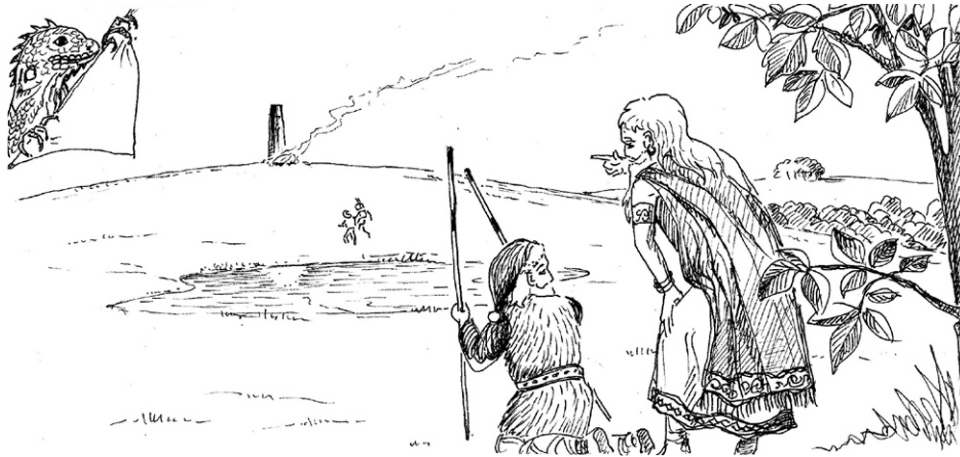


The World of T.C. Lethbridge

a researcher's guide by
William Shepherd
PART II



THE LETHBRIDGE FILES

'What is magic today will be science tomorrow' (T.C. Lethbridge)

PART II

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9. Psi Potential by Tom Lethbridge

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There are other ways of using the pendulum to the one we employ by using rates. The most popular is that of using a short cord of roughly 6 inches long. Most operators use this method in conjunction with a very large number of samples of what they want to look for, whether it be traces of tuberculosis or a golden treasure. The principle is that the pendulum will swing backwards and forwards between two things of like kind, two nickel pennies, or two lumps of alabaster, and will gyrate when the two specimens are of different materials. With sexes, however, this is reversed. The pendulum gyrates between two males and oscillates between a male and a female.

We have found a number of practical uses for the short pendulum. It will say at once what foods or drinks are good for you, by oscillating when you swing it between you and something good and the reverse when it is harmful. There is no difficulty in picking out the poisonous alimentary canal of a lobster or the dangerous parts of a crab. Pills which do not suit you cause an immediate gyration. But it has none of the advantages of being adaptable to accurate measurement of the other method and, although I have tried it for the apparently most improbable art of finding things from maps, I have not done much of this and have never been able to check up to see whether it told the truth.

We have however used the short pendulum for quite another purpose, and that was in an experiment to attempt to demonstrate pendulum telepathy. Telepathy, a branch of parapsychology, is almost universally accepted now and has in fact been suggested as a factor in evolution. However, we wished to see if we could demonstrate it in connection with the rates. For this purpose we chose the sex rates as something which could easily be recognized. I had a considerable number of one species of fossil sea-urchin for I always pick one up when I happen to see it.²¹ They are heart-shaped casts of the interiors of the shells. There is a considerable difference in size and pattern between those which react to the male rate and those which the pendulum designates as female.

For the other part of this experiment we took two sterilized bottles containing some male and female hair respectively. When a bottle of male hair is placed opposite a male fossil and the short pendulum is swung between, there is opposition. The pendulum gyrates because the ray is turned back on itself. If, however, you repeat the performance with a bottle of male hair and a female sea-urchin the pendulum oscillates backwards and forwards. The ray passes uninterrupted between the two. If you substitute female hair for male, of course you get the reverse result.

Now what we wanted to find out was whether if one operator swung the short pendulum between two specimens in one place, a second operator in a different room could tell what result was being obtained by the first. The second operator, who could neither see nor hear the first, was to use a long pendulum tuned in to either the male or the female rate of the sample of hair taken to be used against a fossil by the first operator.

There was nothing but a slate floor under the long pendulum and a concrete floor beneath the short one. The two floors were on different floor levels and there was a thick stone wall between. Nothing could be seen or heard between the two rooms. The long pendulum was entirely on its own, and its operator did not point in the supposed direction of the short one. Everything was as secure as we could make it and it seemed evident that if the second operator obtained correct results on the long pendulum the information was being conveyed by mechanical telepathy. Watches were synchronized, and at given times the first operator swung the short pendulum between two fossils while the second operator, in ignorance of what sex of fossil was being tested in the other room, swung the long pendulum.

We found that which ever of us operated which pendulum, the long one always gave the correct answer to the sex of the fossil being tested. You could change the operators about, change the sex of the hair and the rate on the long pendulum and change the sex of the fossil. It could not deceive the pendulum.

Of course, to prove this, the experiment ought to be performed hundreds of times. A warning is, however, necessary here. All pendulum work entails the use of some current from the operator's body to project the ray through the pendulum. As far as our work goes, we find that a great deal of current is in fact used up and the operator soon becomes tired. After testing for sex and thought rates in 110 sling stones, I was very tired. I think that it is most probable that, if you did more than a couple of dozen of these telepathic experiments at one time, the operators would become tired and errors would start to creep in. I do not know and the number is a guess. However I think that this would happen.

Probably the way to test whether the operators are becoming tired is by using the psi rate of 9½. This I regard as a measure of potential. You measure it by counting the number of turns made before the pendulum ceases to gyrate.

²⁰ Source: Chapter 9 of *The Monkey's Tail - a study in evolution and parapsychology* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1969, SBN 7100 6598 1).

²¹ I described my attempts to demonstrate pendulum telepathy in some detail in a former book, *Ghost and Diving Rod* which also contains a detailed account of my experiment with sea-urchins.

We have tested 84 people for their psi rates. This can be found from their handwriting just as well as by reading direct from the actual person.

Fifty-four persons had what we may perhaps speak of as psi potentials of varying values. They range from 0 to at least 50, but they are not constant. They go up and down according to the person's bodily condition. During bronchitis, one guinea pig's potential dropped from a normal of about 45 to 30, and remained there till the illness was over.

People with a potential of 15 and upwards can usually work the pendulum quite well. The only professional medium whose writing we were able to test was no higher than 18, whereas we had about a dozen of 45 or over. From around 30 and upwards people seem liable to have more extra-temporal and other unusual experiences than most of their neighbours.

There remains more than a third of the selected group who have no reading on 9½. Instead they have one on the opposite side of the circle at 29½, which we are calling minus psi. It is seldom very large, and when small fluctuates to the positive side and becomes 9½.

When we tested the few minus psi persons who had a reading of 30 or over, we found that they were in poor health according to what the pendulum reported. They showed as rather bad readings for the nervous system in particular. There were generally traces of something else wrong as well.

By no means all persons with bad nervous readings have minus psi potential, but it is something which is worth bearing in mind. Animals have psi readings and such cats as have been tested mostly have a potential of about 45, as high as any human in fact. Dogs we have not yet tried.

It seems evident that a psi potential is really a necessary part of the human make-up, but in many cases it is becoming weak, or converted into something else. Since examining nervous cases with the pendulum is intensely exhausting, it seems probable that the minus psi draws current from plus psi and these people become, in a sense, vampires. Many readers must have experienced a feeling of exhaustion after being in close company with another person. This is, I think, due to the leakage from plus to minus psi. It flows from the highest to the lowest and those persons whose psi is normally under about 10 probably never experience this phenomenon at all.

With much practice in pendulum work your normal psi rate appears to rise, but this does not warrant too much use of the instrument at any one time. This leads to exhaustion. Should one suspect that another person is draining power from you, it can be checked to some extent by being outside the range of the rates, that is 40 + 40 inches.

Although psi is in many ways similar to electro-magnetism, it is by no means the same. For one thing, we have seen that it does not diminish with the square of the distance. For another, it can pass up from the three-dimensional earth plane into a second and third. Psi is not bounded by time, or distance, as we know them. As I have suggested in another book, it may well be the same force as that which operates gravity. It also appears to be related to ultra-sonic sound. This is the force which has to be considered when thinking about both telepathy and psychometry.

Of course you cannot have one without the other. Telepathy has to be used by the psychometrist to extract impressions from an object in such a way that they may be comprehensible to the mind. We usually think of telepathy as being the process where a single idea appears to arrive almost simultaneously in the minds of two people. This seems to be a chance happening and it is often difficult to establish which mind originated the thought.

But telepathy is much wider than this and in the case of animals it is clear that individuals of differing species can carry on conversations by its means. In the case of birds, whole flocks operate as one, wheeling and diving with no word of command. Telepathy, in fact, is an alternative method to speech as a means of communication, and can be quite deliberate.

I said that the psychometrist must make use of telepathy and this may seem an inaccurate statement. But telepathy has to be the means by which the information stored in the field of an object can be transferred to the mind of the operator. The information may be pictorial, or in sound form, but whatever form it takes it cannot pass into the operator's mind by its own action. Telepathy provides the beam on which it passes.

