

crops for the sixth year running as a result of the mysterious circles. Once again the dimensions were the same as in the other areas and just days before they appeared local police were involved in checking out a UFO report.

A brilliantly lit circular object was seen hovering over Stockbridge Down, Hampshire by Jack and Pat Collins whilst driving home one night. Mrs Collins said 'It looked like a big funfair wheel hovering in the sky'. The object was not visible for very long as the road along which the couple were travelling was tree lined and the object was therefore blotted out by the trees. They made no attempt to stop for a better look but on reaching home telephoned the police, who searched the area but found nothing.

Although the object was not visible for very long, perhaps five minutes at the most, Mr Collins was able to make a sketch, which perhaps provides the first clue as to what might be responsible for the circles. According to Mr Collins, the outer perimeter appeared to be a continuous ring of light, whilst the spokes

and the four quarters consisted of numerous individual lights, the lights of the spokes being considerably brighter than the others.

Neat pattern

If an object such as that described above were to land and the underside of the craft, with its spoke like construction, were to rotate as it did so or once it had landed, then it would almost certainly produce the neat pattern of flattened crop which is a feature of these circles. Of course attached to this large circular object there would have to be four smaller ones which must also rotate in the same way. Again from the neat way in which the crop is flattened within the smaller circles they would have to have the same construction.

Mr and Mrs Collins did not see anything attached to the large circular object they observed hovering over the countryside. However, if we accept the fact that a UFO was responsible for the circles – and by UFO, I mean an aerial object which has so far defied identification and not neces-



Circles in fields alongside the B3093 at Bratton. Taken from the top of Bratton Castle.