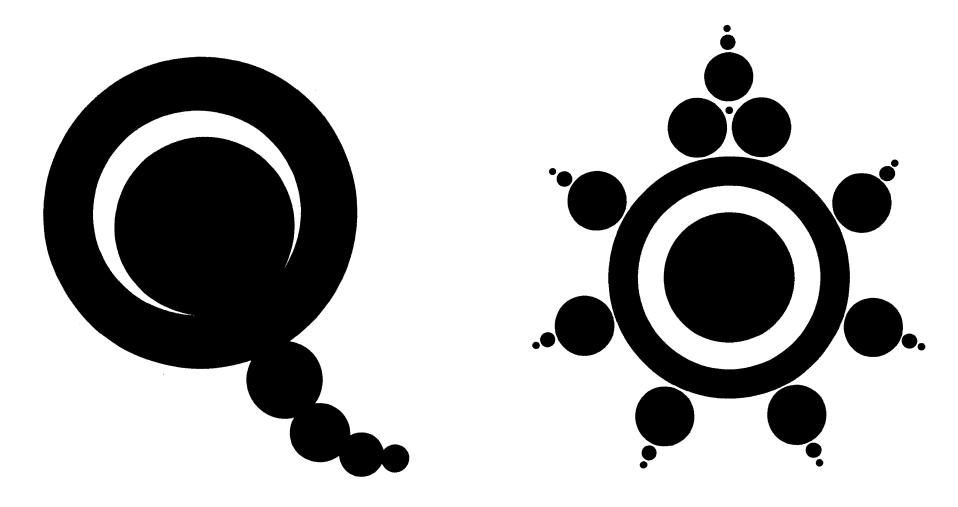
Appeared early in the second week of June, in wheat, near the West Kennet Longbarrow (SU 108-679), in the field next to the "Beltaine Wheel" formation. Very roughly 200 feet long. Heavily wind damaged. Has dual "centers" and bi-directional flow in many circles, like the formation with the eye and ring of circles. Andy Potter found several magically bent stalks in it!



CELTIC CLOCK

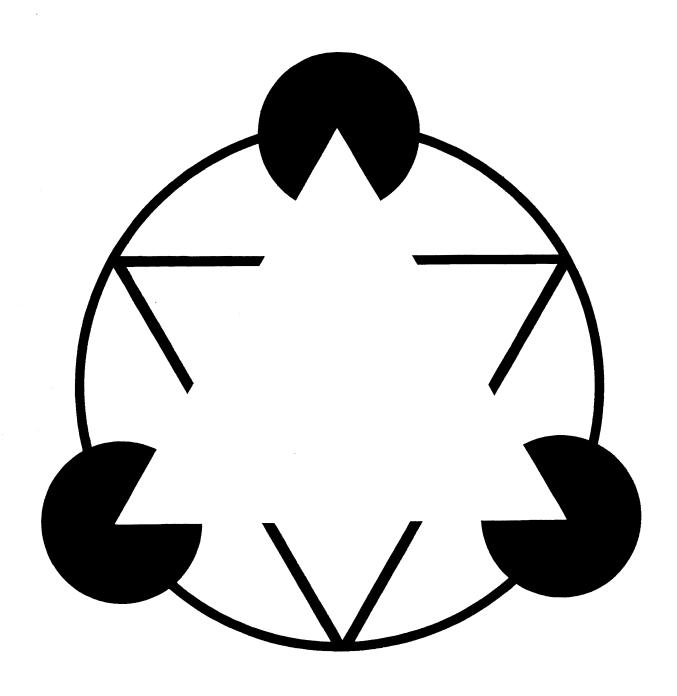
Arrived mid-July, north of Marlborough (SU 176-711), in wheat. The 180± foot-long formation is like a classical "dumbbell," but with an extra circle; while the small circles suggest the early "Celtic cross" or "quintuplet" patterns.

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TWO AT DANEBURY RING

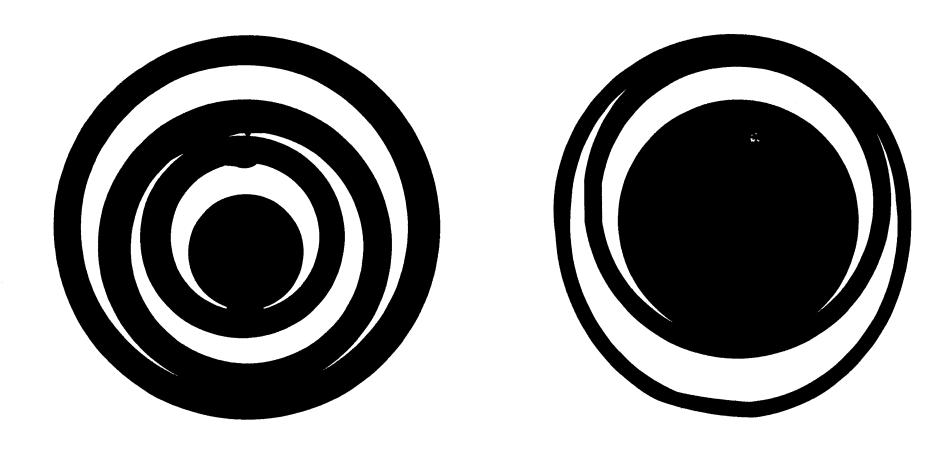
These two arrived in the same wheat field (SU 328-373) close to the Iron Age hillfort calledDanebury Ring, in late July or early August. They were both, 160± feet long, and about twice as far apart as shown here. The one on the left is a 1994-style "thought bubble" formation. The other is an innovative design, surrounded by circles which play games with the numbers six, seven, eight and nine. Researcher Ed Sherwood had recently written about the importance of Nine in the circle phenomenon.



