

My Inquiry into the Highgate Vampire Case

By Don Ecker

The alleged vampiric happenings at London's Highgate Cemetery, circa the late 60's and very early 1970's have garnered world-wide interest. The internet is filled with references to this alleged supernatural happening. When the case began, I was a student in my first year of college, and then enlisted in the United States Army. The upshot is I never heard about this until years after the fact.

In 1981 I was a criminal investigator then living and working in the state of Idaho. I received a case that involved two dead and mutilated cattle which were exsanguinated. At the time of this investigation I was not familiar with the phenomenon of cattle mutilation although I had heard some weird stories about it. Later I was to become very familiar with this topic, but in 1981-82 I was a novice involving cattle mutes.

My then brother-in-law (my only sisters husband) was serving as a U.S. Navy Corpsman attached with the U.S Marine Corps. My sister was also a LPN so both were very current with medical knowledge with the plus side of having an interest in "weird or unusual stuff." I was visiting family back on the east coast and my sister and her family were also there. One evening I told them about this weird case I had investigated. That was when my brother-in-law mentioned the Highgate case, and that an investigator (he didn't know who) had opened a 19th Century vault in the cemetery and discovered an extra coffin, with body, of the supposed vampire. Okay, knowing him (my brother-in-law) I was intrigued enough to want more information on the case. In 1981-82 there was almost no way to get more than rumor type stories. I made myself a promise that if I could, I would follow up on this case.



Northgate-Highgate

Cemetery

Before I go any further, allow me to make several things very clear. Since I was a youngster I had loved supernatural stories and spooky tales. I had been a horror fan since I had seen the original Dracula with Bela Lugosi on late night television. The original movie, The Thing, made in about 1951 had me going to bed with nightmares, but I loved it. Yes, I have a real affinity with GOOD horror and GOOD science fiction.

About 1995 or so, a buddy of mine, Dean Lamana, was a editor with Cinescape Magazine and he used to send my wife and I a free subscription. This magazine covered all the happenings in the entertainment field and other media.

I recall reading one issue that mentioned a new John Carpenter movie in production that was involved with a Vatican sponsored group of “vampire hunters.” I was excited because I could not recall another movie dealing with the mythos of vampires that was worth a damn. It was about one year later when my wife and I were at the movies that I saw a trailer for Carpenter’s film “Vampires”, and I told my wife I was going to be at the very first showing when it was finally released. In the meantime I discovered that it was based on a book by a Texan named John Steakley titled “Vampires.” I went out and bought the book. After reading it, I waited impatiently for the movie. When the film was released, sure enough I was at the first showing. I liked the film a lot, then I remembered the Highgate case and I jumped on my computer.

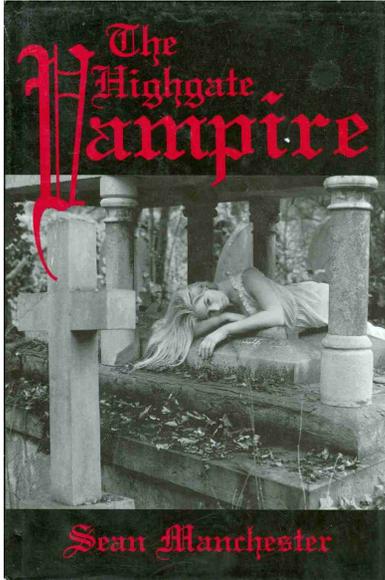
Going on the “net” I discovered a number of places that discussed the Highgate vampire incident, giving the locations of the alleged events, naming the principal players, and alleged happenings. Okay, I will say it once again ... I was intrigued. My wife Vicki and I were invited to the UK in 1997 to speak at the BUFORA UFO conference in Sheffield, UK. We ended staying with John Spencer and his lovely wife Anne, and all in all had a wonderful time. I recall mentioning Highgate to John and although he of course had heard of it, he didn’t have any great insight into the case as he had not investigated it himself, and I would be remiss if I did not mention he was very skeptical.



