

The Shelleys Investigation Report

Location: The Shelleys, High Street, Lewes East Sussex BN7 1XS



Date: Sunday 2nd January 2011

Times: 9pm – 3am

GPS Investigators:

Barri Ghai
Phil Measey
Matt Watkins
Sheena Prew
Toni Seale

Guests: Tina Ludlow

Case History

Back in 1980, Andrew Green's highly successful 'Ghosts of Today' was published, containing an entry of the hotel.

During 1978, a guest who was staying in Room 26, for the purpose of dealing with a criminal prosecution at the Lewes Crown Court, suddenly left after his bed was levitated three inches during the night.

The phenomenon with Room 26 is associated with a gentleman who stayed one night in the 1930's. He departed so quickly the following morning that he left his clothes behind and gassed himself in a room of a nearby house owned by a relative.

Since, there have been unspecified reports of other phantoms being seen, as well as typical poltergeist activity.

Data & location Facts

The building was originally an Inn called the 'Vine' and was built during the early 1520's. The original sign is preserved in the Anne of Cleves House Museum in Lewes.

In 1590, the building was sold to the 4th Earl of Dorset who converted the inn into a fine manor house. The house was sold to Henry Shelley in 1661. The celebrated poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley was a member of the family.

From 1800 to 1875 the house was owned by John Hodgkin. You may be interested to see the other side of a door in the lounge which charts the heights of the Hodgkin children whilst they were growing up.

During the First World War, the house was used as a military hospital for officers. Afterwards, the house was converted into flats for a short time until 1932 when the building became a hotel named 'Shelleys Hotel'.

The Shelleys remained privately owned until 1977, when it became the first hotel owned by Mount Charlotte Investments. Following this period of corporate ownership, The Shelleys returned to private ownership in 2003.

In 2007, the name of the hotel was changed from Shelleys Hotel to 'The Shelleys'. The motive for this change was to restore the hotel to its original name, as it was in the 17th Century.

Preliminary Base Readings

	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5	Room 6	Room 7
EMF	1 – 3mG	1mG	1mG	1mG – 3mG	1mG
Temperature	21C	20C	18C	20C	19C

Other Data and Observations:

Outside air temperature: 3 – 4 Degrees Centigrade

Weather: Clear, cold, and dry

Moon Phase: Waning Crescent



The building is very elegant and seems to have preserved the very heritage that its name suggests.

The staff were all professional, well presented and courteous.

Arrival

The team arrived in the early evening and were met by a very well presented and friendly receptionist. She immediately welcomed the team and explained about room allocations and health and safety detail. She proceeded to tell us a little about the case history and offered a tour of the location.

The receptionist showed the team and I each and every room of the Hotel except for the three that were occupied by members of the public that evening. These three rooms were located away from the alleged 'active' area of the hotel.

As we walked around the hotel I totally lost my bearings. The rooms and the different floors seemed to blend into one another. It looked like something from a Jane Austin novel and was possibly one of the most rich and beautiful hotels that I have visited in England.

As we walked around the Hotel looking in the different bedrooms several of us were already aware of feeling like we were not alone in a tour. It was like there were eyes on you wherever you went. Each room felt different to the next. As we entered room number 3, I remember saying immediately that I didn't like it. Sheena also commented that she felt very much oppressed in there. There was no logical reason as to why I reacted that way and the room was very well presented and decorated.



Room 3

In just 3 of the other rooms we were shown, I had a similar feeling, but most notably in room 5, 6, and 7, which unbeknown to us at the time were the rooms we were to occupy that night and the rooms reported to have had most alleged 'paranormal activity'.

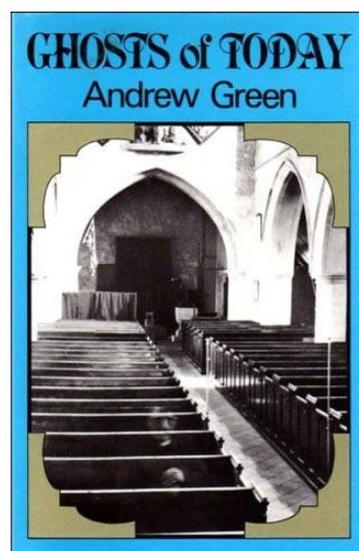
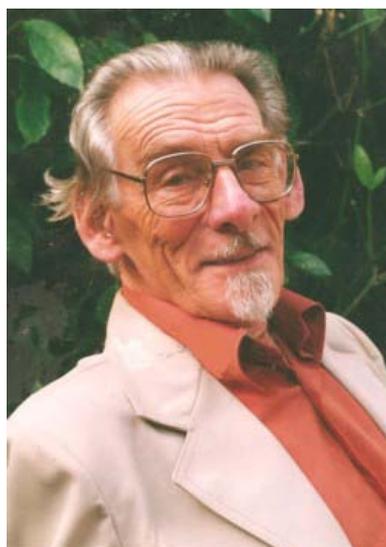


