



Paranormal Tours

Alton Towers

Alton, Staffordshire

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Report by Sharon Wilson

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Investigators: **Team 1:** Karen Freer, Cheryl Dove, Rachel Hambrook, Lynne Hickey, Suzanne Slingsby. **Team 2:** Tony Mercer, Jane Mercer, Richard Gardner, Adam Speight, Sue Volans. **Team 3:** Julie Armstrong, Stuart Armstrong, Simon Harvey-Oates, Colette Harvey-Oates.

Specialists: Jannine Muirhead (Clairvoyant Medium), Richard Lush, Maria-Clare Lush, Kevin Ling, Sharon Wilson. (Paranormal Tours Investigators)

This report is a compilation of the Ghost Walk and the group vigils conducted throughout the night.

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	<p>En-route to the event, about 20 minutes from the location, Jannine stated that she was seeing images of a tree and that it was very significant. She said she couldn't understand what was particular about this tree but that there was something special about it.</p> <p>Confirmed: There is a tree that relates to a legend at Alton Towers that can be found in the woods near Alton Village. The tree itself has worn down steps leading up to it from the path. The legend goes that on an autumn night in 1821, the Earl of Shrewsbury was returning to his home in Alton Towers when an old woman suddenly appeared in the road.</p> <p>The coach stopped to find why she was there, and then the old woman begged for a coin.</p> <p>The Earl cruelly dismissed her, so the old woman placed a curse on him. The old woman said, "For every branch on the Old Oak Tree here that falls, a member of the Earl's family will die." The Earl dismissed this and carried on his way.</p> <p>That night, during a violent storm a single branch from the old oak tree broke and fell. Later that same night, a member of the Earl's family suddenly and mysteriously died. To prevent any more deaths the Earl ordered his servants to chain every branch together to prevent other branches from falling. To this day the Oak tree remains chained up.</p> <p>To date, one of the main branches on the tree has fallen off.</p> <p>The ride Hex at the theme park is based on a fanciful elaboration of this legend.</p>

Family Dining Room

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Sensed soldiers again. (Confirmed)
Jannine	Sensed a connection to the name John Talbot (Confirmed. However, in the Tower's history, there have been six owners of the Towers called John Talbot).
Jannine	Sensed the presence of children in this area in addition to the spirit of a nanny who was supervising babies.
Jannine	Felt that children suffering from Scarlet Fever had been kept here.
Jannine	Felt that this room though originally used for dining had then been used in a nursing capacity.
Jannine	Connected with the presence of a young boy who was a very important royal (Boy King again?) who stated that he wished to communicate and needed help. (See previous notes for King Celored.)
Jannine	Sensed the presence of an older male spirit who was related to royalty, possibly a cousin to a Queen. He had been married to a woman who had only married him to achieve the status it would give her.

Banqueting Hall

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Felt a strong urge to laugh with lots of fun and dancing taking place.
Jannine	Sensed two men sword fighting (This has been reported on previous investigations).
Jannine	Sensed that a Jester had used this area.
Jannine	Sensed a strong argument between two men in the 1400's who were arguing over the ownership of the building. (There are records of a long and costly legal battle over ownership of the Towers between two family members but this took place in the mid 1800's).
Jannine	Felt that the name "Earl of Shrewsbury" was significant to the building (Confirmed: Alton Towers was home to the Earls of Shrewsbury in succession, beginning with the 1st Earl, John Talbot.)
Jannine	Sensed a female spirit who was connected to the name of Lord Talbot. (Difficult to establish without knowing which Lord Talbot was being referred to.)
Jannine	Sensed the spirit of a "Boy King" who had come to the building to be crowned hundreds of years ago. Felt that this boy was later poisoned in order to rid him from the throne and that he went insane as a result before his death. Believed that he was approximately 14 years old when he died. His death was blamed on mental illness as the poisoning was covered up. (Confirmed: The Towers are built on the site of an 8th Century fortress which was governed by King Ceolred, a young boy when crowned. He ruled from 709 to 716 but was not a liked King and was accused of being cruel and immoral. His rule came to an end during a feast where he collapsed in a fit and then died. Saint Boniface later described him as dying in a crazed frenzy at a banquet, "gibbering with demons and cursing the priests of God". Atthelbald a member of another branch of the Mercian royal line, who had been forced into exile during Ceolred's rule, succeeded him. (The nature of his death could possibly show similar symptoms to that of consuming some kind of poison).
Team 3	Described seeing a "ball of mist" in front of one of the team members. (No cause found)
Team 3	Experienced icy breezes and strange smells. (No cause found)
Team 3	One of the team felt as if their neck were being tickled by something, which coincided with a significant drop in temperature.

Main Banqueting Hall

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Sensed that this area held formal banquets. There were however banquets held in other areas which encouraged integration with people from what were considered to be the lower classes.
Jannine	Sensed that a female spirit had followed the group into this room.
Jannine	Felt that people had held court in this area.
Jannine	Felt that this room had been used in an official capacity for signing important and legal documents with wax seals. Felt that formal and important discussions had taken place here too.
Team 1	Using the planchette, the team connected with the spirit of a male called Christopher.
Team 1	Connected with the spirit of a female called Alicia who tried very hard to write her name using the planchette.
Team 1	Entire team heard tapping noises in the room.
Team 2	Entire team felt extremely warm although they were standing in a very large, open room.
Team 2	Noticeable temperature changes recorded in the area.
Team 2	The team used the IC-EMF meter as a communication tool. LED's lit on the unit in a "Yes" response to questions from the team.