J. Spencer-center D. Ecker-lower right

We got back to the U.S. and at that time my wife Vicki and I were mainly concerned with our publication, UFO Magazine. A couple of years passed, and being a writer I decided to finally start my novel. Like I mentioned earlier, I enjoy good horror in my “off time” and I found little to my liking. I thought I had a winner for a “hook” for my still unwritten novel. “What IF ... what if “vampires” were REAL ... and the CIA got their hands on one? What might they attempt with a genuine “undead creature?” Then I again recalled the Highgate vampire and I decided to start some serious research.

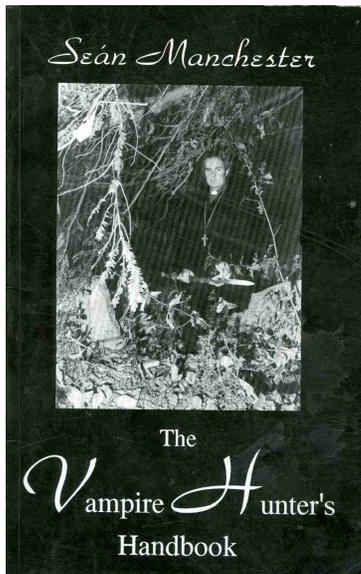
I had discovered that a book had been written on it (The Highgate Vampire) by a fellow named Sean Manchester. I had come across his name on the web, and I also discovered another fellow named David Farrant who had written another book, similar in title, "Beyond the Highgate Vampire."



I got in touch with John Spencer, and I asked John if he would be willing to contact the Sean Manchester group and ask them if I could interview Manchester. By this time I was aware that a great schism existed between Manchester and Farrant. Even knowing that fact, I had no idea how deep the rift was ... or how much vitriol existed between these two.

About a week or so passed and John got back in touch with me and he told me that the Manchester people were not interested in speaking with me. I found that somewhat odd, my name was fairly well known in some quarters, I had well over 6 years as a national radio broadcaster, and our magazine with my work was all over the UK. The upshot was I never did speak with Manchester.

I did some online searching and while I did not find his book anywhere in the United States, I was able to order it via Amazon dot com in the UK. I also ordered another tome written by Manchester, "The Vampire Hunters Handbook." (And I must state for the record that during this time, I was still willing, with proof, to acknowledge something very strange might have happened at the Highgate cemetery.)



Now recall, I was attempting to examine this in the same manner I had used to investigate homicides, manslaughter cases, robberies, shootings, and other felony crimes. I knew the methodology, the protocols that any police officer would use to investigate a crime or criminal act.

After a week or so of waiting, both books arrived from Amazon UK. I dropped everything and immediately read “The Highgate Vampire” and then the second book “The Vampire Hunter’s Handbook.”

I started this process attempting to keep an open mind. I suppose I should state that with 10 years on the streets as a cop, and two combat tours that I did in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam conflict I felt pretty confident that if there were such creatures as “actual honest-to-God vampires”, I might have gotten a glimmer of such being the case. Granted, now I was very up-to-date on the phenomenon of cattle mutilations, especially the aspect of blood loss, but still no connection could be made to an actual vampire. I should mention one other aspect of research I conducted when I first became actively involved in the research of UFOs. I don’t know but this might be a reason why the vampire mythos intrigued me as much as it did.

Back in 1988, it was mutilations that first pulled me into the field, and when first becoming an active researcher I was confronted with a very weird and troubling aspect that involved human beings that were mutilated like the cattle I had investigated. I wrote a paper on this and spoke about it at the 1989 International MUFON conference in Las Vegas. I pursued this for almost 3 years but other than finding a number of cases of human mutilation I was not able to break through whatever secrets were being kept on this aspect of mutilation research. After almost three years of banging my head against this brick wall I dropped this line of inquiry.

However let us go back to Manchester’s book. I knew that if this were real, (actual vampires) and make no mistake that is what he claimed, the way to pursue this was to

find out who his alleged victims were. (Then the next step would be to use forensic science and examine what the “ME” (Medical Examiner) might have said on the death certificate.) One alleged victim that was named in the book was a, then, young woman named Elizabeth Wojdyla. There is a photograph of this woman on page 61 of the second printing (REVISED EDITION) 1991 of “The Highgate Vampire.” As I discovered while tracking this book down, the original edition, printed in 1985, had been revised and a number of photographs in the earlier book had been removed.