The beam can, as we have seen, be broken down into various rates and these we are beginning to appreciate, even if we do not know what they really are. But then does anyone honestly believe that he understands electricity? He may know all there is to know about harnessing the force, but what it really is remains an enigma.

It is the same with telepathy. We may know that it can transfer thought forms from one mind to another, or from one object to one mind. We may soon learn to control it in the manner that electricity is controlled. Yet it may never be possible to say what it really is, beyond the vague statement that it consists of high velocity vibrations.

There we will leave telepathy for the moment, having demonstrated, I hope, that it can be utilized mechanically in the manner that electricity can be so utilized. We can, moreover, note that we have now two branches of

parapsychology, telepathy and psychometry, both of which seem capable of being studied in a normal scientific manner, but both of which are evidently outside the range of three-dimensional science.

10. Beyond the Lines by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1969²²

No one with the slightest curiosity in his make-up can resist experimenting with the information freely presented to him by the writers of letters. We saw that something of the personality of an Iron Age slinger remained for two thousand years in the field of the stone he slung.

It is just the same with a letter. Something of your personality remains in it, which is beyond what you said in the words you wrote on the paper. This is in accord with some modern theories of how memory functions, and although these have not yet been presented to the general seeker-after-truth, it seems evident to me that they must be nearer the correct answer than anything that has gone before. The holographic function of the mind is the coming idea.

What do you want to know about the people who have written to you? As this is, we hope, a scientific investigation, you want to catalogue them under various headings. We had over a hundred cards at Christmas and this seemed quite a big enough sample to learn something, although I might not believe what the pendulum said. Again and again I have to stress that I approach all this with complete disbelief. I am a most down-to-earth person and have had a scientific upbringing and training. I just do not accept anything the pendulum says without a struggle in my own mind.

You must understand that we have worked out a table of rates, which comprises many things, and it seemed reasonable to try some of these in relation to others. I chose 9½ inches, which appears to represent the psychic potential of a person, and which I call the psi rate; 16 inches which apparently indicates the sex potential; 19½, which stands for blood and may show something about its character; and 30 inches, which stands for age. It soon became clear that the age rate had no effect on the sex or psi potential. Nevertheless this is the one I am going to discuss now.

In all, we tested 120 specimens, and whenever we knew a person's age the pendulum was right within two revolutions. The method was to start the pendulum gently swinging over the specimen of handwriting when it had been set at the 30 inches rate for age. Then, quite arbitrarily, but apparently correctly, we counted one year for each turn the pendulum made.

It is not easy to be quite sure when the revolutions start and when they stop and this is why one is liable to an error of a year at either end. Critics of this method must try it out for themselves before they are in a position to form any judgement of its accuracy. It sounds complete nonsense and yet it appears to work. The proof of the pudding is not in what it looks like, but in how it tastes.²³

Not long ago, my publisher, Colin Franklin, set me off on a problem, which seems to be in the correct line. Put shortly, he wanted to know whether the reproductions of pictures still retained the sex rate of the painters of the originals. Now this is surely an important question and goes quite a long way to further the investigation. To enlarge it somewhat, one might ask whether a book carries with it part of the original field of force of the author.

If it should do so then a book might be compared with the laying on of hands in consecrating a priest. People have told me that there is a gap of 200 years in this ceremony and that power is no longer handed on in direct succession. I do not know about this; but the possibility that part of the author's psyche-field might go with each copy of a book which he had written struck me as being very interesting. I did not believe it for a moment.

Now unless you are prepared to wander round public art galleries with a folio of reproductions and a pendulum, it is not very easy to find the answer to Colin Franklin's question. I thought about it for some time before I hit on a possible way of testing it. I draw the illustrations, of doubtful value, which accompany my books. I asked him to send me back the original drawings from one of them. I supposed that they were filed somewhere and not destroyed when the blocks were made.

My idea was to test first an original drawing for the sex and thought rates and then to test the reproduction made from that drawing in a completely new and unopened copy of the book itself. Of course many people handled the drawings in the course of making the blocks from them and some slight handling may have occurred in the printing and binding of the book. That we had to risk, but the risk did not appear to be great.

In due course a folder of drawings arrived and I took them to the slate floor in the hall, where there should not be much interruption from anything but the slate. In a state of considerable interest, I put the first drawing on the floor and tested it for the rate for male sex of 24 inches and then for thought at 27 inches. It responded strongly to both.

²² Source: Chapter 9 in *The Monkey's Tail* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1969, SBN 7100 6598 1).

²³ Source from here: Chapter 6 in *ESP: Beyond Time and Distance* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1965).

Then I opened the new copy of the book at the figure made from the drawing and tested that. There was no reaction of any sort to either rate. The figure appeared to be dead. My wife and I went solemnly through the drawings and the prints made from them. All the drawings responded to the sex and thought rates. Nothing at all happened with the prints. There was no reaction for either rate from the book itself. There was not the slightest indication that any fragment of the author's personality passed to the book, except that the printed word might mean something to the person who read it. There was no direct contact at all.

The book was not a link in any parapsychological sense between the author and the reader. There was nothing passing between an artist who painted a picture and the reproduction of that picture. The quality of the reproduction, however good it might be, is something entirely mechanical and lacking in the life force which had been impressed by the artist on the original. We have already seen the same kind of thing suggested by thinking about photographs. The photograph appears dead, so is the reproduction by mechanical means of an original picture. A hand-made copy would of course react to the sex rate of the person who made the copy.

The experiment was rather a relief to me. I had not been able to see how anything could really pass from original to reproduction. Whereas everything we had investigated before followed a logical course, however strange that course might appear to be, this transference of something to a reproduction seemed completely illogical. Yes, I was relieved. Crazy though we might seem to be; yet we were not so daft as all that. We had managed to put a brake on.

11. Lucky Trees by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1965²⁴

We will go on to another facet of this study. My wife was entirely responsible for this and I doubt whether I should ever have thought of it. She remarked, when we were getting a meal, 'Why do you think that some trees are considered unlucky?' On my grunting that I had no idea, she continued: 'Do you think you could find out with the pendulum?'

Her question opened an entirely new line of approach and I do not suppose that anyone has followed it. Whoever in these scientific days would ever believe for a moment that a tree could be unlucky? This was some superstitious nonsense, which could not possibly have any foundation in fact. Nevertheless the beliefs are most widespread. I have long grown up past the stage of scoffing at such things.

I started to recall what I could remember of folk-beliefs. Of course elder was most unlucky. You must never cut it down without asking its permission. You must never burn it, or somebody would die. An alternative version had it that you burnt the Devil and so presumably irritated him. So widespread are these superstitious beliefs that you might say that they are everywhere in the country. Elder was evidently believed to have an inveterate hostility to mankind.

Yet elder has its uses. Its flowers make a kind of bubbly wine sometimes likened to champagne. Its berries are mixed with various pies to add flavour. The yellow inlay in marquetry furniture is often elder. Incidentally elder when freshly cut stinks. Some say it smells of corpses.

Now rowan, mountain-ash, is just the opposite. From East Anglia to the island of Skye, I have heard rowan spoken of with great respect. A sprig of it over the door will keep evil magic away. A friend, who runs a pack of beagles, told me that when some disease struck them, which the vet could not cure, she surrounded the kennels with pieces of rowan and they recovered at once. I do not know whether the wood is used for any particular purpose, but my aunt used to make a good jelly from the berries.

Here were two common trees credited with absolutely different properties. Could there be any possible reason for these beliefs? I cut pieces from each tree and tested them with the long pendulum. Elder gave a male reaction and rowan a female one. The short pendulum indicated repulsion between elder and myself, while rowan showed attraction.

This started me off on a search for other samples. I cut a piece from Zeus's own tree, the oak; and others from holly, thorn and elm. Oak, has, of course, been a most useful timber for thousands of years, but I was really thinking of the elm. Kipling was a good folk-lorist and not for nothing did he write:

'Ellum she hateth mankind and waiteth till every gust be laid
To drop a limb on the head of him who any where trusts to her shade.'

But he had the sex wrong. The pendulum said that elm was male. Elm is not much used inland except for floorboards and coffins; although there is some elm furniture and I have an old sideboard made of it. But from Kent to the Scilly Isles boats are still planked with elm. It builds very sturdy boats for beach work. Nevertheless elm is regarded with some suspicion.

²⁴ Source: Chapter 7 in *ESP: Time and Distance*; Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1965.

Oak reacted to the female rate on the long pendulum and showed attraction on the short. Holly was weakly male and hostile. In all I tested fourteen trees. Six were male and indicated repulsion. Eight were the opposite as the table below shows.

<i>Tree</i>	<i>Pendulum Reaction</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Elder	x	-
Rowan	-	x
Oak	-	x
Ash	x	-
Elm	x	-
Thorn	-	x
Hazel	-	x
Holly	x	-
Fig	x	-
Pine	x	-
Willow	-	x
Apple	-	x
Ivy	-	x
Beech	-	x
Total	6	8

Now from a botanical point of view this was all nonsense. Many trees are hermaphrodite and bear both male and female flowers. What sense could there be in what the pendulum appeared to be telling us? I took a branch of elder and pulled it to pieces. I had flowers, fruit, bark, pith and wood. I tested these separately. Only the wood was male and hostile. I have yet to think of a reason why this should be so.