Room 5, 6 and 7

Each wing of The Shelleys felt different, and it was apparent that one part was significantly older than the other. We were given the master key and were told we had access to all areas, but the rooms allocated to us were all in the most active area of the Hotel and numbered from 2 to 7.

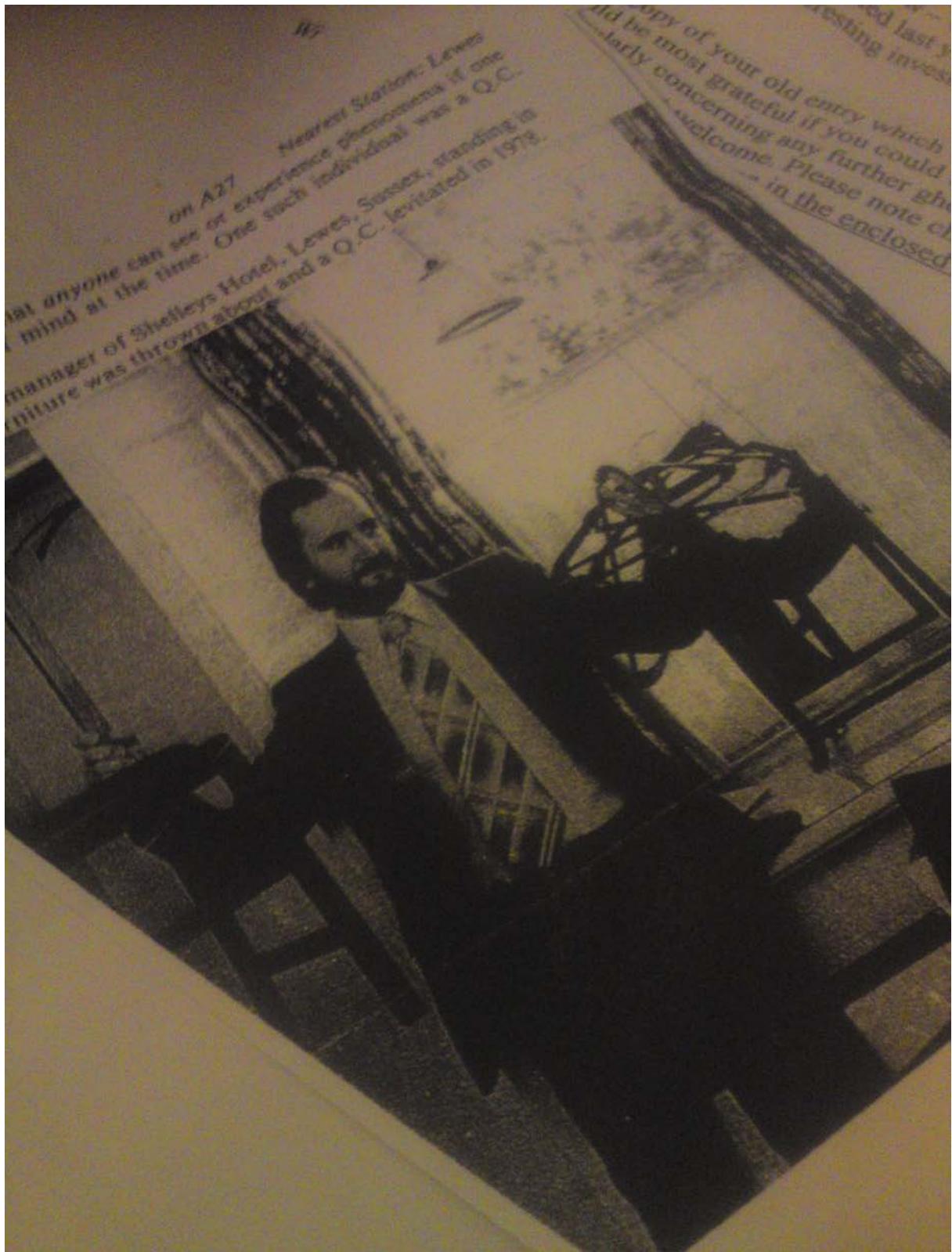
We were then presented with two photocopied documents giving us a brief historical account of the hotel and its alleged haunting. Apparently Room 26 was the scene of poltergeist activity back in 1978. The report read that a QC who was staying in Room 26 for the purpose of dealing with a criminal prosecution at the Lewes Crown Court, suddenly left after his bed was levitated three inches during the night.