Elizabeth Wojdyla-1970's photograph

As I later found out, one of the photographs that had been excised was a picture of the “vampire fang marks” on Ms. Wojdyla’s throat. Then of course was the death of “Lusia” by vampire attack, her internment and “resurrection” as a vampire creature. (And let us not forget, Manchester claims she turned into a giant spider vampire before he staked her.)

Reading the book, I was struck by the tone of Manchester’s prose. It was “almost” like reading Bram Stoker’s epic “Dracula.” Allow me to give an example. On page 172 of the second edition of “The Highgate Vampire”, here Manchester and “Lusia’s” sister “Anne” are standing at “Lusia’s” grave site.

<Eventually I joined her at the graveside where several vessels containing holy water stood amongst wild garlic and various other impediments. Slowly she found her voice.

“What are these things doing here?” she asked, her eyes glazed with grief and anger.

“I believe that you know the answer.”

“I want you to tell me,” she shouted. “This is what you used all these years ago to protect my sister. Why use them now? How can you protect her from anything now?”

“It is too late to save Lusia from harm, but we must protect others.”

“What do you mean others?”

“The night is full of her voice calling me,” I heard myself saying as I stared with moist eyes at the lonely tomb. “Others have been attacked. There have been fatalities and recently a child

“This is madness,” she interrupted. “I won’t listen to any more.”>

Okay, sounds like good advice to me, but still if “Lusia” had died under mysterious circumstances then like any good cop I wanted to see a copy of her death certificate. However to do that, I had to know her real name, and there was no real name available.

I had a lot on my plate then. We had gone from publishing UFO Magazine every two months to publishing every month. I was still doing radio, radio interviews and occasionally television appearances, while trying to finish my book. My novel was finally published in 2004 by Gateway Publishing to good reviews.



This was a ton of weight removed from my shoulders and I could now concentrate on other things. Because I could not locate a name for “Lusia” I again decided to let the Highgate case rest, thinking the entire thing was a huge “put-on” by Manchester and his cronies. I must state however, I still found the case intriguing.

Along about 2006 I was approached by several film people about the possibility of making a major motion picture out of my novel “Past Sins.” Now, if you are not familiar with how THIS process works, well that is a subject for an entirely new “paper.” (And I will add that the film process is still ongoing.) I was feeling more and more withdrawn from UFO research, really hating the downward slide of sensational and unproven dreck that was becoming what all of UFO research seemed to be. I wrote an entire paper on my leaving UFO research and if you care to read my reasons go to, http://www.ufowatchdog.com/ufo_fog.pdf or “My 20 Years in the UFO Fog”. I was still doing my latest radio show “Dark Matters” and I would hit those weird stories on the show trying to use my logic as a counter-balance to the topics covered.



I also trolled the “net” on subjects that interest me and last year I came across a podcast titled “Worlds of the Unexplained” hosted by two interviewers named Jay Scott and Trent Lackey <sp?>. I found two shows that I immediately downloaded, the first with “Bishop Sean Manchester” and “David Farrant.” These interviews of course were not

done at the same time because of the feud between Manchester and Farrant. (As I later found out in excruciating detail from all the parties involved.)

I listened with great and detailed interest to both interviews but it was the Farrant interview that caused me to have my “Ah Ha!!” moment. He identified “Lusia” on the show as one “Jacqueline Cooper” and I finally seemed to have her identity. Now my next step was obvious, locate the death certificate if she in fact was dead.



“Lusia-Jacqueline Cooper ??”

I wrote to my colleague John Spencer in the UK with this new information on “Lusia” and gave him my information. I asked him if he could make some inquiries on my behalf and do a document search for a death certificate. John told me he would do what he could.