DARK TRIANGLE

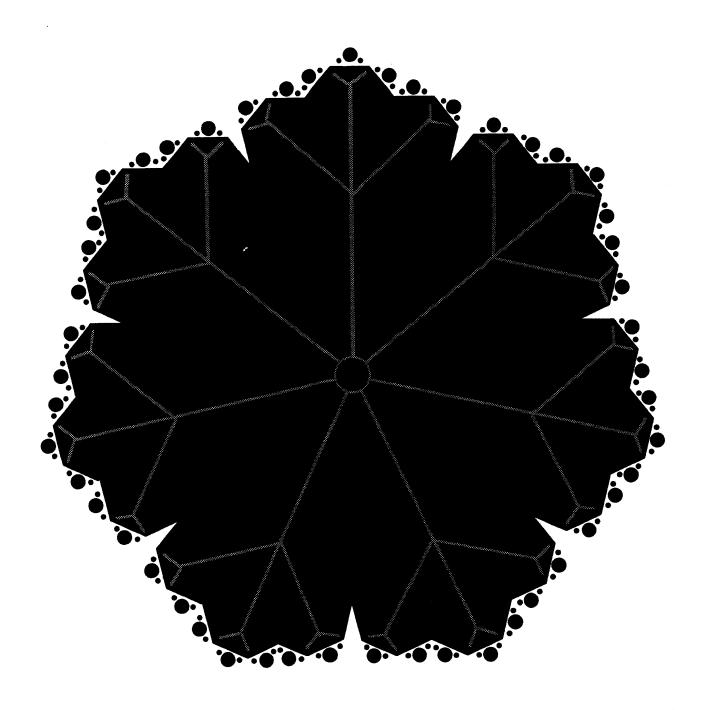
This optical illusion formation appeared in Belgium at Leystraat Huise, near Oudenaarde, on July 22nd.
It is 91.2 meters (about 300 feet) in diameter.
The newspaper report says that hoaxers paid the farmer to let them make it. Hmmm.

The name, suggested by Ulrich Kox, alludes to the triangular UFOs seen in Belgium.



TWO NESTED CRESCENTS

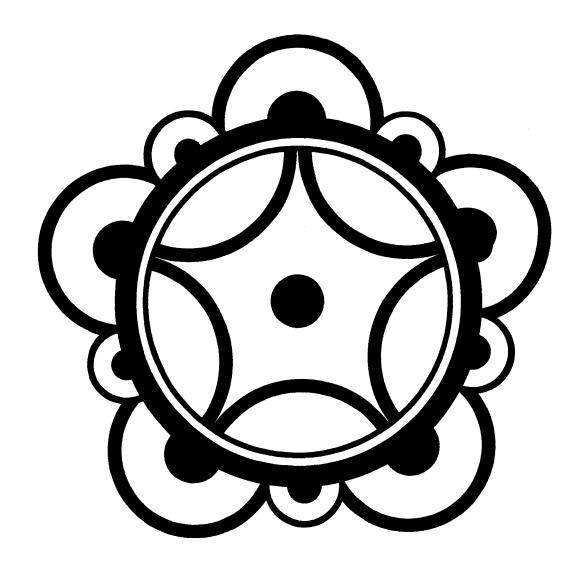
These were several miles apart in south Wiltshire, in late July or early August, in wheat. The one on the left was about a mile south-east from Danebury hillfort. I'm not sure where the other was. Both were about 80 feet in diameter, but small and rather rough compared to the great crescents in 1995.



SEVEN-FOLD SNOWFLAKE

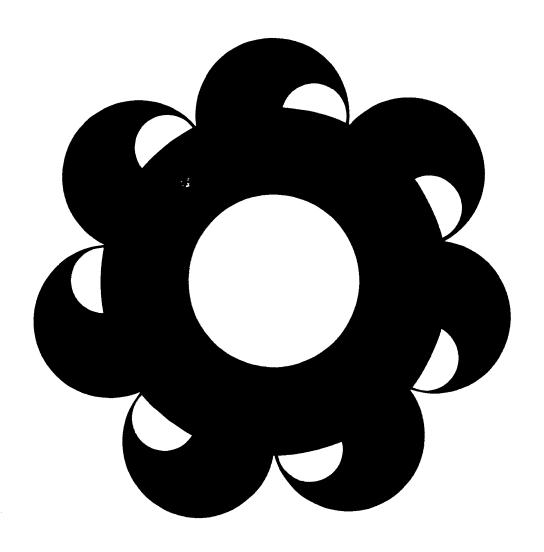
This stunning, 295tt. fractal arrived in the East Field (SU 119-629) at Alton Barnes, on July 9th, surrounded by 147 little circles, and with a thick, tightly twisted "bird's nest" of wheat in the center. The seven-sided geometry was *most unusual* — but *there were others* this summer. From the air it looked like a many-faceted jewel, due to the crop being laid in different directions within areas suggested by the gray lines.

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DIATOM

This formation, obviously similar to the "Clanfield Brooch," appeared in wheat near Farnham, Hampshire, on July 7th. The 220+ foot design suggests the microscopic sea creatures which compose the chalk that is so prevalent in England. Recent work by Steven Page & Glenn Broughton shows that crop circles frequently occur where chalk and greensand hold underground water.