Remembering the belief that, although elder was hostile, rowan was protective, I tried another experiment. I put a sprig of elder opposite myself and swung the short pendulum between the two. The pendulum went into a circular swing, indicating, according to the ideas I have already described for inanimate objects, that there was an obstruction to the flow of current between my field and that of another which I have guessed as being the earth's field.

Then I placed a sprig of rowan beside the piece of elder. Immediately the previous gyrations stopped and a back and forth movement began. Therefore the rowan masked the elder's obstructive power and restored a normal flow of current. The same thing happened when the long pendulum was used. The rowan obscured the elder's male sex rate and the pair together became female. So rowan in the vegetable world has the same property as lead in the mineral one. It is what I have been calling an interrupter.

Thinking that magnetism probably had some say in this curious phenomenon, I placed a horseshoe magnet opposite myself with its ends open and swung the short pendulum. The pendulum gyrated. When the ends were closed, the oscillation began. In a sense then the rowan sprig when applied to the elder could be compared with a soft iron bar placed across the ends of a horseshoe magnet. If this comparison is permissible it looks as if these interrupters somehow close the electromagnetic fields around objects in the same way that the soft iron bar joins the ends of the horseshoe magnet and forms a closed circuit.

In any case we seem to see that if elder can exert any deleterious influence from its field, rowan can stop this. But it can only do so within the 29 inch radius of its field. Within this radius its femininity is too strong for the elder. Something of this situation appears to have been appreciated by less sophisticated persons than those of the present day. Somehow they learnt that rowan could close the gaps in their protection from hostile influences. How it could possibly do so we have yet to find out. It does not seem in the least credible, but very little in this study did when we began it.

The comparison with terrestrial magnetism as it is understood is probably far too easy. In the first case we have the perfectly simple matter of closing a circuit in one plane. The horseshoe magnet is only a bar magnet bent round in a half circle and all that the soft iron rod does is to join one pole to another. A piece of soft iron joining the two ends of a straight magnet would have the same effect.

But in the case of the fields we are exploring a small object placed beside another appears to swamp a whole biconical field with its own. The field of a human-made magnet is imperceptible to the five senses. That of an object is so also. Neither magnetism nor electricity are directly perceptible to the five sense; although their shocks to the body can be appreciated.

The biconical fields surrounding the objects we are studying can only be appreciated by indicators of some kind. The electro-magnetic fields of the inanimate objects may come into the normal curriculum of physics. The fields of

human beings and animate objects are not so easy to study. We are probably trying to investigate a facet of life itself and the means available are quite inadequate.

Electricity and magnetism no doubt come into it, but are only a small part of the whole. Life itself appears to be four dimensional. Therefore we have no idea how powerful these biconical fields may be, nor what effect they may have on the human body. Without knowing this, it is impossible to say that elder is not hostile to humanity nor that rowan is friendly.

If we look at our table again, which is in itself very incomplete, we see two trees whose fruits were to the ancient Celtic world symbols of immortality. One is hazel and the other apple. Most people must have heard of the *Apple of Life*, which the Goddess Brigid held in her hand and know of the apples in the *Garden of the Hesperides*. Hazel nuts were similarly regarded as friendly to mankind.

Both of them, like rowan, have a female rate and are interrupters. They muzzle hostility, or let current flow between the human field and whatever the main field may be. If the main field is in reality the source of life and the provider of the energy which keeps things alive, then the value of the interrupters becomes understandable. Given that mankind was once more sensitive to such things than it is today, its reaction can have been much more like that of our cat sensing another at a distance. Man may have felt with his sixth sense which things were friendly to him and which were harmful.

For instance how do birds know which berries are good to eat and which are poisonous. Domestic animals have lost this faculty. They eat, at least cows do, yew clippings and die from it. But surely they never did this in a wild state. The great black aurochs, the ancestors of domestic cattle, which was so huge that classical writers compared it with an elephant, was a woodland beast. There must have been plenty of yew trees in the primeval forest which it could have eaten and died from the effects.

Are we to suppose that a percentage always died from eating this tree, or that the aurochs knew that it was a poisonous plant and left it alone? Or are we to surmise that man learnt by trial and error that he must not eat deadly nightshade, henbane, and the other poisonous plants? Was the early road of mankind strewn with corpses of people who had tried eating various fruits out of altruistic regard for their fellows?

Did men come up to one of their companions writhing in agony and say, 'What did you eat, old chap, so that we will know it another time?' This seems most improbable. They knew by their sixth sense and traces of their knowledge remain to this day. Just as something buzzed near my head and told me the future winner of the *Grand National*, so something buzzed for prehistoric man and warned him not to eat *Amanita phalloides*, that most deadly of poisonous fungi.

Really good water-diviners, as I have said before, can tell without a rod where water lies, by the tingling in the nerve-ends of their fingers. I have little doubt that this faculty was much more developed in primitive men. Has anyone ever heard of a wild animal eating anything poisonous before man started scattering poisons broadcast?

But primitive man thought about what the sixth sense told him. When he was warned that something could kill him, he thought: 'Then I will not eat it myself, but I will put it on something and poke it into that bear, which is always trying to come into my cave.' Something outside themselves told them more than they could learn by direct observation. This something has to a large extent been cut off from us, but it is still available, even if at the moment we can only talk to it with a pendulum.

The cat could never observe the other cat hunting on a hill 450 yards away, but it could sense it. The Manx shearwater could not know where its chick was, but it was led unerringly back to it over thousands of miles of sea. People cannot know by any of the ordinary senses what will happen in a month's time, yet some do know. It is all part of one unexplored subject, which could be investigated on an infinitely wider scale than I can even think about, much less hope to do.

12. Interrupters & Reversers by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1969²⁵

Nature apparently always consists of a balance of opposites. Where there is night there is also day: where there is evil there is always good. Positive and negative, male and female; it is the same story. So it is not surprising to find in our study that it is not one-sided. Although you can tune in on what appears to be a repulsion rate to substances, there are other substances which act as a complete obstacle to this. I call them interrupters, but this is not the right term, for they are really conductors and counteract the repulsion effect which gives us our rates.

The first interrupter I found was lead. Lead has the same, or nearly the same, rate as several metals; but while it is an interrupter, silver with the same rate of 22 inches is not. The effect of an interrupter is instant and quite dramatic. If you tune in to a gold object and, while the pendulum is gyrating, put a piece of lead beside the gold, the gyration

²⁵ Source: Chapters 7 & 9 in *ESP: Beyond Time and Distance*; Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1965.

changes in a moment to a back and forth swing. If you hold a piece of lead in your left hand while the pendulum, suspended from your right hand, is gyrating over the piece of gold, and then transfer the lead from the left hand to the right, the gyration stops at once and oscillation begins.

If I have reasoned correctly before, we find the rates of substances because they cause a block in a circulatory system of electric current, which includes your personal field and that of the earth. This may be wrong, but the current must flow between you and something of that sort. The pendulum oscillates because the pressure tries to get through and on that particular rate there is an obstruction, which forces it aside and round through a circle.

It makes the water-diviner's rod turn over for the same reason. The rod is in unstable equilibrium with the current passing through its apex and the obstruction of the flow causes it to turn aside and rotate. The force is very great and breaks the rod if you try to hold it tight and prevent its rotation. This is not difficult to understand, perfectly reasonable and within the bounds of science. It is also magic, for divination is one of the magic arts. I think that all magic arts could be interpreted in terms of science, if it could be bothered to study them.

Now our lead somehow neutralizes the obstruction. In man-made electricity it is an insulator and prevents current leaking away from copper wires. Why it should do so, I do not know. Presumably it was found long ago that it did so and it may have been used without question ever since. It may be known why it works, but I do not know. An archaeologist cannot be expected to have a wide knowledge of physics. Yet an observed fact in physics is the same as an observed fact in our study. Lead is an insulator in both. In our study the very presence of a lump of lead, within the radius of its pendulum rate, prevents current flowing from our electro-magnetic field into that of a piece of gold.

Thinking that since gold has a rate of 29 inches and a conic radius at the base of 29 inches, there might be a zone outside the 22 inch radius of lead in which the gold rate could still be found. I tried this. There is no such zone. The lead neutralizes the field of gold at its centre. There are not two double cones of force one inside the other, with a dead lead cone inside and a live gold cone outside. The effect of the lead is complete.

Now you can take the short pendulum and get a victim to lie on the floor. If you keep the pendulum oscillating across his backbone, at any point in the victim's back where there is damage and the current in the nervous system does not run freely, the pendulum will gyrate. I have done this with some people and apparently the pendulum tells the truth.

Arthritis can be located easily. This is not imagination. The back can be examined by X-rays and the pendulum proved to be telling the truth. It has been done with one of my victims and arthritis revealed at each point where the pendulum indicated an obstruction. I am not setting up as a healer or anything of that sort. I am simply an inquisitive person trying to find out what is going on. As far as I can see the pendulum is an aid to diagnosis.

Now you can find the arthritic joint, or whatever it is, easily with the pendulum; but, if when this is gyrating over that joint, you place a piece of lead beside the injury, or against the hand holding the pendulum, the gyration stops at once and oscillation begins. The effect with a human being is exactly the same as with inanimate matter such as gold.