Now, I was a published author, and any author will tell you that they do all they can to get the name of their product out there. **Past Sins** is on Amazon dot com and as I had mentioned earlier I have received good reviews on the book. I was on a “horror chat forum” on Amazon and gently pushing my book. (And as I mentioned, the book is vampire fiction.) In the course of the chat I asked a generic question if anyone was familiar with the Highgate vampire case. I proceeded to mention that as a former law enforcement officer I had always been very curious about this case and the actual identities of the alleged victims in Sean Manchester’s book “The Highgate Vampire.” I also mentioned that after years of being unable to ID the actual identity of “Lusia”, that I had stumbled upon a radio podcast show where David Farrant was interviewed and he mentioned her identity as “Jacqueline Cooper.” I also said,

“During the course of my study, I came across something called the "Highgate Vampire" case that supposedly took place in the UK. This case involved what was described in some quarters as an actual "vampire" haunting, and a lot of characters named in the investigation were still around.

The case began about 1968-69 at the Highgate Cemetery in north London, and the person most associated with the "Highgate Vampire" is a man named Sean Manchester. Later, after a several year investigation, Manchester claims he staked the vampire.

Now, I will be the first person to admit that on the surface ... this comes across as sheer lunacy. However Manchester is now a Bishop in the "Old Catholic Church" apparently recognized in the UK, and he has written several books on the case

including "The Highgate Vampire" published by Gothic Press ... ISBN 1 872486 01 0. When I was writing "Past Sins", in chapter 5, I mentioned this alleged case in general terms. Have any of you heard of the Highgate case and what is your opinion concerning whether there could be a kernel of truth to the legends concerning the "undead?"

It was only a day or so later and I was checking my Yahoo email and I saw a note to me from someone called "FoBSM". For some reason that struck me as familiar, but I had not yet finished my first cup of coffee and was still a bit fuzzy. I opened it and read,

"Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk> wrote:

It is a point of fact that Bishop Manchester refused to discuss the charlatan Farrant on "World of the Unexplained" - as the hosts of that programme will confirm. Farrant used the opportunity to misrepresent and defame Bishop Manchester. You have accepted what Farrant - a convicted felon - alleged about "Lusia" on the programme and published Farrant's falsehood on Amazon. "Lusia" has never been identified and she was certainly not "Jacqueline Cooper" who should not be identified and misrepresented in this way by either you or Farrant. The latter, of course, has innumerable criminal convictions and is a compulsive liar, having had his claims exposed as being fraudulent by journalists, authors, magistrates, judges and juries. Farrant has "answered" nothing for you. All he has achieved is draw you into his world of chicanery by your duplicating his malicious falsehood about "Lusia." We, therefore, request that you remove your reference to "Jacqueline Cooper" on Amazon. The claim that Bishop Manchester cannot be contacted is also preposterous. He is contacted every day by interested people, researchers, academics, scholars and television documentary-makers who simply put his name into a search engine and discover his various forums and websites."

Now, I will admit that the tone of this missive "*irritated me*" plus the fact that the note was not signed. I put my cop hat on and thought this had I gotten a note from Jacqueline Cooper or her family, well I would have understood that. Why would Manchester be interested? And, how did he find out about an obscure chat thread on the American Amazon dot com forum? Alright I thought, one thing at a time. I wrote them back and said,

"Dear Friends of Bishop Manchester,

My name is Don Ecker, a writer and radio broadcaster. I am a medically retired criminal investigator with a very real interest in the Highgate case.

If you write me, please have the courtesy to sign your name so I know to whom I speak. Once knowing to whom I am speaking, I will be happy to discuss this matter with you.

With regards,

Don Ecker"

Okay, after years of trying, finally the Manchester group was in communication with me. On one level I was pretty happy about that, on another level I knew that Manchester and the "FoBSM" seemed to have a very hot feud going with anyone and everybody. If he was a legitimate "man of the cloth" that seemed to me to be very un-Christian but then, who am I to judge?

Shortly after I wrote back to the "FoBSM" I received the following,

"Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk> wrote:
From: Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk>
To: "Don Ecker"
Subject: Re: Misrepresentation
Date: Sat, 7 Jul 2007 10:03:58 +0100

Dear Don Ecker,

My name is irrelevant. What is relevant is the misrepresentation you have published courtesy of the convicted felon Farrant.

I am one of a number of people who sign as FoBSM. You are the first to find this a bar to addressing a damaging error you are responsible for on the internet.