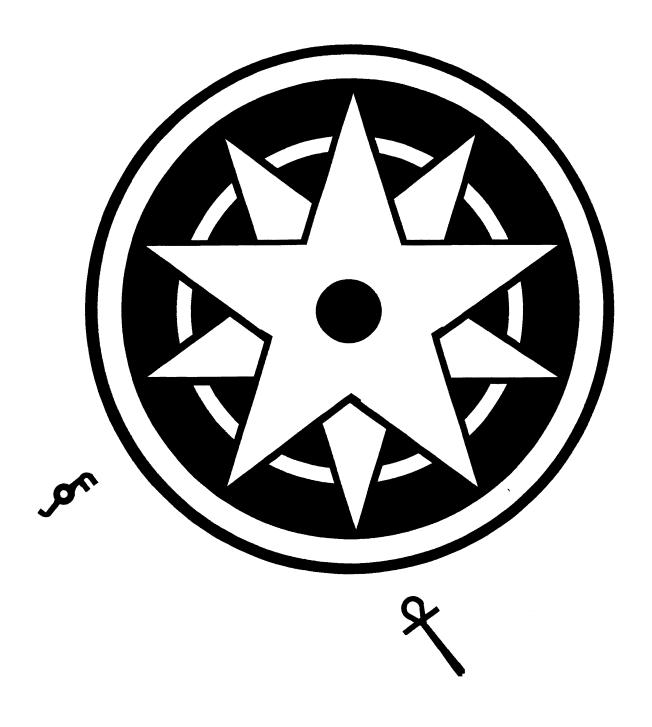


SEVEN CRESCENTS

Arrived near Danebury Ring hill fort (SU 335-375), four miles south of Andover, Hampshire, early in July.

The formation, in wheat, was 150ft. across.

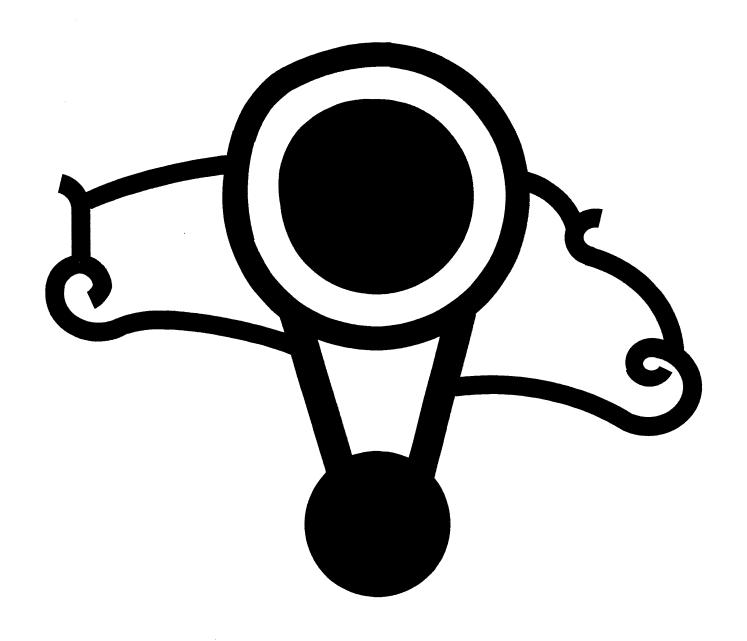
It is the first design based on seven units that I know of, although there have been sevens *hidden* in the geometry before.



DOUBLE STAR

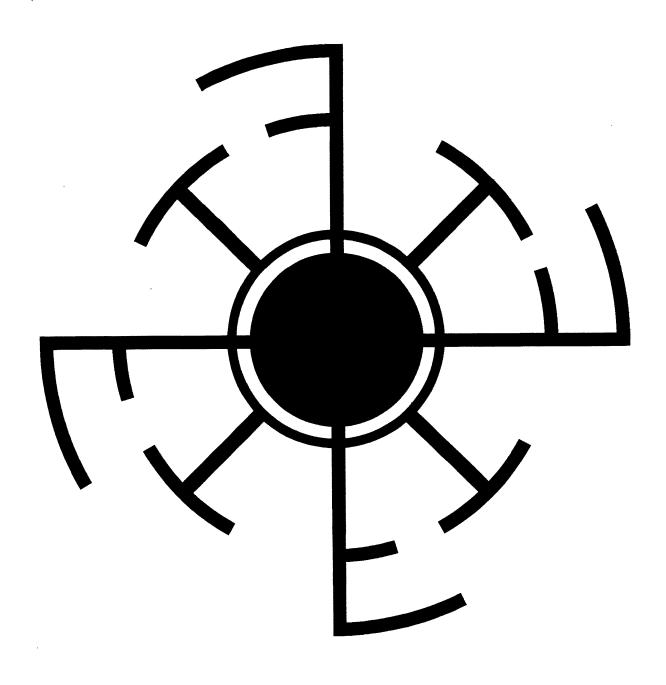
The series of pentagrams that began with 1993's "Bythorn Mandala," returned with last year's "Hopi Star," and again this June at Beckhampton, continued with this powerful white/black magic design, July 4th at Dadford, Buckinghamshire.

The 175± foot diameter design, in wheat, had two immaculate little signatures, (a third arrived later) which thrill some researchers, but look suspicious to others.