This is surely not the same as enclosing copper wire in a tube of lead. It is not simple insulation, which takes place, but something of a different order. The field of the lead blocks out the obstruction.²⁶ It has the same effect if you use it with a letter, which registers opposition or hostility. This is no longer physics as it is now known. It is something more extensive connected with the whole study of life.

I am sure I do not know whether it would prevent the spread of arthritis if you wore a lead object about your person, but it does seem as if the lead neutralizes the effect and permits current to flow freely.

Lead is an insulator to radio-active rays and is regarded as a dead metal. It appears to absorb these rays and it was interesting to see that when I was asked to test a sheet of lead, which had been bombarded for some time by them, it did not react to the 22 inch rate. There is something here of very great importance, which might have a radical effect on healing. However, lead is not by any means the only interrupter. But of metals it appears to be the strongest. Aluminium is another; although it is weak compared with lead and has a different rate.

A friend complained to me that he was unable to find a gold watch when it was hidden from him. In theory the gold case should have reacted to the 29 inch rate. But it did not. This would have seemed insoluble if we had not already learnt of the existence of interrupters. But having got so far, it seemed clear that something was getting in the way. I tried other watches. It made no difference what the case was made of. None of them reacted to the appropriate wavelength.

Since their works only appear to contain iron, brass and the bearings for their wheels, it seemed clear that the interrupter was in these bearings. I had always heard of the bearings being spoken of as rubies. One had seen lists of

²⁶ Many churches in England date back to Anglo Saxon and Norman times when lead roofs were the norm. [Ed]

stolen articles: 'A gold watch jewelled in nine holes, and a gold Albert (meaning a watch chain)', and so on. What were the bearings made of? A search revealed that they were either made of indifferent rubies, or a hard form of garnet. Both were complicated compounds containing the metal calcium.

I had some garnets, which came from a glen on the south side of the head of Loch Morar. These showed at once to the pendulum that they were interrupters. But they were relatively weak. Still interrupters they were and whether the bearings were of ruby or garnet, this was the reason why my friend could not find the hidden watch with the pendulum.

We knew that to find a gold object, which had no interrupters was relatively easy, for my wife had once accidentally thrown away a ring of gold into a bed of nettles and brambles and we had found it in less than five minutes. There must be however some method of circumventing the interrupters, for I have been told of a gold watch being recovered from a dustbin with a pendulum. I do not suppose that the long rate was used. It may have been the short one and the watch have been located by the 'affinity' method.

Although many substances figure in antiquity and at the present day as being of supernatural importance, the one above all which comes to mind is salt. There are many perfectly good objective reasons why this should be so. Animals will go miles to 'salt-licks' to get it. It is necessary for the blood, and so on. Of course it makes food taste better. In fact most food without salt tastes incredibly dull, although cats seem to prefer it that way.

When you come to the superstitions, the picture is quite bewildering. Salt makes a bond between householder and guest, which cannot be broken without loss of honour. It was supposed in India to create a life tie between the giver of the tie and the receiver of the salt. No longer, since the Hitler war, are the Sikhs regarded as the epitome of heroic virtue, because many of them betrayed the British salt and went over to the Japanese. They will probably never recover their status.

Salt was terribly important, but why? Coming back to our own land from those which none of us really understands, we find a variety of apparently absurd conventions. If you spill salt, and this must happen almost every day in most households, it must be thrown over the left shoulder, and then, according to the better informed, it goes into the Devil's eye. In other words, this act wards off evil luck. Why this should be so, I cannot for the moment see; but let us go further.

You must not on any account mention salt at sea if you come from the Celtic lands. If you have been born a Sassenach, an Englishman, it does not matter in the least. East Scottish fishing luggers have often been known when out of salt to run alongside an English boat and say something like: 'We are oot of ye ken what, will ye lend us a wee bit?' This seems quite incomprehensible. Why not say that they were out of salt and have done with it?

Salt appears in old superstitions then in a curious double manner. It can bind people together and yet it is unlucky to spill it ashore, or mention its name at sea. It seems to have been regarded as very powerful and yet uncertain in the exercise of its power. It had to be guarded carefully or it might get out of hand and do you harm.

I tested some salt with the long pendulum beside a copper object. The field of the copper was neutralized. Salt is an interrupter. Then with the short pendulum, I tested it against myself. Here the result was unexpected. For a moment or two the pendulum oscillated showing affinity and then suddenly this changed to a violent circular swing. It was more strongly obstructive than elder. I tried salt against rowan. The salt interrupted the rowan. It interrupted the male rate for elder on the long pendulum.

I took a piece of rusted blacksmiths' iron. With the long pendulum it gave reactions at 32, 27, 26.5 and 24 inches, which should be the rates for iron, thought, oxygen in the rust and male rate from the blacksmith. Salt interrupted each of these rates in turn. It also interrupted the rate for lead, 22 inches, and lead interrupted the 22-inch sodium rate in salt.

This is very remarkable, but the behaviour of graphite, ordinary pencil lead, is more so. Graphite reverses the rate given on the pendulum for sex. It turns female into male and male into female. It will do so for animals and human beings and for the objects, such as pencil drawings, which human beings impress with their sex rates. Further than this, it can over-ride salt as an interrupter.

As I mentioned earlier in this account, I have some skulls of whittings, which are useful for experiments. Some give male rates, others female. A piece of graphite put down beside a male skull at once changes the rate to female and vice versa. Now, if you take a male skull and put salt beside it, you can get no reaction on the pendulum. Masculinity is blotted out. You do not get anything and no reversal of the sex rate.

Even the smallest scrap of pencil lead, however, not only gives a marked reaction, but that reaction is on the female rate and not on the male. Graphite completely overcomes salt as an interrupter, and it goes on to reverse the sex rate also. Of all the strange phenomena we have met, this seems to me to be the oddest. Graphite is not lead; although it is spoken of as being lead. It seems to be a semi-vegetable fossil mineral.

As far as I know there are no superstitious beliefs regarding graphite and there is no apparent reason why there should be any. In the ancient world people wrote either on sheets made from papyrus leaves, on vellum, which is made from split skins, or on wax in square wooden tablets with a stylus, a kind of pencil made entirely of hard metal. Sometimes the stylus was pressed so hard into the wax that Latin letters can still be read on wooden tablets dug up today. It was not until the Chinese had invented paper and its use became common for writing letters and for drawing in Europe that a use was found for graphite as a writing material. Before that it may have been a known curiosity, but was not apparently in general use. So unlike salt, superstitions did not grow up around it.

Had the ancients discovered its curious property of reversing the sex rate, anything might have happened. It has no sex rate of its own. But I have only to scribble the smallest mark on a piece of paper with a graphite-filled pencil for the pendulum to react strongly not to the male rate, but to the female. Ink, however, gives the expected male rate. Wooden pencils in frequent use have no sex rate from the user. You cannot impress apparently your sex rate on vegetable material, nor on graphite.

It may be important that the rate for graphite is half that of vegetable matter, the first being 10 inches and the second 20. Carbon obtained by burning wood, however, has a rate of 12 inches and diamond, derived from carbon, 24. Since all the other rates appear to have come in some way from changes wrought in vegetable material, it is curious that these rates are not all multiples. Neither is there any relationship to atomic weights. This subject appears to be entirely distinct from other sciences.

All this talk of rates must be very dull to the reader; but there is no other way in which it can be easily expressed. One has to show how one arrives at the conclusions and it is not enough to say that one thing likes, or dislikes, another.

There is another substance which reverses sex rates, for all I know there may be a lot of them. This is elm. Elm is used frequently for floor-boards and if you do not know that peculiarity it can lead to a lot of confusion and mistakes. Elm, unlike graphite, itself reacts to a male rate and it is not an interrupter.

So we have a variety of properties which can be possessed by a given substance. It may have its own rate and interrupt. It may have its own rate and a sex rate and interrupt. It may have a sex rate and reverse, or no sex rate and reverse sex rates. It may neutralize some interrupters. There are many variations. But it does not look as if any of this was due to ordinary magnetism. We do not know what it is, but it vaguely suggests a complication which might be expected of magnetism if it were given the field of another dimension.

My baptismal name is Thomas and it was most correctly given. I doubt even my own evidence. However, there are some things about this pendulum business, which I cannot doubt. I cannot disbelieve it when it produces things from under the ground which I could neither see, nor possibly know about.

Therefore I feel I must accept, with great unwillingness, the other information, which it appears to give me. I know well that its information may seem absurd and even totally impossible. But I also see that I do not really know enough about what may be known to a mind, distinct from a brain, to be able to question it.

What seems to be shown by the pendulum, as I have said before, is that there is something invisible and intangible attached to our body, which knows far more than we do. I call it a mind, but I might just as well put it in religious terms and call it a spirit. Words are quite useless here. Who knows the difference, if any, between mind and spirit? Both, I think, are quite distinct from brain-activity.

