



Bisham Abbey

Buckinghamshire

February 2008

Report by Maria-Clare Lush

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Investigators:

Specialists: John Crowley (Clairvoyant Medium), (PT Crew Lead): Andrew Marsay. PT Crew: Kerry Marsay, Kevin Ling, Mark Brown, Sue McConnell, John (P Diddy) and Maria-Clare Lush

Team 1: Keith Harrison, Lorraine Bishop, Tracey Young, Stuart Alden, Mark Wilton and Anita Wastaney

Team 2: Michelle Batchelor, Adrienne Cole, Julia Stevens, Jenny Crowther, Glyn Crowther, Mark Hamilton

Team 3: Simon Langan, Jan Langan, Kathryn Card, Jan Card, Paula Wilson, Rebekah Reardon

Team 4: David Rutland, Terry Rutland, Daniel Palmer, Andrew Bowler, Rita Hammer, Iselin Lygrell

This report is a compilation of the Ghost Walk, the group vigils conducted throughout the night and comments left on the PT forum

Sonning/Margaret Room

Investigator	Activity
Whole Group	Lots of smells
John	Picked up on the energies of a lady and a boy
	Picked up on high religious men, towards the back of the room
Team 1 – Keith and Mark	Kept getting tingles down their spine from the far corner of the room
Team 1 – Keith	Saw the full apparition of a Templar Knight and described him in full detail – he was standing on guard in the room. He had a chain helmet that came past his shoulder and a long whit tunic with a red cross on his chest. – Templar Knights are connected with the location.
Team 1 – Andrew	Was transformed into him, getting taller and thinner – temperature went down 3 degrees
Team 1	All felt static where the Templar Knight was
Team 1 – Keith	Keith’s grandfather came through and gave him a personal message
Team 1	William came through and moved the class during divination – Several Williams are connected to the place
Team 1	Table tipping, got vibrations but nothing else.
Team 2	Tried table tipping with no success
Team 2	Via glass Divination connected with William (Son of Elizabeth) William left on several occasions, Mark felt this was a result of his mother coming into the room, this was confirmed by William who said his mother didn’t like him playing games.

Team 3	Lots of swaying as if the team were on a boat
Team 3	A member of the group felt her bottom was pinched
Team 3	Lots of cold breezes, curtains moving on their own
Team 3	The face of 3 members changed and 1 member got smaller in height
Team 3	There was a lady present and children.
Team 4	During séance saw a dark shadow between 2 members, a number of shadows came and many energies were walking round the group.
Team 4	Saw a bright white light in the centre of the ring, pulsating
Team 4	Glass spelt out BR, 16 th Century

The Great Hall

Investigator	Activity
MC and Mark(client)	Had stabbing pains in kidneys
Lady	Felt someone touch her hand
Group	Had tingling feelings
John	Saw a big banquet with children, men and women attending
John	Picked up on a battle in the great hall and hallway, two groups of men and a lot of blood shed – This has been picked up before.
John	Connected with Lady Elizabeth – a domineering lady who was also a control freak, who liked to minulipate people to do what she wants and to get where she wanted. – Confirmed as Lady Elizabeth Hoby
John	Picked up on Knight Templar's – Confirmed Bisham Abbey use to belong to the Knights Templar's
John	Picked up on Templar Graves outside – Confirmed .. It is believed the buriel ground is in the area under the tennis courts.
Team 1	We could all hear moaning coming from the balcony – although it was a very windy night and the wind could have caused it, but after investigation it is still unclear if the moaning and howling was from the wind or paranormal.
Team 1	The curtains were moving on their own accord with no breeze present.
Team 1	Lady Elizabeth cam through and locked into Stuart whilst doing glass divination
Team 1	Anger was felt by all team members. Lady Elizabeth was really attached to Stuart and filling him with anger that he couldn't shift. MC have him 3 crystals to hold which helped a bit, but he had to be taken into a garden to meet his guardian angel so that his angel could give him a happy memory to call on. As soon as he did the anger left him and Lady Elizabeth moved away from the group – This was a strange occurrence, a couple of us could feel ourselves getting angry, but once we realised what was happening we calmed down, but Stuart couldn't.
Team 1	At the same time the glass moved on its own during glass divination.
Team 1	Once lady Elizabeth moved away the curtain stopped moving.
Team 1 – mark	Tried scrying and was transformed into Lady Elizabeth, 3 members of the team all described this happening.
Team 1	Door was banging on its own especially when calling her name.
Team 2	Camera took pictures by itself

Team 3	Scrying in the mirror resulted in two members faces changed – 1 with stubble and a round face.
Team 3	Heard screaming and mumbles
Team 3	Had doors opening, closing and slamming shut
Team 4	During visualisation saw lots of people ion the hall
Team 4	Got dizzy when walked to the back of the room
Team 4	Sae men in puffysleves and a red haired lady in a head dress
Team 4 – member	Felt sick, started wrenching and coughing
Team 4	During glass divination connected with a 3 year old boy – put the kit box on the floor as the child found it easier
Team 4	2 people died scrying. One saw a highway man bearded and heavy eyes. Other saw a knight in armour again with a beard.

