

DAILY LUDDITE

Exclusive

SCIENCE IS FUN

In recent weeks, readers of the local press in South West Scotland and East Anglia have been shocked to learn of a series of so called "science events" in towns across their

Outbreaks of enthusiasm reported across South West Scotland and East Anglia!

regions by a crack team of guerrillas calling themselves "Cambridge Hands-on Science" (CHaOS). A representative of the group (Selina Hawkins, 21, 5'11"), speaking to Norwich's Evening News, admitted quite openly that their aim was to "bring everyone into science, not just children".

The major recruiting ground for the CHaOS team is thought to be the student population of Cambridge. Informants have suggested, however, that some are no longer even students and



<http://www.chaossience.org.uk>

The logo used by the CHaOS team to attract visitors to their events.



that CHaOS has a small but growing cell among Bristol students.

It is rumoured that CHaOS has been causing "science events" for over 7 years, one event known locally as "Crash! Bang! Squelch!" affecting up to 2000 people in a single day. Reports suggest that the CHaOS effect escaped into the rest of the country in 2002. Fanatics within the group went rogue and ran a week's tour to the South Coast with eleven volunteers. Worryingly this tour appears to have become a yearly event with bigger

and longer tours becoming the norm. Over the past year there have been many sightings of group members in schools, labs, and even festivals carrying their radical message, that science is both relevant and fascinating, to the youngest members of our community.

Migrant Swallows

Scandal reaches Ludd

You may have thought that swallows were as English as a late night curry, but it has come to our attention that they are seasonal migrants with no visas, from AFRICA!! Coming here to steal our insects... Something must be done to reduce... Cont. page 54

How does this subversive group operate?

Our undercover reporter, Sneaky Steve, looks at the methods used by this sinister team to maximise their impact.

The group have developed a sophisticated strategy for carrying out their attacks. From a conveniently placed campsite they descend on their selected target. They are easily identifiable being uniformly clad in distinctive bright blue T-shirts.

Arriving between 9 and 10 am at a hall in an innocent, sleepy town, they empty their equipment out of a large, white



CHaOS' shadowy leader, known only as "Mud" in a rare photo

hired van. By midday the area has been transformed, shockingly, into a science museum. For five hours, children and their families are lured in as the volunteers demonstrate a range of experiments carefully designed to have the maximum impact on these impressionable youngsters. They even seem to have an effect on their parents, grandparents and carers. Working with small groups the demonstrators carefully tailor their explanations to suit the ages of the children in the group, answering questions and seeking to transfer some of their own enthusiasm for their subject. Teachers are also targeted as a means of encouraging the spread of the CHaOS message. After



the event ends the team clear the venue, leaving no evidence of their visit except, perhaps, in the minds of their victims.

Target towns are warned in advance of the imminent threat of a CHaOS event. Posters and leaflets are displayed in tourist information centres, shops, sports centres and sometimes even in local schools. On many occasions there have also been leaks to local newspapers and radio stations. When CHaOS arrive in a town they send a specialized team into the main shopping areas to hand out leaflets to passers-by who might otherwise have escaped. Despite this warning hundreds of innocent bystanders were drawn into the events.



Looking for Love



Electron seeks something positive in his life for excitation, emission and possible annihilation.

Pachyderm seeks someone broad, massive, and with a prehensile proboscis.

Static charge seeks long distance relationship for intermittent sparks.

Fungus seeks algal partner for symbiotic relationship.

To submit items for our personals column write to **Daily Luddite Personals, Ludd, LD6 3UK**
50p per word, add 60% for items containing excessive or incomprehensible jargon.



More personals
page 39



The CHaOS Arsenal



Among these distressing new developments are experiments to show...

- Why we see two tides per day (using a large circle of latex sheet, a ball bearing, and a puddle of tea).
- How smoke rings form (using a bucket, a cup of water and some dry ice).
- That water is made up of hydrogen and oxygen, and what happens when they recombine (using a storage jar, two burettes, several lemonade bottles, a 12V power supply and a piezoelectric lighter).
- What happened to the ships lost in the Bermuda Triangle (using a large Perspex tank, a vacuum cleaner, a floating ballcock and 1.5m of garden hose).
- How the lungs work (using plastic tubing, two large balloons and a clear bin liner).

Continued on page 4

The Daily Luddite has obtained a comprehensive list of the experiments to which innocent members of the public may have been exposed!

In the past CHaOS has used a wide range of experiments and demonstrations, some purpose built, and others borrowed from accomplices. These have supported their hands-on, one-to-one approach, to help get their "Science is Fun" message over to the public.

In addition, the shadowy group, known as the "Constructions Committee" (those behind the construction of CHaOS' demonstrations) is thought to have been very active in recent weeks. Their current base is a garage in a quiet Cambridge suburb where they have

produced a disturbing range of new experiments as well as adapting some older ones to withstand the demands of a prolonged and mobile campaign, bringing the number of experiments available to these scientific guerrillas up to around 40.

Above: What is it that makes some boats move so much faster than others?

Right: How do your lungs fill when you breathe in?



Continued from page 3

- Why semi-circular canals help us to balance (more plastic tube and some pieces of cleaning cloth).
- The effect of exercise on heart rate.
- How the rain that falls shapes our landscape (using two large sheets of plywood and 24m of 2"x1" wooden batten, and 120kg of sand).
- Which shapes of boat move fastest through the water (in a flat-pack, 18' long, 8" deep boat tank made from

plywood and 4" planks, applying a range of forces to a selection of moulded plastic boats).