There was also a report of objects including coat hangers and ashtrays being thrown around the room by invisible forces. All this information was reported by the late Andrew Green in his book 'Ghosts of Today', published in 1980.



The information seemed very intriguing and we immediately felt that this hotel room should be the focal point for the investigation. However, we were then informed that as the years went by the hotel underwent renovations and room numbers were also changed. There was no longer a Room 26 and the current staff were not sure which room it might have been.

The only way we could possibly identify the room in question was from the black and white photocopied image we had with the report detail. The picture showed former hotel owner David Nicholls holding what we assume were the clothes hangers that were reported to have been thrown by alleged ghosts. The photograph was apparently taken in room 26.



I asked to take a look at Rooms 6, 5 and 4 again as these seemed the most likely candidates for being the former room 26. It was extremely confusing and as times had changed the decor and possible space itself may have changed significantly. The team and I settled on the assumption that it may have been either room 4 or 6 on the first floor based on the position of a tree in the photograph and direction of the rooms view.

Back in the lobby, the hotel manager then presented himself to us all and was the perfect gentlemen. The level of courtesy and assistance we had been met with by the staff at this hotel was second to none, and the team and I were now ready to begin setting ourselves up and planning the investigation.

Setting Up

We decided to set up our technical hub in room 2 for two main reasons. Firstly we were able to receive a moderate Wi-Fi signal to assist us in streaming our investigation on the website, and also this room was not considered 'active' by the hotel staff.



Cameras were positioned in four main areas of our immediate vicinity and cabled back to a Digital Video Recorder (DVR) in Room 2. Camera 1 and 2 were both located in Room 6, Camera 3 was positioned strategically in the main corridor to capture any movement on the staircase and landing. The fourth DVR camera was established in Room 4, considered to be a paranormal hotspot. (Later in the evening DVR cameras were repositioned in rooms 3, and 7)

Sheena, Toni, and Tina then moved around each area of our investigation zone taking base readings for control purposes. The average room temperatures fluctuated between 18 and 22 degrees centigrade, and EMF fields appeared to be within normal ranges, except for in two particular areas. The bathroom in Room 6 caused spikes on both the K2 meter and Gauss Master. These fluctuations were significant and although unexplained, we feel may have been attributed to electrical wiring in the walls or floor. The second area was in room 3 where the K2 meter spiked at various points, indicating that there may have been some electrical wire at those points. However, the investigators reported random spikes in one particular area of the room near to the bathroom door. They were unable to trace any pattern which would indicate wiring etc.



K2 spike in bedroom.



At around 9pm, the team and I begun our first vigil in Room 6. There were all team members present and we had two Infra-Red DVR cameras recording from two different angles in the room. We chose to use the Ovilus, and K2 meter to assist us in this area. The team set about politely asking for any spirits to come forward and make their presence known to us, by giving us a visible or audible sign. No specific questions were asked at first and the room almost immediately appeared to take on a feeling of uneasiness. The anticipation for something paranormal to occur was very high although the team are always looking for the logical and most rational explanation in the first instance, this feeling was something very noticeable by the whole group.

Room 6 had a very unsettled atmosphere and it was clear that the team and I expected 'something' to happen in here. I set the K2 meter in the middle of the floor and asked if the supposed spiritual energy that had been seen here could indeed make their presence known. Almost immediately the device flashed and repeatedly pulsed to the red light, indicating a large fluctuation in the Electromagnetic Field. Was this proof that a ghost had contacted us, or was there a more logical explanation as to the origin of this EMF fluctuation? All lights and appliances in the room were off, and as always our mobile communication devices were all also switched off and two way radios were not in use. The thrill of seeing the K2 meter react in this way caused the team to pursue this

question and answer session for over half an hour before moving on. The result of our first vigil however proved inconclusive, but it seemed that we had still experienced anomalous K2 readings and some very strange feelings of uneasiness.