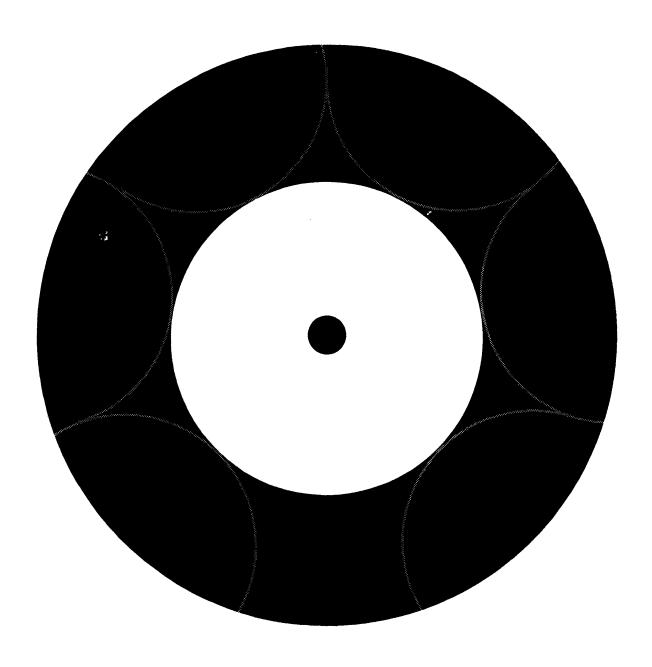
BALLOON in the CLOUDS

This graceful 131 foot design arrived early July, north of Marlborough (SU 192-712), in wheat. The Czech research team, probably first in the formation, reported clear stomper-board marks.



1998 CZECH REPUBLIC

Near Ostrava, June 27th in wheat, about 300 feet across. "Locals observed a green glow in the area shortly before the arrival of the pictogram." Others later saw a rosy light over the formation. From an aerial photo by Petr Novak



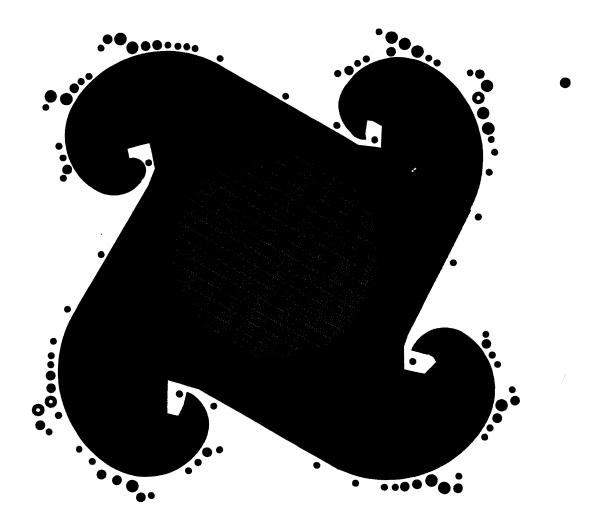
AVEBURY RING

An exceedingly large and thick ring appeared near Avebury (SU 106-704) in wheat, August 2nd.

The 300± foot diameter formation is in the same field where the "Web" or "DreamCatcher" was in 1994.

Six thin arcs can be seen in the laid crop, which *slightly* overlap one another in an odd way, and leave a large gap in the ring.

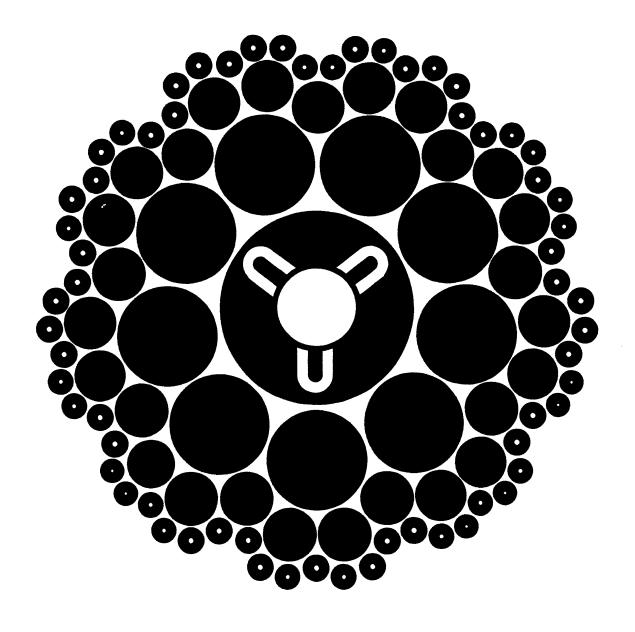
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SILBURY JULIA SET

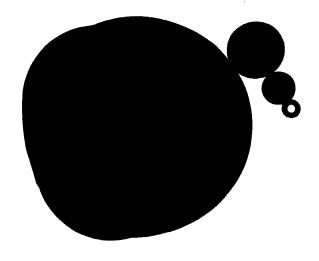
This four-arm* Julia set, over 200ft across, arrived on July 24th in the same wheat field where the first Koch Star appeared last year. This one is created very differently from the 1996 Julia Sets at Stonehenge and Windmill Hill, which were made entirely out of circles. The formation *is* slightly lopsided, the insides of the curves oddly angular, and there is considerable variation in the placement of the grapeshot. The lay of the crop follows the contours of the shape, except for a large circular swirl (shaded area) which isn't quite centered.

I have omitted a crude "D" which I *doubt* was part of the original. (Sorry, A.T!) *There are an infinite variety of Julia sets, with different numbers of arms.