The government must clamp down now on experimental component sales. The group appear to have obtained their supplies from DIY and other high street stores. Amazingly their obscure purchases went unnoticed. Clearly sales of such items must be restricted, as must, more importantly, the sale of power tools and of screws (of which their Constructions

Committee are rumoured to have used over 2000 in the past twelve months).

**Join the Luddite's campaign to ban the sale of battening, string, ballcocks, perspex, laminate flooring underlay, and vitally Gaffer tape!
Call us on
0800-STOP-CHAOS
to pledge your donation.**

CHaOS: Summary and Outlook



Location	Weather
Hawick	☁️🌧️
Jedburgh	☁️🌧️
Irvine	☀️☁️
Cumnock	☁️🌧️
Dumfries	☀️☁️
Glasgow	☀️☁️🌧️
Downham Market	☀️
Norwich	☀️☁️
Thetford	☀️☁️
Ipswich	☀️
Felixstowe	☁️🌧️

This Summer's CHaOS

CHaOS was heaviest this summer in the south of Scotland and East Anglia, particularly heavy in the Irvine and Ipswich areas, with multiple events within a few miles of each other.

The place which experienced the greatest amount of CHaOS was Glasgow, which received 14 hours of CHaOS in one weekend, both

inside and outside the Glasgow Science Centre and affecting the Biochemical Society's BioScience Kids event and the Glasgow River Centre.

The rest of the country remained CHaOS free all summer. There have been reports of light CHaOS at the Stroud Festival more recently.

Longer-term Outlook

Over the next year, more sporadic outbreaks of CHaOS are forecast in schools in the Cambridge area with a major storm within the University in mid-March.

Looking further ahead to next summer, more flurries of CHaOS are predicted although it is difficult at this stage to predict where these will fall.

CHaOS' VICTIMS SPEAK OUT

First details of the reactions of those who have come into contact with CHaOS.

Over 99% ranked the events "Enjoyable" or better.

It is thought that between 1500 and 2000 individuals may have been affected over the course of CHaOS' progress through the country.

According to a survey of victims, a shocking 77% found the events

"Very Enjoyable" with over 99% ranking the event "Enjoyable" or better.

78.4% claimed to have learnt a lot and 99.5% to have learnt at least something.

Asked if they could suggest improvements to the events, the most common response was "No!", whilst one unfortunate victim, who had clearly been seriously affected by CHaOS' techniques replied "I don't think I can, as your young people seemed to be enjoying themselves as much as my grandsons. Good luck to them and Thank You", and

another "How can you improve infectious enthusiasm?".

One comment which the Daily Luddite was pleased to see on several forms was that some of the explanations were a little beyond pre-school children attending the events. This might suggest that, for the time being at least, the very youngest members of our community may be safe, even if their parents may have been affected by CHaOS' enthusiastic approach.

Unfortunately CHaOS have become aware of these concerns and are already planning various means of indicating which experiments are likely to appeal most to the small siblings of their 7+ target audience.

99.5% claimed that they had learnt something



Copyright Biochemical Society

Above: Using muscles and tendons to move the hand. Below: Liquid N₂ is Really Cool



Your Horoscopes with Mystic Mud....



This Tuesday it is especially important to avoid overhead power lines. Failure to do so could result in an unexpected shock.



Wild beasts may look fascinating at a distance, but getting too close to them in the coming week could be unwise.



The sooner you begin a time-consuming task, the sooner you are likely to finish it. This applies most later in the week.



Exposing yourself to very strong currents on Monday is likely to lead to being washed away. You would be wise to avoid this risk.



Thursday evening is a particularly bad time for crossing streams of heavy traffic. Use a bridge or crossing.

For full predictions call our horoscope hotline 0945-YOUR-STARS

Who's To Blame? The Daily Luddite investigates!

Perpetrators named and shamed!

The chief culprits in this worrying series of events are thought to be the student volunteers, David Ansell, Olly Ansell, Jamie Barron, Sophie Candfield, Simon Chiu, Sally Clough, Rachel Cooke, Sarah Crisp, Antonia Dale, John Davey, Beth Fisher, Greg Foot, Ben Fryer, Tom Garnett, Michelle Hart, Selina Hawkins, Rachel Holdforth, Rosy Hunt, Zoeb Jiwaji, James Kermode, Robert Lambert, Gordon Lawrence, Mudit Matanhelia, Sanchita Pal, Philippa Prentice, Matthew Smith, Kate Stretton, Phil Tuddenham, Chris Ward and Tom Williams.

It is believed that they have been aided and abetted in their activities by a range of individuals and groups. These include a number of

University departments, in Cambridge, Anatomy, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Engineering, Physics, Physiology and Zoology, and also John Reglinski of Strathclyde University.

The families of several of the students are also thought to have become involved. The Matanhelias, Cookes and Hunts are suspected of providing floor and garden space, food, and even assistance with running repairs.

Tom Garnett, James Bove and Nick Taylor provided the team responsible for the construction

of the experiments with a workshop.

Student Community Action, an otherwise highly respected group co-ordinating students performing voluntary work in Cambridge, is rumoured to have provided members of CHaOS with the means to obtain CRB checks.



The following groups are known to have provided funding for the CHaOS Tour 2004:



Institute *of* **Physics**