Room 4 was our next investigation area. Apparently there were reports of guests feeling uneasy in here, but there were no specific reports of any paranormal activity ever taking place. Was this the infamous Room 26, or had we missed something. The room was decorated in a very elegant fashion and faced the front of the building. The feeling in here was warm and tranquil and in all honesty we felt quite relaxed. We carried out a specific question EVP session but received no responses from any of our EMF detectors. The results of this EVP experiment proved nothing out of the ordinary and despite a few knocks and rattles heard we all concurred that there was no activity of a paranormal nature to investigate further at that time and agreed to move on.



Room 4

The team enjoyed a short recess to gather our thoughts and consider our next location in the hotel. I felt that this was one of those locations where it was always going to be hard to walk away with

definite proof of paranormal activity, and testimony would suggest that if only a handful of guests or staff in almost a hundred years had ever experienced anything ghostly then we were to accept that anything truly paranormal happening to us was going to be amazing and very lucky indeed. The probability of us actually encountering something paranormal was great and my thoughts at the time were any potential evidence would if anything be in the form of EVP's.

It was at this stage of the evening that the hotel receptionist called upon us to check in and find out what was happening. We explained to her about the K2 activity in room 6, and also discussed possible logical causes for these phenomena. At the time I felt that there was something more, and something still missing from the investigation. The receptionist seemed terrified at the prospect of us actually finding any evidence that ghosts may well inhabit the hotel, and yet she was very hesitant and cagey about areas she felt warranted further investigation. However, upon further discussion with her she confided to me that room 3 may indeed be spiritually active. I was very intrigued as to her rationale behind this assertion and questioned her further away from my team. She confidentially divulged that a recent guest had died in this particular room and post mortem results indicated that he had suffered a massive heart attack killing him where he fell.

This was indeed a shocking revelation and one that would possibly influence the way the investigation would now go. I pondered this thought for a few moments before deciding not to immediately tell the team and to investigate the room with just one other member in the first instance.

I sent Phil, Matt, Sheena and Tina to room 7, which backed onto room 6. These two rooms appeared to be one larger area split up by a wall divide and upon closer inspection we noticed that there was in fact a hinged door painted over in room 6 that would have led directly into the room next door.

Toni and I moved into room 3, and I felt it necessary to then inform her of the information the hotel receptionist had imparted to me just a few moments ago. This information was thus to form the basis of our question session using the Ovilus and K2 meter.

It was almost immediate; the Ovilus began to speak. The words that should have been completely random and unassuming suddenly stood out as the device began to say things that did have an eerie coincidence to the names and information surrounding the death of the hotel guest.

I asked specific questions such as, can you tell me how you died, and what happened to you in here? The Ovilus immediately began to say the following specific words in what seemed an intelligent response to these questions. Pain...Pain....Hot.....Fell.....Fell.....I.....Dick...

Now the name Richard had been given to me by the hotel receptionist and as the Ovilus said Dick chills ran up spine. The name Richard is NOT in the word bank installed on this particular gadget and the series of words spoken seemed to quite accurately paint a picture of the events that led to Richards's possible untimely death.

This piece of evidence alone was truly astonishing, and Toni and I continued to ask specific questions with somewhat specific answers. The Ovilus also continued to speak to us and the words all had massive coincidental significance to the questions we asked. Was there indeed a spiritual energy called Richard communicating with us through the Ovilus? And had we just encountered the first real evidence that The Shelleys was indeed 'haunted'?

After around 45 minutes, Toni and I had exhausted our questions and we were convinced that there was indeed something paranormal occurring in room 3. We adjourned to the hub and met the rest of the team where I briefed them all about the experience we just had, and the information given to me earlier in the evening. I felt we had to return to this room immediately with cameras and all equipment to possibly try and communicate further with the apparent spirit of Richard and evidence it by way of audio and video capture.