At present I am not wise enough to distinguish between mind and spirit. So, for the moment, until something else comes along, I am prepared to think that our bodies, including our brains, are linked by some kind of electro-magnetic field, which I think of as a psyche-field, with something in a higher dimension, which we may style alternatively as mind, or spirit. Furthermore, the evidence appears to show me that earlier men knew far more about all this than we know today.

13. Classifying Coordinates by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1969²⁷

This subject is vast and it is becoming clear to me that everything, whether subjective or objective, has a series of co-ordinates classifying it. If I attempted to find and tabulate all, the result would be more elaborate than the London telephone directory. I will give one example, and leave other people to work out more for themselves, although I will follow up the example with a table of rates which give you the first part of the series of coordinates.

At the beginning of *A Step in the Dark* I told a story of a rare little beetle called *Bolboceras arminger*, and how in 1964 it led us to a search for truffles with the pendulum. In the course of this quest another beetle, *Serica brunnea*, came into the story; a snail, *Cyclostoma elegans*; a truffle, *Sclerogaster compactus*; and the beech tree, *Fagus*

²⁷ Researchers: Tom & Mina Lethbridge.

sylvatica. These various organisms all responded to a rate of 17-inches. I could not find an imago²⁸ of *Serica brunnea* for four years, and then on 2 August 1968 I found one lying in the window sill of the same bedroom in which I had formerly discovered the specimen of *Bolbocera arminger*, which had started the whole thing off.

This seemed a good opportunity to see how far one could get with the study of classifying co-ordinates. I knew that when on the right rate, the pendulum would make a given number of gyratory turns, or revolutions, for a given object or thought concept. Then it went back into an oscillation. This I knew was used by some dowzers for some purpose of which I was not very clear. However, I decided to count the number of oscillations and see what story they might tell. The answer with these five differing specimens is given in the table below. All are evidently tied to the beech tree itself, on whose products they feed.

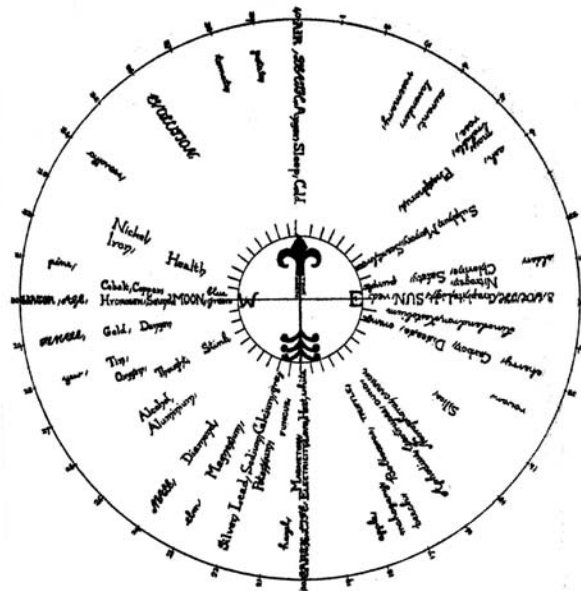
Name of Species	Rate	Number of Revolutions	Number of Oscillations	Counter-Revolutions
<i>Serica brunnea</i>	17	17	150	17
<i>Bolboceras arminger</i>	17	17	171	17
<i>Sclerogaster compactus</i>	17	17	180	17
<i>Factus sylvatica</i>	17	17	205	17
<i>Cyclostoma elegans</i>	17	17	280	17

It was obvious that the new oscillatory reading could not be observed with complete certainty to nearer than two, or perhaps three swings, but, beyond the margin of error, it was correct. Making allowances for this two percent margin, it became clear that the figures in the oscillation column are a multiple of the 'rate' by some number which differs according to species. The column should read: 17x9, 17x10, 17x10½, 17x12 and 17x16; that is 153, 170, 178½, 204 and 282. We are clearly a step forward in finding our part of a vast system of classification, which includes everything. There must be many more co-ordinating numbers to find.

But, once again I must stress that whoever compiled this table did so on a scale of inches, which is human measurement. The mind working on these figures works in a human manner. Whatever we are dealing with is susceptible to human reasoning, even if it reflects the mentality of somebody on a higher plane of development than our own.

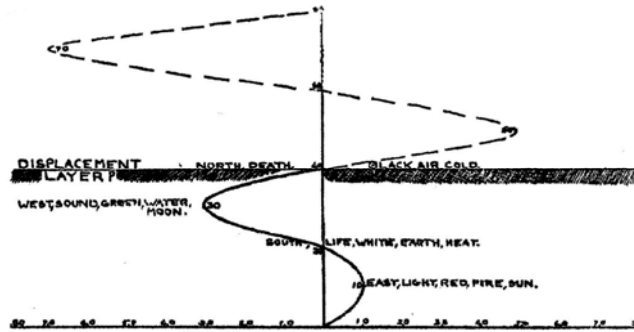
It is not a product of my mind (even though I suspected that it might be) for others get precisely the same results as I do. We are forced to assume elaborate planning outside normal earth life. When once this fact is grasped, enormous strides in knowledge are possible. I am only a pioneer.

The next diagram²⁹ shows this distribution of pendulum 'rates' on a 'rose' of 40 divisions. Different types of printing used to differentiate differing conceptions. The figures round the circumference show the numbers in inches for each rate. Each of these is actually a ray at least an inch in width. The positions of the rays on the diagram are thus relative but not exact. Time, 60, is outside the circle.

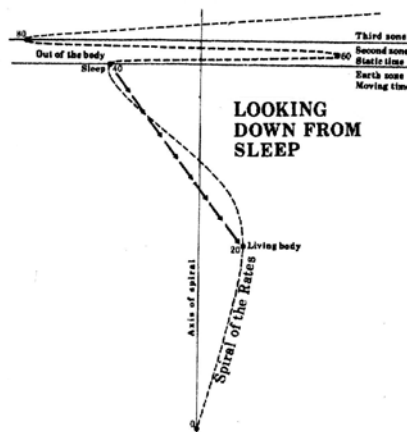


²⁸ Imago: the perfect state of an insect after it has cast its pupa case; *Empire Standard Dictionary* (1938). [Ed]

²⁹ Higher resolution images in *Adobe pdf* format at <http://www.cesc.net/adobeweb/scholars/lethbridge/>. [Ed]



The fifth diagram attempts to show how the spiral of rates explains why people in dreams, or during ‘out of body’ experiences, can look down on their body from above and to one side of it. The second whorl of the spiral may have no thickness, or be of unlimited extent. From sleep at 40, the dreamer looks at himself at 20.



14. Good Vibrations by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1967³⁰

From 22 to 26 August, 1956, a team of eight men from the *BBC* was making a television film here at Hole³¹, and this included several of the experiments which we have been discussing. I was fitted with a microphone beneath my tie, which was attached by a long length of flex to a sound-recorder in another room.

Over this sound-recorder presided Mr. John Woodiwiss, who has had years of experience with instruments of this kind both in England and overseas. He sat watching a dial on which the range of the human voice only occupied a comparatively small sector. There were graduations for sound inaudible to human ears on either end of the scale.

I was asked to demonstrate the action of an ordinary divining rod, a hazel fork which I had cut from a hedge that morning. The plan was for me to walk slowly, holding the rod, towards my wife. When its apex met her personal field of force the rod would turn over.

I picked up the rod and the camera began its work. Hunched over the sound-recorder, however, there was complete amazement on the part of Mr Woodiwiss for, as I picked up the rod and settled it into position, the needle on the dial leapt up, far beyond the limits of human hearing and stuck there. This had happened to Mr Woodiwiss once before, years ago, when recording near a tomb in Egypt. Never again.

Now, if this incident shows, as it appears to do, that the force operating the divining-rod, and presumably the pendulum as well, is sound which can be measured on a dial, we are in the realm of exact science even if we are adding another dimension to it.

We are also coming once again to the ancient Greek belief that the whole universe is governed by harmonics. If this suggestion is anywhere near the truth, then our divining rod is some relation of the homely tuning-fork; our rates are

³⁰ Source: Chapter 11: *A Step in the Dark*; Routledge & Kegan Paul, London, 1967, ISBN 07100 1741 3.

³¹ Tom and Mina Lethbridge’s home in Branscombe near Sidmouth in Devon.

inaudible notes obtained when some ray from us strikes an obstruction, and the double cones are the vibrations of some fixed rays similar to the twanging of a taut string. It all makes sense.³²

One of the modern methods of 'fringe' healing is the use of supposedly appropriate colours for a beneficial effect on the minds of people who are mentally disturbed. This treatment is associated with the name of Rudolph Steiner. Results are obtained apparently; but one suspects that it is not the colour itself which does the work. This may well only serve to concentrate the patient's subconscious attention on the particular rate for that colour.

If the colour were purple, then the concentration could be on safety, or security, something that many troubled minds need desperately. Conversely black has the same rate as death. The wearing of it does not seem to have a very cheering effect on the clergy, although it used to be very becoming on young widows!

The ancient Celts had a colour distinction in their dress. Blue for women, red for kings, green and black for noble laymen and white for clerics. Green and black remain today as tartan.

But more interesting than these distinctions in dress were the points of the compass, the *airts*, for these had colours and each colour an aspect. Black was north, white south, east was purple-red (probably the classical scarlet) and west was somewhere between green and grey. A wind from the east was lucky; but no good came from the west. The north was the airt of evil and misfortune; while that of the south was the one for good luck.