Vansittart Room

Investigator	Activity
MC	Saw a man with a sword towards the back of the room
Whole Group	Had trouble breathing, and feelings of heaviness – this has been reported previously
John	Connected with children playing
John	Picked up on a gentleman
John	Picked up on lots of sadness in the room connected with a lady called E
John	Picked up on lots of men, the room contained plush leather seats and tables, lots of business talk – CONFIRMED
John	Was drawn to the back window, as a lady standing looking out of it.
John	Connected with a lady that was connected with the tower, lots of tears, remorse and begging of forgiveness – CONFIRMED
John	This lady has been seen in the tower – CONFIRMED
Team 1	Connected with a scouse who just wanted to play all the time.
Team 1 – Keith	Did some automatic writing which had a warning for him – Go away, I am waiting for you. You are in trouble next time wait and see. Watch out England, the best is yet to come .. wait and see!
Team 1	Connected with a stable lad called Robert, he was 17 and died from a sword wound. Keith reminded him of his brother, around 1400's
Team 1	Had energy round the table and 2 team members had feelings of coldness and shivering
Team 1	Two members felt something pressing down on their shoulder.
Team 2	During glass divination connected with 6 spirits, 4 adults and 2 children, one 3year old who liked to play. Possibly two 7 years olds and one 2 year old, also an adult called William.
Team 2 – Michelle	William squeezed Michelle during séance
Team 2 – jenny	Had her ear blown!
John	Picked up on the names of William, Nevile, Shelia and Henry, Michael and Oscar – There are several Williams this could relate to. Nevile could relate to Richard Nevile who owned the estate at one time. Henry, William and Oscar could be anyone!
John	Picked up on a man in his 60's 5'8 stocky build, well dressed, had a pipe and liked the ladies, had a chest condition – name of William.
Team 2 – Mark	Tried automatic writing and came up with/heard C or See, but then gave up thinking it was nothing, however there was a picture on the wall of an Admiral so this might be connected.
Team 3	A member of the team connected with their Dad
Team 3	Connected with a boy called Tony aged 8 who liked playing games.

Team 3	Heard Taps and Thumps
Team 3	Door up in the tower kept banging, and lights came on all by themselves.
Team 3	Felt a female spirit who was not happy – felt she had a son called William.

Elizabethan Room

Investigator	Activity
MC/Sue – crew walkround	Connected with a lady called Elizabeth -
MC/Sure – crew walkround	Saw a small boy playing on the stage – this boy has been picked up before
Sue	Had cold legs around the legs
John	Connected with Lady Elizabeth, with strong energies – Confirmed
John	Connected with a boy Lady Elizabeth’s son who died in the tower – Confirmed
John	Wanted to curl up into a ball and cry
Team 1	Had a message for Keith, it was his granddad
Team 1	Keith and Stuart both did automatic writing and both had messages

Henry VIII Room

Sue, Mark, Kev, Kerry, MC	While setting up the experiments we decided to try table tipping, with no success but we did hear footsteps, taps and saw strange lights in the room and via glass divination connected with children and a strong mail energy. As we were leaving we said goodbye and the attic door opened, MC went to close it but before she got to it it slammed shut, we asked if it was the children we connected with and that if it was them that opened their door could they do it again. They did, and closed it, this happened several times, we checked for strong breezes and if the floor could make the door move. It didn't. Further tests would need to be done to see if this was paranormal, or if it was a door downstairs that made this happen.
Group	No-one liked the room as it felt heavy and dark
John	Didn't want to be in the room as it filled him with negative energy and he had to leave.
John	Said there were 3 levels of energy in the room, and that the middle level was keeping the totally negative energy back.
Group	Had a feeling of swaying
Team2	Via glass divination, connected with Lady Elizabeth and William, when speaking to William Jenny asked him to move over to the planchette, Immediately the glass stopped moving and Michelle and Julia had movement on the planchette. Connected with lady Elizabeth and had a E appear on the page.
Team 3	Connected with a man called James Booth dies 1906 by a shooting accident
Team 3	Connected with a Georg R who was a friend of Victoria
Team 3	Connected with a male energy who didn't want us there,
Team 3	Connected with Marks's guide Jack
Team 3	Saw orbs going across hands
Team 3	Felt someone was on the stairs
Team 4	John felt an energy and started burning up between 23 and 25. But didn't feel hot to the touch.
Team 4	Male and female spirits felt
Team 4	Two people were seen, tall lady, bug nose and harsh face. Man with dark cold eyes and had an evil smirk, also had something protruding from his mouth. Felt violent and Angry