[Complete Audio File](#)

The team and I returned to room 3, and the feeling of dread and oppression that we initially had in here was no longer prominent. What was so different?...We established ourselves on the bed, and chairs in what was probably one of the smallest rooms in the entire hotel, and began to ask questions using the Ovilus. Toni and I were eager for the rest of the team to experience what we had done earlier. It wasn't long before the device began to state clearly those words again. I...Fell...Pain....Dick....Pain.....Hot.....Fell..... Although still random, of the 512 words that are installed in this dictionary mode, the Ovilus said these specific words again, and again. It seemed to be clearly explaining to us the events surrounding Richards's death again.

I took a seat right on the apparent spot that his body was found, and held onto a K2 meter. I asked Richard to try and manipulate the device in my hand by changing the coloured lights. Within a few seconds it the lights on the K2 meter began to flash and amazingly pulsed to red for several seconds.

I was adamant that we were indeed communicating with an intelligent spiritual energy, and the Ovilus even began saying the word energy periodically. The doorway to the bathroom in this room was around a foot away from where I was sitting and it was reported to me that Richards body had been moved by paramedics onto the tiles in the bathroom after it was discovered. I felt that given the level of intelligence and clear desire to communicate with us, Richards may well be able to attempt to show himself to us as an energy form or full bodied apparition.

I asked aloud if Richard was able to use our collective energy or draw upon the surrounding ambient energy to try and show himself to us. Nothing happened for a few minutes and so I said, Richard please use my energy to try and show yourself to us, and raised my right hand almost in expectation that it would be held or touched in some way. Immediately I felt a surge of electricity rush through my body and the K2 in my left hand began to respond and went straight to red. This indicated that there was indeed a strong change in the surrounding electromagnetic field and something truly astonishing was taking place. This disembodied voice was also captured at this very moment saying what sounds like "I'm here" ([EVP – I'm Here](#))

After several seconds, the team called out to me and informed me that my eyes were closed, I do not remember responding immediately and all of a sudden the K2 stopped flashing red and I felt immediately relieved of the rush of what I can only describe as electricity leave my body.

There was no evidence of any manifestation, but the experience left me temporarily wiped out and really tired. It is hard to explain the incident and it all seems very surreal to me.

The K2 meter continued to flash periodically over the next half an hour and we all took turns to sit in the chair and call out for a similar response. The bathroom held a very uncertain feeling for all of us and I felt compelled to keep checking it over the course of the vigil. After sometime of no or little

activity we all called out to ask if Richard could indeed try one last time to show us a sign that he was still around, and as I entered the bathroom doorway again, my whole body become immediately overcome with a static electrical charge. The incident was reminiscent of a similar experience that occurred to Matt Watkins and myself in a privately owned farmhouse also in East Sussex last year.

The static charge fizzed on my skin and filled the tiny bathroom. I instinctively jumped out of there and Matt, Phil and Sheena leapt off their seats to see what I had just seen or felt in the bathroom. Immediately Matt and Phil stated that they felt electricity which corroborated exactly what I was feeling, and they noted how it was like static electricity brushing over their skin. I believe that Richard was indeed trying to manifest himself in there and unfortunately my overreaction and shock stopped me from waiting around to see. Phil however remained in the doorway of the bathroom and strangely seemed to be overcome by something or perhaps someone. He spoke in what we feel was a different tone of voice, and seemed very confused. This happened almost immediately and ended swiftly but was very unnerving for us all. Was he temporarily overcome by the spirit and by that I mean did Richard pass through him and occupy his energy for that short time? Phil does not remember this incident, and the team all agree that something quite paranormal took place.

[EVP – Phil Possessed](#)

For me this was an amazing personal experience only rivalled by actually seeing a ghost and something that as a paranormal investigator you hope will happen all the time. I do feel that the charge or electricity was possibly the first stage of a full manifestation. It was a rare treat for anybody and something that has only ever happened to me twice before. I was relieved that Matt, Phil and Sheena were also able to experience it and that proves vital in our reporting of this event and the investigation.

[Watch DVR Video footage available](#)

Following the events in room 3, we decided to bid Richard a farewell and leave the area. A DVR camera was left recording in the room for several hours after but failed to show any further evidence.

The team then split up and investigated room 7, 6, 5, and 4 again for a further hour before I called time on the investigation and we packed away to get some well deserved rest.

Although we were looking forward to a good night's sleep, I must add that we had chosen to occupy rooms 5, 6, and 2 between us.