It seems remarkable to me how closely this very ancient system corresponds to our pendulum's compass. I cannot help thinking that long ago in the *Dark Ages* men still remembered something of an investigation similar to the one we are now undertaking.

One can say of course that this Celtic system was no more than a recollection of Sun worship. But why should the east be redder than the west, where one so often sees a red sunset? And if the colour of the western airt had any connection with the fortune bringing 'Green Ray' or 'Flash' it seems curious that this point should have been considered unlucky. Furthermore, *Tir nan Og*, the land of eternal youth and happiness lay to the west beyond the ocean's rim.

I think there are two systems confused here and that one of them is definitely related to our study. This Celtic system is not the only one to suggest that more was once known about these matters than anyone might think.

Astrology shows another correspondence with our compass:

East	South	West	North
Fire	Earth	Water	Air

If we combine these two systems, the Celtic and the Astrological, we find that we have a considerable proportion of what was told us by the table of rates. The new table now runs:

East	South	West	North
Fire	Earth	Water	Air
Red	White	Greeny-grey	Black
Good Luck	Good	Bad Luck	Evil

It seems hard to doubt that in the remote past a great deal was known concerning our subject and that we are only just beginning to rediscover facts about the Universe, which were once widely accepted. The chances that the pendulum could reveal such a vital table of details, so similar to the ancient ones, unless both refer to the same facts, must be very great indeed.

15. Sixth Sense by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1967³³

What possible connection can there be between the pendulum (this ball on a length of thread), the operator, and the results he is able to obtain? Please remember that I am not in the least credulous. I doubt everything I seem to find out and, after a run of successes, which appear to be completely convincing, I often go back to the very beginning and doubt the whole thing once more.

But always I find that the thing works and, if it works with material objects, it is hard to doubt that it is telling the truth with matters which are less substantial. If it tells the truth about where a truffle, a beetle, a nail, a bead, a pin, a bit of glass, or a lump of lead lies hidden, surely it also tells the truth when it says that a pebble has been used by a male slinger.

³² Source (from here): Ch. 4 (pps 53-54) in *A Step in the Dark* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, London, 1967, ISBN 07100 1741 3).

³³ Source: Chapter 3 of *A Step in the Dark* by T.C.Lethbridge (Routledge & Kegan Paul, London, 1967, ISBN 0-71001-741-3 with some short sections omitted. [Ed].

To get a clearer view we must lengthen our range and include many more facts. In particular I must discuss rates. Now, as a result of several years of experiment, I have worked out a considerable table of these rates and published quite a lot of them.³⁴ But the list is far greater now. It seems that each element has its rate and that each compound has a rate for each element in its composition. If one is to make a comparison with ordinary physics, it appears probable that each rate is that of a particular kind of atom. But this is only true of material objects. Non-material things have rates also.

A rate on the pendulum, that is the length of cord from the point of suspension between the operator's fingers to the top of the pendulum bob, is equal to the radius of a circle around the object being investigated. You can demonstrate this by walking towards the object until the pendulum gyrates and noting the point at which this occurs. It takes little time to work out the circle. This circle can also be shown to be the base of a pair of tall thin cones, ascending and descending vertically.

We are assuming that this biconical arrangement around an object is some kind of field of force. It may be an electro-magnetic field of force, or it may be something we do not yet know. These bicones may always be around the object, or they may only be induced on a straight ray through the object when it is subject to contact with a force from the operator. The operator need not necessarily be human.

Many forms of animal life, perhaps all of them, seem to be able to contact the rays, but only on the given rate. It seemed probable, for example that the cat's whiskers act like divining rods. So I decided to try and find out their co-ordinates in our pendulum code. There is more work in this than anyone might think, for not only have you to rate the whiskers but you have to find out to what thought forms these co-ordinates also belong.

Actually the cat has at least four sets of bristles. The longest and furthest back have a rate of 16-inches for sex, which is not a surprise. The next group is on 20-inches. Man comes on this rate, with love and life. The smallest and farthest forward of the group is on 24-inches. On this rate you also find mice. Finally its eyebrows are on 10-inches. On 10-inches you also find heat, explaining surely how a cat knows with unerring certainty where to find the warmest spot in the house.

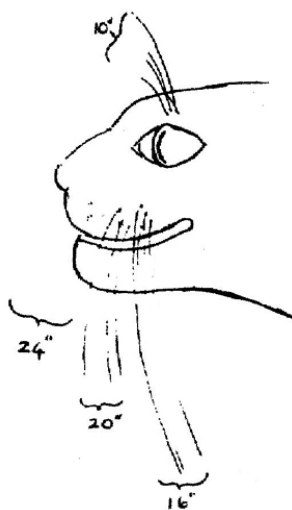


Diagram of a cat's face to show the rates of its whiskers as indicated by the pendulum:
10"=heat and light; 16"=sex; 20"=living things and man; 24"=mammals.

These four groups of bristles seem to explain a cat's vigorous sex life; its fondness for mankind; its passion for mice and its love of warmth. This can hardly be chance or coincidence, but looks like a carefully planned arrangement. If you were asked to describe the characteristics of a cat, surely these four would come high on your list.

There are other ways of using the pendulum, which do not entail using the rates and may be more efficient for finding buried treasure, or a cure for constipation; but the rate method is the simplest. When dealing with an unknown subject, the simpler the method is the more chance there should be of finding out what is going on.

It seems clear from the start that some kind of mental selection must take place. It is used because the five bodily senses - sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell - are not adequate to do what the pendulum does. A sixth sense has to be employed. In general, science, being based on the use of only five senses, has for this reason deliberately avoided a study of what might be revealed by a sixth.

³⁴ See *Lethbridge's Rates Table* on page 2. Source: Appendix to *The Monkey's Tail - a study in evolution & parapsychology*; Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1969, SBN 7100 6598 1.

But this is as blind an outlook as saying there is no picture on a television screen, because such a picture could not be projected in such a way that it passes long distances through walls and people to be reassembled and viewed in your sitting-room. Even the most brilliant Greek philosophers would have found it hard to credit this phenomenon.

The sixth sense is far easier to understand than this, and moreover has been a commonplace piece of knowledge for thousands of years. It is difficult to see how anyone could believe in any of the greater religions of the world, without realizing that there must be a sixth sense, and furthermore that this sense is outside some of the restrictions which govern the other five.

All through this book we are dealing with matters which are evidently perfectly simple to the sixth sense, but incredible to the others. It therefore seems highly probable that this sense is not located in the body, but can be made available to it. To the sixth sense the slinger has just slung his pebble. To the other five it happened two thousand years ago.

To the sixth sense a fossil sea-urchin, which has been dead a hundred million years, still reveals to the pendulum what sex it had at that time. There is no time to the sixth sense. It is in the fourth dimension, or on another plane of living. But this side of the problem is theoretical and must wait for a while. The pendulum rates are our present concern.

‘A foolish and perverse generation seeketh for a sign,’ said Jesus and added, ‘There shall be no sign given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas.’ In other words, it is folly to bother about insisting on proof when confronted with obviously adequate testimony. If a thing works, it works. There is no need to prove that it works.

The man who spent his life trying to prove that thought existed and in the end decided that perhaps some thought existed somewhere, should really have been confined in a mental home and taught some kind of more reasonable occupation. Do you need proof that a torpedo can explode when it sinks a great ship? Of course not. So why should you need proof when a water-diviner finds water. He can do so. You can see the water he finds. What is all the fuss about?

I have worked out a table of rates for many inorganic substances. There is no need to describe it all again. The rate for elements, which I have at present found, range from 5.5-inches, that of phosphorus, to 32.5-inches for nickel. I have not found all the rates for single elements and do not intend to try to do so. That is a job for someone else. I am trying to get to the root of the whole subject and not construct a table of weights and measures.

It is also possible to show that an inorganic compound possesses two or more rates. Perhaps they indicate the construction of a molecule from two or more atoms. But I do not think so. There is no compound rate for the two or more elements. There is no comparison between our rates and a table of atomic weights. The rates may be rates of vibration to which we tune in with the pendulum. But this in turn does not appear to be the right answer. How, for instance, would you propose to find the rate of vibration for thought or sex?

My discovery of the sex rates was accidental. Having found that the rate for gold was 29-inches, I went out to try to find gold. Instead, after much difficulty, I found that the gold rate was attached to a beetle larva. By remembering how a gold ring suspended from a thread was often used to detect the sex of an unborn infant, it was suggested to my mind that perhaps what I had found was the femininity of the beetle caterpillar.

It was easy to show by tests with living male and female animals that this was the correct answer. The rate for gold and female sex are both the same and 29-inches. Here you leave the inorganic world for another. A caterpillar of a female beetle can be located by the use of a pendulum. It has a rate, perhaps its vibrational rate, which can be detected underground and also at a distance. No one is surely going to say that this can be done by any of the five normal senses. The male rate has been found too. It is 24-inches and the same as the rate for diamond. You can test these rates with your friends and animals.