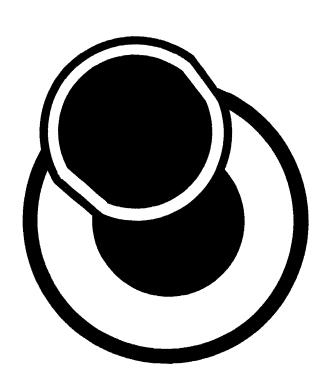


BBC BUBBLE BATH

The BBC apparently commissioned "Team Satan," the infamous crew that made the NBC formation in New Zealand, to create this 150+ footer near Milk Hill (SU 095-630) at Stanton St. Bernard, Wiltshire — sparking heated debate. A few investigators believe that *it is in fact genuine*, and only *claimed* by the hoaxers. [See essay by *ilyes* on the CropCircle Connector web site.] Because it is "self-similar" on different scales, it is a fractal. The BBC "Country File" program will air in January.

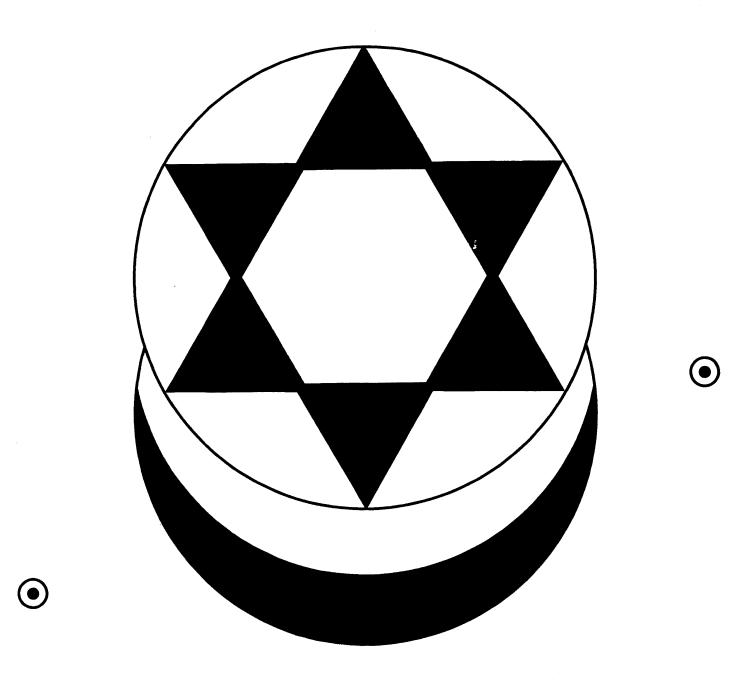






The WEYHILL ECLIPSE

April 19th, at Weyhill, Hampshire, England, in canola (oilseed rape). John Sayer reports the large ring is 116 ft in diameter, the tiny one just 4 ft. The lay of the crop was the worst I have ever seen in canola (!), with hundreds of plants actually broken *in-two*, *halfway* up their stalks, copious stamper scraping, and wholesale breakage at the base.



PLEA FOR PEACE

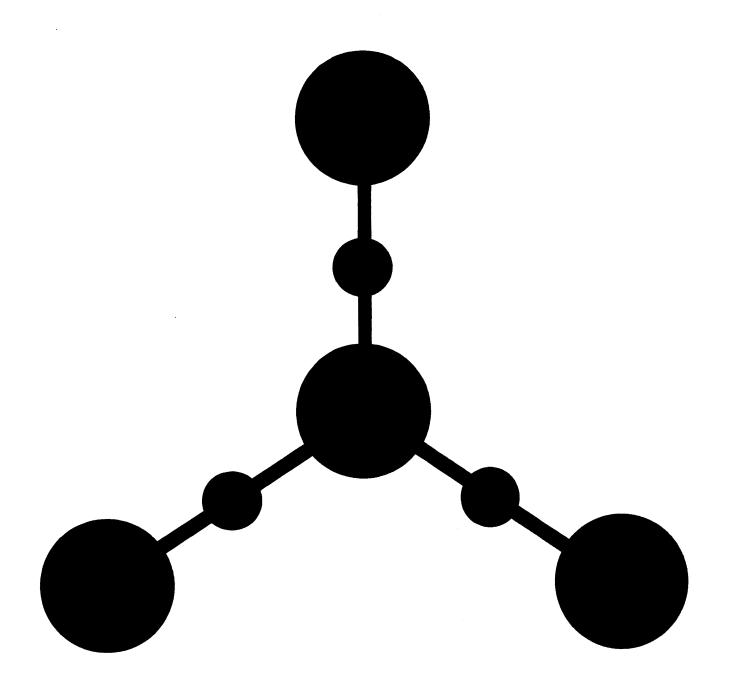
From a pencil sketch by John Newman.

This combination of the Hebrew Star of Solomon with the Islamic crescent moon — the symbols of the two faiths which have been at war for over a thousand years in the Middle East — was tragically cut down by the farmer within 24 hours.

The 100+ foot formation appeared August 5th in Bishops Cannings.

If anyone got an aerial photo, please contact me at the Barge.

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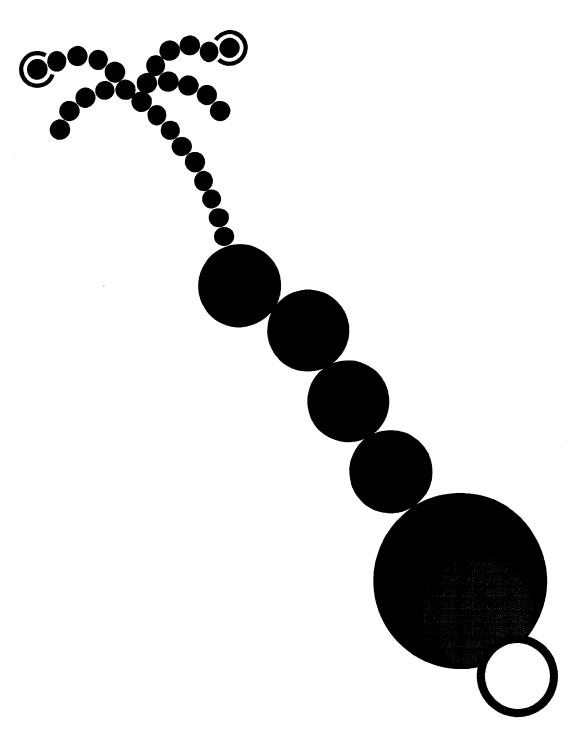
CHARLOTTESVILLE VIRGINIA, U.S.A.