If you have no intention of amending the falsehood concerning an innocent third party who is not a public figure, Amazon will have to be informed.

Regards,

Katrina Garforth-Bles
FoBSM"

Gee whiz, I felt just like I had been threatened to be taken to the school principal for throwing snowballs when I was in the 4th grade! Wow! Amazon will be informed about me. Well, at that point I did not wish to start a feud with them so I wrote her back and was very courteous.

"Dear Ms. Garforth-Bles,

Courtesy is never irrelevant. If I indeed made an error in identifying "Lusia" as one "Jacqueline Cooper" I will be more than happy to correct it in the post I made on the Amazon discussion forum.

I understand that Farrant was a convicted felon that served time in prison, and I understand what his crime was. Perhaps you might enlighten me as to why he would wish to "smear" Bishop Manchester in this manner?

My only other question is simply this, being on this side of the Atlantic I of course have limited knowledge of the events and persons involved in this case. What makes you the

arbiter of the facts surrounding the Highgate case? Were you there and involved in these events or does your knowledge come "after the fact?" Please show me where I was incorrect.

With regards,

Don Ecker”

“KGB” wrote me back, and notice that “she”, if in fact it is a “she” and not Manchester masquerading as someone else, never points out why Cooper is not “Lusia.”

“Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk> wrote:

From: Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk>

To: "Don Ecker"

Subject: Re: Misrepresentation

Date: Sat, 7 Jul 2007 14:42:33 +0100

Dear Don Ecker,

I was there latterly. My colleague Dennis Crawford (who is the bishop's international secretary) was there from the case's inception. You have made an error concerning Farrant's malicious identification of "Jacqueline Coper" as "Lusia." Perhaps you need confirmation from Bishop Manchester himself. He certainly was there at the time and can be contacted at the aforementioned forum - <http://groups.msn.com/BishopSeanManchester>.

Can you confirm whether or not you are willing to remove the name of an innocent third party, *ie* Jacqueline Cooper, from your comments on Amazon?

Regards,

Katrina Garforth-Bles
FoBSM”

I kept hope alive that in one of these notes I would learn of the error of my ways by “KGB” pointing out why good ol’ Jackie Cooper was not “Lusia.” Instead I found my self attempting to “keep afloat” from the deluge of crime statistics of Mr. David Farrant. Oh yes, I also asked myself this question, why would a “Christian Bishop” keep the “rap sheet” handy of his arch rival???

“Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk> wrote:

From: Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk>

To: "Don Ecker"

Subject: Re: Misrepresentation

Date: Sat, 7 Jul 2007 15:13:53 +0100

Dear Don Ecker,

I do not appear to have answered your question as to why Farrant should want to "smear" Bishop Manchester.

The online extracts from a work by Bishop Manchester prove a comprehensive explanation. When you access the main page, you need to scroll down and start with the Introduction, moving upward through the seventeen parts which are extracts from *Confronting the Devil* (Gothic Press, 2007). I was under the impression that you have read some of the bishop's books dealing with vampire cases and some of these would have informed you about the motivation behind Farrant.

The address for this data is:

<http://clearblogs.com/confrontingthedevil/page2/&thisy=&thism=&thisd=>

The main body of text can be found at: <http://clearblogs.com/confrontingthedevil>

Regards,

Katrina Garforth-Bles
FoBSM

Farrant's known crime sheet:

Occupation: (since release on parole in autumn 1976):

Unemployed (permanently in receipt of state benefits).

Criminal Convictions:

November 1972 (Barnet Magistrates' Court):

Indecency in Monken Hadley churchyard (Ecclesiastic Courts Jurisdiction Act 1860).

June 1974 (Central Criminal Court, London):

Malicious damage in Highgate Cemetery by inscribing black magic symbols on the floor of a mausoleum.

Offering indignities to remains of the dead via black magic rites in Highgate Cemetery where photographs were taken of a naked female accomplice amidst tombs.

Threatening police witnesses in a separate case where his black magic associate, John Pope, was subsequently found guilty of indecent sexual assault on a boy named Blackwell. Pope, on his current website, still describes himself as a "master of the black arts."