Having once begun to find rates for these intangibles, it was not difficult to devise ways of discovering others. Thought appeared as 27-inches and memory as 7-inches. A rate for what appears to be life was common to all living things and all fragments of things once living, animal or vegetable, 20-inches. There also seemed to be a rate for dead things at 40-inches. Heat and light, colour and points of the compass all could be shown to have their distinctive rates.

Gradually a picture begins to emerge and a plan began to show at the back of it. The clue had been noticed already when I wrote *ESP*, but it is far more obvious now. As I said in that book, I should never have noticed it at all had I not been working in inches. Centimetres, an unnatural scale in any case, would never have given away the secret.

For it appears that the human body is built to fit the scale, which now begins to be visible. Its measurements, the inch derived from the thumb, the yard derived from a stride and so on, all find their place in a master plan. Man is the size he is because the plan was already there and he was built to fit it.

Of course I began by tabulating such rates as had been discovered. But a table as such is not particularly helpful. As I studied the table, a rather remarkable feature caught my eye. Certain basic concepts were found together at 10, 20, 30 or 40 inches:

10 inch	20 inch	30 inch	40 inch
Light	Life	Sound	Death
Sun	Heat	Moon	Cold
Fire	Earth	Water	Air
Red	White	Green	Black
East	South	West	North
Graphite	Electricity	Hydrogen	Sleep
Truth			Falsehood

All these were of such importance that it seemed obvious to me that I was dealing with some completely fundamental plan. It could be no accident that, with a table beginning at 0 and ending at 40, each 10-inch rate should carry with it so many matters of vital consequence. Some intelligence must have constructed the scale and fitted everything into it. I looked at what I had found in astonishment. It seemed quite impossible to believe that so simple a thing as a pendulum could tell such a remarkable story.

The rejected study was giving the evidence, which all other studies had failed to produce. Materialists were materialists simply because they could not observe a basic plan behind the other studies.

Was I imagining the whole thing? Did some layer of my own mind produce the whole gamut of rates? Everything might be a fantasy. But it could not be a fantasy. The concrete objects produced from beneath the earth by an application of their own particular rates were plain for all to see. And many people had watched me find them. No it could not be a fantasy. Therefore it must be fact.

Furthermore it was not the Earth's magnetic field which gave rise to the whole system of rates. You can take your prismatic compass, lay off the line to magnetic north on the ground, point at it and swing the pendulum. The pendulum just goes on swinging backwards and forwards. But if you make the concrete allowance for compass deviation and point to true North, the pendulum gyrates at once. Therefore, if the Earth has any say in the arrangement of these rates, it is the Earth's mass which determines them and not its magnetic field.

Here we get into even more difficult problems; but we will do no more than notice them now. Is everything, man, beast, bird, fish, tree, and rock directly under control by the Earth itself? Does the Earth arrange how they shall be formed and how they shall develop? Is the Earth, as some have believed, itself a living organism with great intelligence? Are we in fact simply cells in the Earth's structure, just as the cells in our own bodies are each one individual?

To these questions, the answer for the moment appears to be that some great intelligence has evidently devised a scale, a framework perhaps, in which everything is controlled by rays appreciable to a sixth sense by means of a pendulum. This framework is arranged in relation to the Earth's mass and not to its magnetic field. Magnetism, in fact, has a rate of its own, not the same as electricity at 20 inches, but very near it. The magnetic rate appears to be 20.25 inches. It is not one of the cardinal points on our compass-rose of rates.

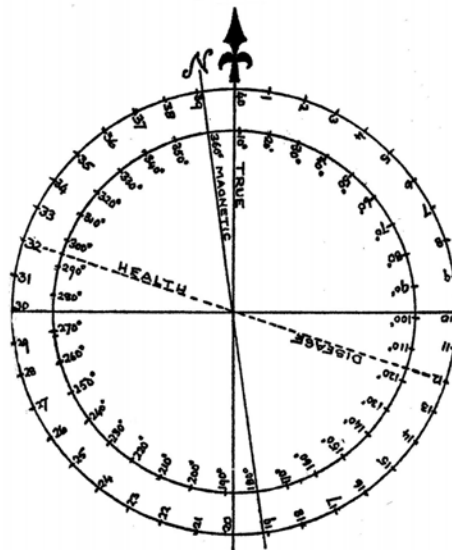


Diagram to show relationship between the pendulum rates and the magnetic scale.
The outer circle gives the pendulum rates in inches

I plotted out this compass-rose, the term for the circular card on which the sailor observes the bearing of the head of his ship in relation to magnetic north. I had four cardinal points, North 40-inches, East 10-inches, South 20-inches, West 30-inches. There were 40 divisions on the rose; not 360 or 32 as on the mariner's compass. If you plot the rates in any other manner, say 36 or 32 divisions, it will not fit.

And there I stuck in my thinking for a very long time. What qualifications had I for getting on even as far as this? The only hope you have of finding anything out in a new subject of this kind is to admit to yourself that you know nothing. It is perhaps comforting to know that nobody else knows much anyway.

Having the four cardinal points of North, South, East and West; Air, Earth, Fire and Water; Black, White, Red and Green, or whichever series of four we like to choose, it is a simple matter to draw out our compass-rose of 40 segments. On to this can be marked all our known rates in their correct positions. Other pairs of opposites at once become apparent.

7 inches	Scent	27 inches	Stink
9 inches	Safety	29 inches	Danger
12 inches	Disease	32 inches	Health

At 32.5 inches we went outside the range of any inorganic substance whose rate had yet been found. But when attempting to obtain a rate for Evolution, I seemed to get it at 36 inches, which is the opposite of the 16-inch rate for dung and dung beetles, which we have discovered earlier in this book. I think both these rates are probably correct and if so that for Evolution takes on a considerable significance. What is Evolution but a step forward? A step forward is 36 inches. An attempt to study the 16-inch rate suggested that it referred to regression.

I have no confidence in what appears to hang on the 36-16-inch rates. But, suppose you take this scale to be the foundation of all earthly happenings, then Death is 40 and full Life is 20. Suppose you think of this, not in inches, but in years.

At 40 man dies; at 20 he is in his full vigour. This is not comprehensible now, because man lives much longer than he used to do. In a hunting community, in which the earliest form of man found himself, he seldom lived much longer than 40 years; because, after that age, his reactions became too slow to avoid death from the fangs, claws, horns, or stroke of the tail of the beasts he hunted in order to feed himself.

The Eskimos, who I have seen in West Greenland, were the most cheerful people I have ever met. Yet they seldom lived over the age of 45 years. We know why they did not do so. The men grew too slow to cope with hunting the white bear, the walrus, or even the grey seal. They were killed by the polar bear's mighty paw, or their kayak was smashed to splinters by the walrus.

Suppose there is some sense in what I have been saying; what happened at 16 years? Why then surely man and woman had become fully and vigorously involved in sex and, instead of being evolving mental beings, reverted for a time at least to the more animal side of their nature. So too when this side had been satisfied and worked out, at 36, they began to wonder what life was all about and some of them started to climb up the ladder of mental evolution.

This idea of mine may be the purest nonsense. But nevertheless it has some observation to make it worth consideration. The 40-year life span may have been the one originally designed, by whatever intelligence devised the whole original plan, to be that of man himself. Life for early man was always so hard that 40 years was quite long enough. It is now so soft that man does not wear out so quickly.

To me at any rate it seems that all development may have been designed to fit into this 40-divisional scale. It was perhaps no more than a blue-print and now the time scale has nearly doubled. Man has passed the 36 mark again and is lifting himself slowly higher.

But one cannot help noticing how many men and women stick in their evolution at about the age of 36. Unless they pass this mark, then their minds appear to be dead at 40. I have more than once heard artists say that they will have to do all their best work before reaching this age. It is nonsense of course. Caesar was 45 when he began to make his great career. Before that he was just a smart 'man about town'. In all this kind of research one has at times to be one's own guinea-pig. Where would Jung have got had he not used his own dreams in his studies?

The Romans, who were very astute in many matters, enlisted a man for thirty years as a soldier. That is they probably took him at 16 and retired him at 46. Then they settled him on a small-holding. In our great days we did the same. Thirty years was the reasonable life for a man in an exacting service.

But, unlike the Romans, our time-expired man got no grant of land. The English were always a nation of shopkeepers. After the Napoleonic wars there were no pensions for the returning Peninsular veterans. Only the landowners did their best to look after them, by putting them on to build walls round their parks, and other unnecessary works, which would bring them in some kind of income.

That soulless machine, the bureaucratic state, did nothing. The modern idea of the equality of man was impressed on the younger sons of those who had wealth and power by the bloodstained decks of the battleships of Trafalgar and the storming ladders of Badajos.

16. New Dimensions by Tom Lethbridge

© Tom Lethbridge 1965³⁵

You can take a letter from an unknown person and with the short pendulum apparently see whether the writer has an affinity with you or not. I do not think that it is wise to put much store in this. One does not know how much the pendulum can be affected by the operator's thought.

Quite a small phrase in the letter might give enough irritation to the reader to cause an adverse reaction on the pendulum. Words are terribly misleading, for they are coded thoughts. When decoded some words may be of quite a different value to what was meant by the writer.