U.S. researcher, Doug Rogers, reports this "tripodic" formation which appeared mid-May in tall grass near the University of Virginia.

There have been no crop circles reported in that state before.

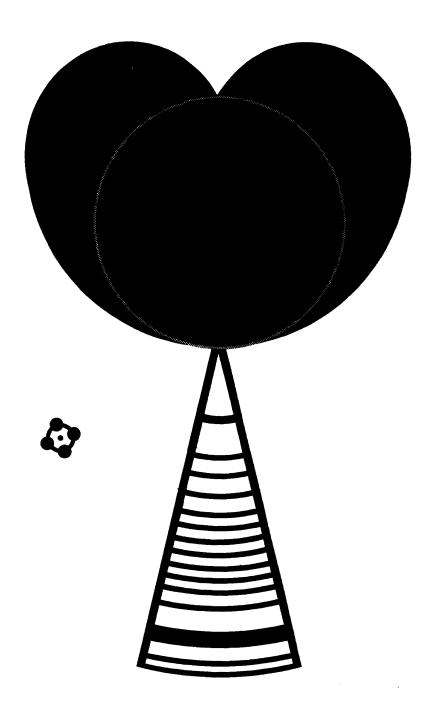
Louise Olivi (CCCS), found blown nodes and other positive clues.

CSETI founder, Dr. Steven Greer, moved to the area at about the same time.



The HYDRA

Emerged in wheat, July 10th, at West Woods (SU 125-661)
near Lockeridge Dean, Wilts., in the field where the famous "Whale" was in 1991.
The 300± foot beast is similar to the "Dragon Larva"
in the field across the road. But that one, and it's cousin near the Longbarrow, have meter-wide construction lines, while this one has none at all.
The shaded area in the large circle represents a roughly round area where the crop is laid differently.

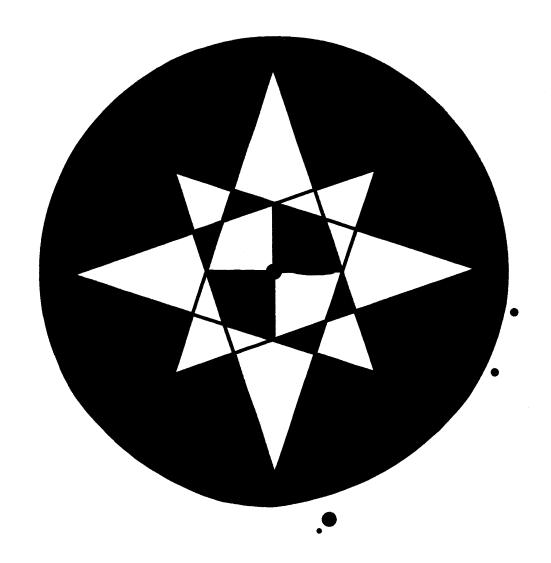


HEARTBEAT

This surprising, and positive, formation was found August 8th north of Portsmouth. It was about 150± feet long, in wheat The cartoid shape is very similar to the Mandelbrot Set crop circle, but the lay of the crop was very different.

This one formed around a large circle (gray line), while the crop in the M-Set simply followed the heart shape.

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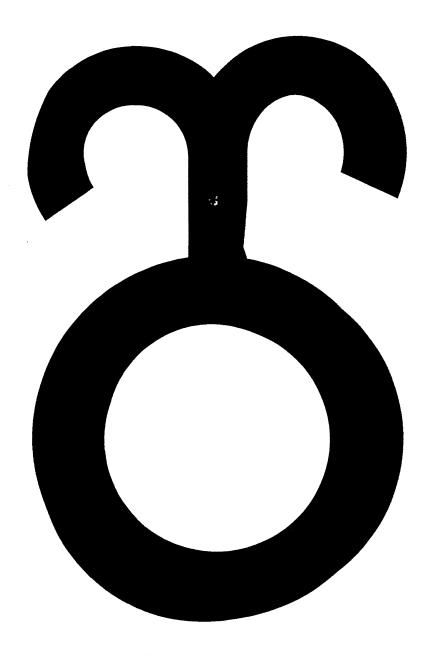


COMPASS ROSE

This circle appeared on August 24th in one of the few wheat fields left (at SU 103-693), a few hundred feet from the "Avebury Flower."