The Library

Investigator	Activity
Team 1	Using glass divination the team sensed the spirit of a male connected with the names of David and Christopher who had dabbled in black magic. Believed that he was 43 years old when he died in 1726. His death was due to syphilis, which he caught as a result of forcing himself on a woman. The room became very cold during this time.

The Chapel (Base Camp)

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Sensed that someone was walking on the balcony area. (This has been reported on previous occasions).
Jannine	Could hear a harp playing. (Confirmed. One owner of the Towers, Charles Talbot, the 15th Earl of Shrewsbury housed a blind, Welsh harpist in a thatched cottage in the grounds known as Swiss Cottage. The harpist was employed to fill the garden with music for the delight of the Earl, his family and guests.)
Jannine	Sensed soldiers from WW1 who use this area for worship. (Possibly, but during WWII as Alton Towers was requisitioned as an officer cadet training camp).
Jannine	Sensed Monks in this area. (Confirmed)
Jannine	Sensed that fighting and arguments amongst a large group of people had taken place here.
Jannine	Felt that this area had also been used for studying and teaching.
Jannine	Sensed the presence of a male spirit who was a very upright standing holy man. He was standing as a soldier would on parade. He was as upright in character as he was in posture.
Jannine	Felt that some of the chapel had been rebuilt on old ground (Confirmed).
Jannine	Could sense a female spirit crying in this area.
Jannine	Felt that black magic ceremonies had been performed on the stage/altar area of the room. (Confirmed, it is thought black magic had been carried out at this site in the past)
Team 1	Sensed the spirit of a lady walking along the top balcony.
Team 1	A crewmember appeared to take on the form of young, well dressed, tall man whilst they were standing on the altar area. This form was visible to all team members for some time and looked nothing like the crewmember that was actually standing there. The form disappeared after the crewmember was told by Jannine to move away from the area. The team described the male as being in his twenties, dressed in what they described as being like his "Sunday Best". The man was wearing a high collared white shirt and long black jacket and trousers and came over as being quite aggressive. Jannine felt that he would have been connected to the location possibly in the 1940's or 1950's and possibly dabbled in the black arts. The crewmember involved did not feel any ill effects at the time, only a sense of being a distant observer of their surroundings.
Team 1	Heard a sound like small stones being thrown. (No cause found)
Team 2	Heard noises coming from the balcony. *This area was inaccessible to the teams on the night of the event.
Team 2	One of the team members had a strong urge to cry and during this time the pendulum being used was moving dramatically.
Team 2	Smelt a fragrance like lavender. (Lavender and perfume smells in the Tower buildings have been reported previously.)
Team 3	Heard a sound like a stone being dropped. (No cause found)
Team 3	Team members felt cold breezes several times during the vigil.
Team 3	Saw a flash of light twice in the corner of the room. (No cause found)
Team 3	Smelt a fragrance like musk in the air. (No cause found)
Team 3	Team stated that the glass they had been using for divination appeared to move by itself. (No cause found)
Team 3	Team heard not readily explainable noises coming from the ceiling and other areas of the room. (No cause found)
Team 3	One of the team members smelt a fragrance like mint.

Music Room

Investigator	Activity
Team 3	Felt cold breezes.
Team 3	One of the team members described being touched by what felt like a hand.
Team 3	Sensed children playing in the area.

Room above Music Room

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Felt that a young woman in her 20's had been pushed from one of the windows here. Although the act was claimed to be accidental, it wasn't and she was killed as a result of jealous argument. Felt that this female spirit was very distressed and was warning people to stay away from the windows. (The figure of a woman has been reported as being seen looking out from one of these windows.)
Jannine	Felt that the far right area of the room was much calmer spiritually.

Room below Leicester Tower

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Felt extremely disoriented and "spiny" in this room (something that many people within the group also commented on whilst in this area).
Jannine	Felt that a man had been stabbed in this room.

West Wing

Investigator	Activity
Team 1	Sensed a male and female spirit.
Team 1	Felt the presence of 3 spirit children who liked playing with the team and when asked to do so caused the pendulums to swing. The team also heard the sound of somebody splashing in some water and also what sounded like stones being thrown into water.
Team 1	Heard two distinct sets of footsteps coming from another room. One was heavy like a male presence and the other sounded like the sound of a woman walking in heels.
Team 1	Two team members clearly saw a bright orb with the naked eye move by the stairs in the room.
Team 1	The EMF meter moved significantly when the team took measurements by the doorway.
Team 3	During a séance with Jannine, the team connected with the spirit of the "Boy King" who was very upset and wished help in finding and going back to his parents. Jannine and the team helped the spirit to cross over and as they did so, the team saw a flash of light and the atmosphere in the room completely changed and became much calmer. (See previous notes on King Celored).
Team 3	One of the team members felt a cold breeze and as if someone was pushing them.

North West Tower

Investigator	Activity
Jannine	Felt that this area was much calmer spiritually.
Jannine	Sensed that the "Boy King" had been kept here. Felt as if half of his face had disappeared. A crewmember sensed this to be the right side of the face.
Jannine	Stated that the female spirit who had been following the group was still doing so and that her name was Alyssia and that she was a very gentle woman.
Jannine	Could hear very soothing music being played in this room.
Jannine	Sensed the spirit of a servant woman baking bread.
Jannine	Sensed soldiers again who were marching and defending the castle.
Jannine	Sensed someone had either been hung for murdering a baby or that a baby itself had been hung in this area.