There is another possibility of error. With the short pendulum an affinity is shown between male and female and the reverse between man and man. However, the affinity is clearly strong enough at times to overcome this general tendency, even to the extent of great enthusiasm being shown by the pendulum when swung between two letters from people of the same sex. The short rate pendulum is evidently of more general significance than the long individual rates. The thought rate appears to be stronger than the sex rate.

All this is of much general interest; but I do not regard it as coming as yet into the world of science in the same way as I regard the more exact behaviour of the long pendulum. Yet many dowzers work entirely with the short, unrated pendulum and correct its vagaries by mechanical means. I think that they are mistaken and are behaving like an anxious first mate trying to correct the balance of his vessel by shifting the cargo, when the dangerous rolling in a sea-way is in reality due to an error on the designer's part on the drawing-board.

It is a rate on the long pendulum, which will tell us eventually whether the writer of a letter has blue eyes or brown or whether he would like to stick a knife under your ribs, or present you with a case of champagne. The pendulum is simply an indicator of what something outside our five senses is ready to tell us and the simpler the indicator is, the more likely it is that the information will come through as that something intended.

Wise women, sensitives, or what you like, get this information direct without any intervention from an indicator. But our pendulum goes a long way towards showing that the information, which these sensitives give, is liable to be correct, even if it is also confused.

Once it becomes clear that there is a something, a something which does not require a brain to act as a computer and which knows many things which the five senses cannot supply to the brain for its computing, we have taken a considerable step forward. In fact we have left the three-dimensional world of length, breadth and thickness and begun to explore a fourth dimension.³⁶

This perhaps is the next stage of evolution, to become four dimensional. It may sound utter rubbish to people with ideas firmly rooted in the three, but we are beginning to find evidence for its existence. If one single event can be shown to have been correctly forecast before it took place in earthly time, you are in another dimension where cause may precede effect and this is impossible in three-dimensional science. But innumerable cases are known where this has happened and I have even done it myself as a small transistor radio beside my wife's bed bears witness, for it was bought with the profits.

The future and the past can often be observed by people using the sixth sense and I very much doubt whether the most case-hardened materialist does not really know this in the secret parts of his make-up. He may flap and bluster and growl, if he is honest he must appreciate that no theoretical extension of the functions of the brain can explain all the curious facts with which we have been dealing.

If all the soft parts of a sea urchin decayed 100 million years ago and only the life of the sea urchin was in those soft parts, how could we possibly detect its rates for sex and thought today? The only explanation must be that there was something about that sea urchin which was independent of those soft parts and that it still functions after that enormous lapse of time.

The only explanation that I can see at present is that that something is mind, spirit if you like, and that the mind is only linked to the brain, or whatever you like to call it for a sea urchin, by the electro-magnetic field. It is our mind, being independent of the three dimensions, which knows about matters which cannot be deduced from three-dimensional data.

³⁵ Source: Chapter 6 of *ESP: Beyond Time and Distance* (1965).

³⁶ Brian Greene, author of *The Elegant Universe*, refers to the three space dimensions as left/right, up/down and back/forth. Buckminster Fuller disliked up/down; ('...there is no up or down in Universe') and preferred in/out. [Ed]

This mind, our real life, exists in four dimensions, and as such has no bounds in time or space. It is not easy when one has been brought up from childhood to think in terms of three dimensions to be suddenly expected to do so in four. But apparently all we have been discussing relates to the properties of the fourth.

The signals without words, which go out over immense distances regardless of the laws of mechanical electro-magnetism; the foreknowledge of the future; the ability to contact things out of reach of these senses; all of the intangible phenomena connected with these fields of force; none of these really pertains to a three-dimensional world. They belong to a fourth in which life belongs to a mind with a different rate of vibration.³⁷

We have, I think, ample evidence that this force exists. However, it is outside time and distance. It is probably incorrect to call it fourth-dimensional as I am liable to do. It seems in fact to be non-dimensional. *Extra Sensory Perception* works by means of a non-dimensional force and it works in other planes beyond the three-dimensional plane of Earth. If you can learn how to use this force, you can work miracles. In an extremely small way we do work miracles by using the pendulum. Our step into the dark appears to be one into the light.

We have talked, somewhat childishly perhaps, about third and fourth dimensions. The fourth dimension is thought by many to be time. But our study appears to demonstrate that Earth Time does not exist beyond the point of 40. Much that we investigate is beyond this point.

Therefore, or so it seems to me, the fourth dimension belongs to this earthly life and not to the next phase. There you drop at least one dimension. This surely means that though in the next world there is available a much greater mass of fact to study with the mind, yet there is no urgency about it. You can just flip over the page of the book of life in any order you fancy.

Only in the fourth-dimensional life must you snatch at clues, because time is short. In this urgency surely lies the whole point of life on Earth. It is to sharpen your intellect, make it more fitted for thinking things out and to store the mental library of your psyche-filed with the fleeting impressions which are only to be found on Earth with its time sequences.

Only here do the blue shadows glide across the glen and the wild, white-topped breakers crash on the rocks. Only on Earth will the rowan trees turn red in the autumn and the beech put on its lovely pale green mantle in the spring; for without time there will be no seasons.

But, if you store your library with this kind of memory, you have it all there with you on the next lap and with heightened telepathy you will be able to exchange similar memories with others who have collected a comparable store. However, those who have made no attempt to appreciate their earthly surroundings will be faced with unutterable boredom of what little they have acquired and it is obvious that the wish to return to Earth for something better would be great. This is the reason why reincarnation is a reasonable supposition.

As I explained before, you cannot find a rate for time on our first 40-inch whorl of the spiral and this is because it is rushing away and you cannot catch it. It offers no obstruction to make the pendulum gyrate. But after the first whorl you find it with a rate of 60-inches, which is also the second whorl's rate for *Life*. Whatever happens to time on our next stage, it is something quite different from what it is here and no longer runs away from us. We would not understand it to be time as we know it.

It is possible to take the investigation further than this; but to do so it is necessary to have a pendulum with a longer cord and a place where you can swing it. I do it down the staircase well, leaning over the banisters. The floor below is concrete, which is neutral and does not have the disadvantage of elm boards. Swinging our pendulum from the higher point up the stairs, one soon finds that there is a third whorl to the spiral. The story seems to be repeated once again. But, as was the case with the first whorl, this time there is no reaction for time.

It will be a long job to study this new phenomenon. It seems, however, that the inference is clear and is exactly comparable to the metamorphoses of an insect. Our earthly life compares with the larval stage and contains time and movement. The next phase is like that of the chrysalis, which remains for a while apparently dead and completely inert. Then comes the stage of the perfect insect when time and movement not only return again, but are much accelerated.

Here we must stop until more work has been done; but at least we can leave this study with a greater conviction of the survival of the individual human mind. Further, the story, which the pendulum seems to be trying to tell, is the same as that told through mediums by means of automatic writing and suchlike devices.

After death, we are told, there is an interval of quiet reflection, followed by a reawakening to a new life, recognizably similar to Earth Life, but without its unpleasant side. This new life will have the time sequence once again. It would, I think, be crushingly dull without it.

³⁷ Source: Chapter 4 (pages 55-56) & Chapter 11 of *Step in the Dark*; Routledge & Kegan Paul, London, ISBN 07100 1741 3.

A Rate Table for the Long Pendulum				Pendulum Rates in inches		Tom & Mina Lethbridge
1						Congo
1½						Zambia
2						
3				rosemary		
3½				lavender		
4				currant		
4½				bramble		
5				rose		India, Nigeria
5½				may	phosphorus	
6			ash			Persia
7		brown		memory	sulphur, scent	Egypt
8					carriion, flesh	Libya, Morocco
9		purple	elder	safety	chlorine	Israel
9½				psi	nitrogen	
10	EAST	fire	red	sun, youth	man, light, graphite, distance	Bulgaria, Italy
10½			walnut	ivy		
11			oak			Spain, Portugal
11½					hair	
12			orange	cherry	pride	carbon, disease
12½					mercury	
13				rowan		Greece
13⅓					length	
13½					voice	
14					silica	Russia, Hungary
15						Poland
16					sex	Austria, E. Germany
17			beech		grass, dung, scarabs	Finland, W. Germany
18			apple			China
19½					blood	Denmark
20	SOUTH	earth	white	life, love	heat, electricity	Holland, Belgium
20¼					magnetism	
20½			hazel			N. Ireland
21					potassium	France, Switzerland
21½						Scotland, Ireland
22			grey		silver, lead, sodium, calcium	England, Wales
22½					magnesium	
23			elm			Sweden, Norway
24					male	
25					diamond	
26					aluminium	
26½					alcohol	
26½					oxygen	Canada, S. Africa
26⅔					thickness	
27				garlic	thought	USA
28			yew		stench	
29					tin	
29½			yellow		gold, danger	Australia
30	WEST	water	green	moon, age	sound	
30½			blue			copper, cobalt
31						
32			violet	pine	health	iron, aspirin
32½					nickel	
33½						New Zealand
34			cypress			
35						
36					evolution	
37						
38				tomato		
39				potato		
40	NORTH	air	black	death, anger	cold, sleep, deceit	

The World of T.C. Lethbridge

'What is magic today will be science tomorrow'

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