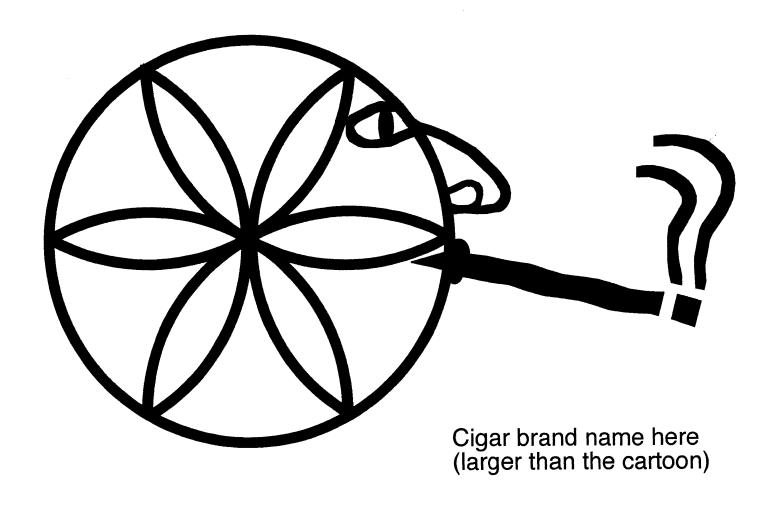
The 185 foot design strongly suggests a compass dial (called a "rose" when printed on a map), but, oddly, it does *not* point to the four directions.

The lay of the crop is patchy and asymmetrical — not nice from the air.



ARIES RING

Arrived north of Olivers Castle at Yew Tree Farm (SU 005-663), near Heddington, Wilts., in wheat, early July. It is roughly 75 feet high. Pretty from the air, it was featured in an advert about a new 03 area code.



CIGAR ADVERT

This cartoon, appended to a classical six-petal flower design, was found to the south of the A361 between Beckhampton and Devizes (SU 060-670), in wheat, across the road from the "Eye Necklace."

The name of a well known brand of cigars was written in large letters below.

(I won't give them free publicity by mentioning the brand name!)

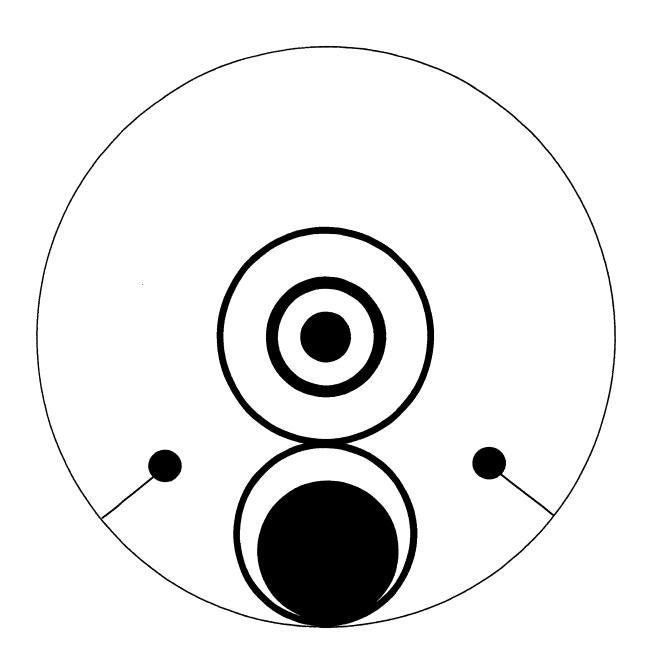
The lay was very nice everywhere — the face and cigar being just like the flower. In fact a few dedicated researchers, including ilyes, declare these parts genuine — a message from the CircleMakers telling us to stop smoking.

At least three croppies told me they take it very seriously, and have stopped!

One of them said he found magically curved stalks in the flower, but I'd have to see them to believe it. I found none, myself.

I am forced to accept that people can lay crop down better than I thought!

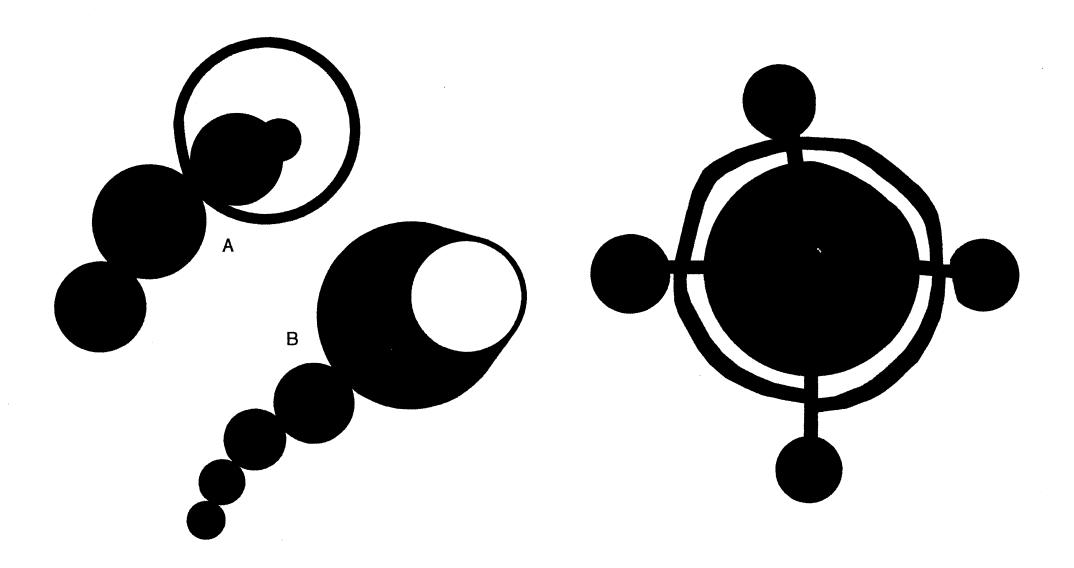
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DISC and CRESCENT

This very thin 250± foot diameter ring
— so fine you can barely see it clearly from the air — with a pleasing formation inside, appeared July 1st near Owslebury, Hampshire, in wheat.

The lines leading to the little circles are part of the design, not walk-lines, as they point straight at the center, and there was direct tramline access to one of the circles.