Attic Room

MC and Sue	Went up to the attic room, MC felt like she was being strangled. Saw thought someone had been hung up there. Sue and MC felt that there was a man up there in a hurry and would push people out the way to get through. Sue and MC saw orbs flying round from the front of the attic.
Team 1	Keith, mark and Anita felt there was someone hiding and wouldn't come near them
Team 2	Mark and Adrian went up to the attic, Both felt emotional
Team 2	Mark and Adrian felt that someone had been hung from the beam by the window.

Visualisation Exercise – This was done in the Great Hall to see if people could see what it looked like/what it was used for in the olden days or what the area looked like.

Team 2	Long tables set out in front of fireplace used to feast on A sword fight with a guy called Edward, stabbed in the back Peture of a lady, long table, loyts of men in an official status
	More of a kitchen people preparing food Connected with a man called Jack
	Banqueting Hall, long dark oak tables running up the centre of the hall Red walls with lots of plants and banners Smokey Atmosphere but no fire place
Team 3	Trees, Barn building, a milk maid
	Year 1873, on left a gate and bench, one the right a big oak tree in the field. Stage coach, a man with a beard and long curly hair with hat and a feather in it. Also in the field was a market Saw a girl early 20's long shirt, stripy bodice, hair was dark and pulled up. She was happy to see me, Didn't know what time she came from, she appeared middle, lower class.
	Fighting soldiers, lady in field with parasol. Cottage in the distance with smokey building.
	Fields, leading onto a bench with medieval boats going past. Children running up and down beach with boats sailing past.
Psychic Kev	Old cottage to right hand side of pathway, weatherwoman out front, Geese and chickens in yard. Further on, chap in big top hat with moustache – gentleman tail coat late 1800's dress.
Team 1	I think this room was used for a big banquet for Royalty and Rich people. first coming in the room seems to have a clam atmosphere, it does seem to be changing in temp and becoming colder
	I see a court jester playing the fool and juggling. On the balcony I see an orchester plating music, hardsecord, violins etc. I smell food – roast turkey etc, I

	can see people pulling off drumsticks to eat. Long banquet tables. Could be a connection with Henry VIII as I see a very big loud man. Saw Queen Elizabeth 1 st , with frilly neck collar. Saw a medieval style banquet. Atmosphere blowing hot and cold. Children are playing and having fun. Saw a sword fight between 2 knights. – confirmed Henry VIII was reported to have stayed at Bisham to escape the plague
	I am very calm, but I am drawn to the balcony. I feel that we are bring watch
	I saw chandelirs, octagonal tables, knights and soldiers, a discussion of war, saw large oak chairs and shields with coats of arms. Confirmed Disussions of war has been picked up before
	Once used a church, felt séance and prayers etc . Felt that the fire place was not originally there. Music played a large part in this hall. Clergy of some kind used this place.
Team 4	I feel room use to be a kitchen, I see men in white cooking a large pig roast
	I saw ladies in Henry VIII time dresses and civil war uniforms.
	I saw long tables, lots of laughter and lots of people, saw lots of wine, time was 1600's
	I saw a woman dressed in black, room empty, she walks around the hall and has a sense of loss

Trigger Objects: None were set up.

History of Bisham Abbey

There is a lot of history to Biahsm Abbey. A small part of it is below.

The Abbey was never a religious place, there use to be a priory but there are only ruins left of that. Bisham Abbey is mentioned in the Domesday Book back in 1086 the Manor belonged to Henry de Ferres who grandson the Earl of Derby granted it to the Knight Templars in the reign of King Stephen. During the reign of Edward II in 1307 when all Templar possessions were confiscated, and the abbey was turned over to Robert de Winkfield.

The Great Hall is one of the oldest parts of the Abbey and actually dates back to the time of the Templar's, with the kitchen block behind.

Time moves on and so the Abbey passes to other people. In 1307 Edward II seized the place and used it as a luxurious goal for imprisoned dignitaries. Queen Elizabeth of the Scots, wife of Kind Robert the Bruce was imprisoned here in 1310, along with her step-daughter Princess Marjorie and sister-in-law Lady Christine of Carrick.