Myself and Matt Watkins shared room 6 and although tired were kept awake for some time discussing the events and being very aware of something listening to us and watching our movements. I awoke from a deep sleep at around 4:30am and could hear Matt talking to himself. The conversation caught my attention as he was clearly calling out to the spirits and sounded like he was casting a spell of some sort!!! It was very strange and not like Matt to speak in this manner or say these things so randomly. Being absolutely shattered and without lifting my head to look at him, I simply said "go to sleep Matt". With that I drifted off again and slept soundly until morning.

Matt did not admit to having spoken to anyone, and did not recall the incantation I had heard him saying.

In the morning the team discussed the night's events over breakfast and everybody had slept fairly soundly. The experiences in room 3 were talked about and it seemed that we all had the same feelings and recollection of what happened. There was a consensus without having reviewed any audio or video evidence that there was indeed a spiritual energy in the hotel. Such a bold statement from such an experienced team was rare, but on this occasion nobody argued.

EVP's Captured

[It's over there](#)

[I'm here](#)

Conclusion

The Shelleys is indeed haunted. However, the apparitions and poltergeist phenomena associated with past reports cannot be substantiated by us without further evidence and investigation. Our assertion that The Shelleys is haunted is based upon our experiences and the evidence captured during the investigation and specifically in room 3. The gathered evidence does speak for itself and in our opinion what occurred in room 3 was indeed paranormal in origin and may warrant further exploration.

The main evidence to support our claim is in the form of EVP files captured in this room. There is no logical explanation to identify the source of the whispered words and it seems that these are more like intelligent responses to questions or statements made by myself or the team.

The personal experiences that we all had during this investigation are also taken into account. The incident where the bathroom in room 3 became statically charged was truly electrifying and is an experience that defies a rational explanation. This incident was fully witnessed and felt by several members of the team and we believe that it constitutes the first stages of a full bodied manifestation of the spiritual energy.

The results of the Ovilus experiment also led us to believe that we were in fact communicating with a spirit in the same room. Although this device is open to much interpretation about its application and validity as a tool to communicate with the dead, the GPS team have experimented with this machine for several years and have had some amazing and undisputed results with it.

During the investigation of The Shelleys, the Ovilus said several words in response to our questions that would not be purely coincidental. The Ovilus seemed to act as a very clear and accurate voice for whatever was present in room 3 with us. The words that were repeated by the machine seemed to correlate the information imparted to us by the hotel staff. The words hot, pain, fell, happy and the name Dick were clearly identified and seemed to be direct responses rather than random words or errors. A good example of this evidence can be heard by playing [EVP File 130](#).

The use of the K2 meter to detect changes in the Electromagnet Field also proved to be valuable. During our vigil of room 3 the K2 meter spiked massively on several occasions and remained constantly high at certain periods. During one particular part of this vigil, I asked the energy to try and show itself to us by harnessing my energy or the energy of the room. I was holding a K2 meter in my left hand and slowly raised my right hand with the conscious thought to give the spirit an

opportunity to touch me. Within seconds of doing this, I felt like an electrical current was passing through my body and the K2 meter just lit up like a Christmas tree. We genuinely believe that this experience is also fantastic proof that we were indeed communicating with a spiritual energy.

The final experience that we would have to say supports the claim that the hotel is haunted, happened just after myself and several members of the team felt the build up of static electricity in the bathroom. As this energy dissipated and the team moved away from that area, Lead Investigator Phil Measey stood in the doorway and almost immediately began to speak in a voice that was completely different to his own. The words, tone, emotion and content of his statement were clearly not of his own mind and control. This incident was captured on audio and is available to [download here](#). Although a video camera and DVR camera were being used at the time, both failed to record any part of this event, which is astonishing. Why did the camera fail to record such amazing evidence? Did the spiritual energy in some way temporarily affect the camera?

Overall this beautiful hotel has much more to offer to all paranormal enthusiasts and professional ghost hunters. In our opinion the evidence we have gathered suggests that the hotel is indeed haunted by a former guest that met his end in room 3. There is definitely spiritual energy about the place and rooms 6 and 7 clearly have a feeling that there is an unseen energy still residing there. GPS were unable to capture evidence of the dark shadow that has been reported starring out of windows or witnessed by a housekeeper, but we all felt it, and do believe that there are ghosts walking the halls and keeping a watchful eye over The Shelleys.

Report by Barri Ghai