TWO "THOUGHT BUBBLES"

These two from early summer are of the 1994 "Thought Bubble" type.

A: Newton St Loe (near Bath), Somerset, 125± feet

B: Burntwood, Staffordshire, 150± feet (reliable researchers report the standing circle was originally unfinished, giving it "open jaws").

Diagrams from aerial photos by Ute Sayer.

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MARLBOROUGH MESS

This 75 foot, amateur "masterpiece" was discovered May 17th just North of Marlborough (SU 194-306), in Barley.

I made the diagram to *shame* the hoaxers.

If it was made by ETs, we have no hope — Aarrg!

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The inside-out version is constructed by *subtracting* triangles:



Now, you may have recognized that **the Mitsubishi logo is the permutation at second from left**. Yup — their logo is three red diamonds arranged exactly like that. (The three diamonds are from an ancient Japanese coat of arms, far older that the math of Helge von Koch — so the car company didn't contact the hoaxers because the gang had already made a star/snowflake that was related to their logo.)

What strikes me as really odd, is that Team Satan is said to have constructed the Koch snowflake/star crop circle a *year* before they made the Mitsubishi car. What are the odds of this coincidence? How unlikely that there would be a car logo hidden in the math. That there was, and that particular company decide to commission a "crop car," and hired these particular guys — not a chance in Hell!

It would indeed be proof of their Satanic identity, if they had seen the future, and reverse-engineered the logo to fabricate the first star. A *devilishly* clever trick! (Following up later with the reverse Koch crop formation would be a brilliant, but humanly possible, in-joke.)

Or, if we assume that the circles are made by a benevolent, non-human agency (ETs?), we should be prepared to accept They might have powers similar, or greater, than the Dark Side. This scenerio feels like They are poking fun at Team Satan.

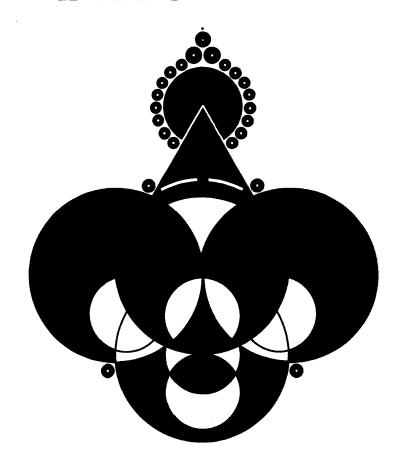
In fact, I think this weirdness has just the flavor of what I would call cosmic humor. There are countless examples of this kind of thing weaving around, like Zen koans, through the circles mystery.

Whatever/whoever pushes down the crop to make the formations, there is something BIG behind the phenomenon, which has a god-like overview of everything involved. And I've seen other examples where it transcends time. Investigating this mystery, I feel like I'm peeling away layers of an onion that's crossed with a labyrinth! Whatever is going on, there is an unknown Intelligence — with a superb sense of humor — involved. And the World has been changed for the better, thanks to He/She/They/It.



PS: Team Satan member John Lunburg says they were first approached by Mitsubishi in June of '98.

1998 CROPCIRCLE DIAGRAMS



by Peter R. Sørensen
Black and White Prints
The **50**+ Best Formations

Created on a Mac laptop computer from aerial observations

© **1998 Peter R. Sørensen** Sept. 14 "Dindy's Cottage," #2 the Green, Alton Priors, Wiltshire SN8 4JX England

ABOUT THE DIAGRAMS

I started making crop circle diagrams when my predecessors retired. There were giants in those days, foremost among them (chronological order), John Langresh, John Martineau, and Wolfgang Schindler.

Aerial photography is, of course, the ultimate way to document the circles. But, if you are interested in the raw power of their symbolism, photos have some drawbacks. They are practically always shot at an angle, with circles distorted into ovals. There are tramlines and often hideous walk-lines in the crop. Diagrams eliminate these and other distractions, and present our eyes with the stark power of the designs, permitting their magic messages to pass directly into our inner being.

Therefore, when good diagrams became few and far between, I started making them on my laptop computer for myself. (At first I gave them away to friends. But when the demand increased, and the task of copying, organizing, and distributing sets became a significant drain of time and energy, I began charging.)

Although I use a computer to simplify the drawing process, I employ an artistic method, rather than a mechanical one. I start with aerial video shot of a crop formation (my main "mission" is video documentation of the phenomenon — the diagrams are an off-shoot). I freeze-frame the video at the moment when it is looking straight down. Then, by eye, I start constructing circles on the screen that roughly approximate the aerial image — sort of sketching in the basics.

With 40 years of experience in art and graphics, I have a reasonably good eye for proportion. So, I next start to tweak the sizes and positions of the circles, making them larger or smaller by a few percentage points, and moving them left, right, up and down, a pixel at a time.

Eyeballing the designs this way is certainly not the most accurate method! Although I'm confident that *my diagrams are generally better* than 95% accurate, a diligent ground survey with measurements and compass bearings *would be* unquestionably superior. The trouble is, it takes two people a lot of time to properly survey a crop formation. And then, if a dimension or angle is notated incorrectly, the resultant diagram can be disastrously wrong.

So, my diagrams are not mathematically perfect, and you should *not* use them for geometric analysis (*a la* Martineau). But they are fine for aesthetic appreciation of the symbols, and ideal for meditation.

Virtually all crop circle diagrams ever made have only been approximations of the actual formations. Crop circles are never perfectly round. They are usually slightly oval, and their edges have slight wiggles. Some people gloss over these difficulties. I always use an oval