In 1335, Bisham was granted to the Barons Montacute who eventually became with Earls of Salisbury. They founded the abbey and the house became their main residence for over two hundred years.

In the 14th Century the abbey underwent changes, the council chamber, fine cellar were all added and the abbey was the scene of much political intrigue as well as state occasions, especially during the owner ship of Richard Neville, Early of Salisbury and Warwick as Richard III was his son-in-law.

In the 16th Century the Hoby family took up residence. From around 1557, Sir Philip Hoby erected the great dancing hall and a suite of rooms.

(There is a record that Queen Elizabeth I spent a number of years imprisoned at Bisham during the raeign of Bloody Mary, and later retuned to visit Lady Hoby)

The most famous ghosts said to walk the abbey are Lady Elizabeth and William Hoby
The boy, William, was the youngest son of Sir Thomas and Lady Elizabeth Hoby. Like his brothers and sisters before him he was brought up at Bisham Abbey under the watchful eye of his mother, Sir

Thomas having died when his children were very small. Lady Hoby was a personal friend of Queen Elizabeth I. She was very proud and ambitious, some might say even cold and hard. Being one of the most learned ladies of the age, Lady Hoby was eager to ensure that her children received the same rigorous education that both she and her husband had had. She therefore oversaw all her children's tuition. Lady Hoby expected perfection from her pupils, and wielded a heavy ruler to make sure she got it.

Poor William was not as bright as his siblings. He constantly stumbled over his lessons and blotted his copybooks, and his mother's quick temper was often lost. In her eyes he was nothing but a lazy good-for-nothing. She was seen on more than one occasion beating little William about the head with her ruler until he collapsed and fell to the ground. Blood streamed from his eyes, nose and mouth and saturated the grass.

Sadly, this was to be William Hoby's lot in life. He was always slow and clumsy, and could never live up to his mother's expectations.

It happened one day that Elizabeth Hoby took her children up to the warmth of the Abbey's tower room. For the elder children the class passed quickly and they were soon sent off to play; but poor William had got behind in his work and had to stay to finish it. Lady Hoby was already annoyed by her son's stupidity, but then...Splat, Splat! William had pressed too hard on his quill again: the ink surged from the pen and spread over the page in front of him. To Lady Hoby the blots personified all that was wrong with the World. She beat him again and William wailed in pain as he fell to the floor. Again and again his mother beat him, till the blood ran once more. Eventually she halted. Her hands were covered with blood, but her anger had not yet been fully vented. Fetching some rope, she dragged poor William back up into his chair. There she secured him, tying the rope around his waist and legs. Finally she thrust the quill back into his hand and the copybook into his face. "You will re-write every word of today's lesson, and it had better be perfect in every way, or you know what will happen!" she announced. Then she spun out of the room with a flurry and she locked the door behind her. Still fired up by the morning's events, Lady Hoby had a horse saddled and off into Bisham Woods.

Soon after she left though a messenger arrived at the Abbey with a letter from the Queen. It was said to be urgent, so a page rode out to deliver it Lady Hoby at once. Her Ladyship was puzzled to see one of her servants ride up beside her, but her confusion turned to joy when she read the Royal message. She had been summoned to Court by Queen Elizabeth and was ordered to leave without delay. So off they rode to Windsor, without a thought for packing or saying goodbyes.

Lady Hoby reveled in Court life: it is said that she enjoyed herself so much at court that it was several days before she felt ready to return home to mundane Bisham Abbey. She was not surprised when all her children but William ran out to greet her. She thought he was sulking in his room. So Lady Hoby asked after her youngest son. But the servant thought that William had gone with her. Lady Hoby jumped down from her horse and raced up to the Tower Room; but, it was far too late. Little William was dead.

Lady Hoby was filled with remorse for her actions. If only she had not been so selfish, so strict, so violent, he would still be alive. She spent the rest of her life in sorrowful misery. Shortly after her death in 1609, her repentant ghost was seen wandering through the house. Lady Hoby has been seen many times since. A miraculous fountain floats before her and, not unlike the evil Lady Macbeth, she tries constantly to wash the accusing blood stains from her hands. She is especially known for her appearances in the Tower Room at the time of a Coronation, when she shows her guilt at choosing her monarch over her son.

There has also been a report that one day a man was stood in the hall under her picture, he looked at the picture then turned away, he suddenly felt a presence next to him, turned round and Lady Hoby was stood next to him, looking at the picture of her it was empty!

There is a lot of history to Bisham Abbey, not all of which is here. The main thing to remember is when connecting with a lady called Elizabeth, find out which one you are connected with and don't assume its Elizabeth Hoby.