Theft of items from Barnet Hospital where the offender worked briefly as a porter in late 1970.

Possession of a handgun and ammunition kept at Farrant address, which also contained a black magic altar beneath a massive mural of a face of the Devil that had featured in various newspapers, not least full front page coverage of the *Hornsey Journal*, 28 September 1973.

Sentence: Farrant was arrested in December 1973 and held on remand until his trials at the Old Bailey in June 1974. He received a prison sentence of four years and eight months. He was

released on parole in the autumn of 1976 and took up residence at a multi-occupied house in a bed-sitting room at 142 Muswell Hill Road, London N10, which he still occupies.

Civil Actions:

Two libel suits brought by David Farrant resulted in the *News of the World* (on a claim that his publicity-seeking was a substitute for his failed sexual libido) failing to produce their principal defence witness owing to Farrant making sure she remained in her native France, and his losing against the *Daily Express* (who had accused him of being a black magician and of being insane) where £20,000 court costs were awarded against him. In the *News of the World* action, which he won on a technicality, he was awarded the derisory sum of £50. The newspaper's star witness who failed to appear for their defence was Martine de Sacy, an ex-girlfriend of Farrant's who was identified as the naked female in the infamous "nude rituals trial" at the Old Bailey in 1974. Farrant persuaded her not to appear, causing the *News of the World* to lose their star witness. Farrant was arrested in December 2002 and charged with the harassment of Bishop Seán Manchester, Mrs Sarah Manchester, Mrs Diana Brewster, and Br Keith Maclean, but the CPS did not prosecute due to Farrant taking great care to stagger the frequency of incidents so that they fell just outside the remit for the minimum number of offences necessary *per* month for a case to be successfully prosecuted. Farrant is still being monitored by the police.

Other Arrests: Farrant has been arrested on various occasions throughout his life. Those that made the headlines for which he was later not found guilty include being in an enclosed area for an unlawful purpose at Clerkenwell Magistrates Court in August 1970 (because a Highgate Cemetery cannot be defined as an "enclosed area"); arson (along with John Pope), and theft of a corpse and placing it in someone's vehicle at the Old Bailey trials in June 1974.

It became very apparent to me that I would get nowhere with "KGB". I finally "caved" in and I wrote her < ? > the following note.

"Dear Ms. Garforth-Bles,

Please be advised that under the guise of furthering Anglo/American relations, I have deleted the post concerning "Lusia-Jacqueline Cooper." I still have several questions regarding the case, I hope either you or perhaps Bishop Manchester will be available to answer.

With regards,

Don Ecker"

Okay, using the "street parlance" sometimes you gotta give a little to get a little. I wanted to interview Manchester on my radio program. By now however I held out slim hope because he had to know who I was and he had to at least suspect I have a short fuse with someone trying to "bull-shit" me.

Now, allow me a second to relay a short exchange that took place on the Amazon horror chat forum. After I asked if anyone had been aware of the Highgate case, someone chimed in with their belief that Manchester was an "*opportunist*" with the Highgate case. I then stated that I thought he was "*either a brilliant opportunist or is vastly deluded*" and that came back to haunt me in my next email from "KGB".

“*Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester* <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk> wrote:
From: Friends of Bishop Seán Manchester <helpdesk@gothicpress.fslife.co.uk>
To: "Don Ecker"
Subject: Re: Misrepresentation
Date: Sun, 8 Jul 2007 12:15:41 +0100

Dear Don Ecker,

You may raise questions regarding the Highgate Vampire case at
<http://groups.msn.com/TheCrossandTheStake>

Just how willing Bishop Manchester will be to respond to an American who describes him as being someone who is "*either a brilliant opportunist or is vastly deluded*"* I really cannot say. Personally, I would be disinclined, if someone spoke about me in that way, to show much co-operation. I only mention this because your first e-mail response talked of having "courtesy" (July 06, 2007 5:56 PM). I do not find your published remarks at all courteous. Far from it. One of his secretaries (I am his national secretary), however, might be willing in the absence of personal abuse to address your queries, but expecting a courteous reply from a highly respected public figure whom you label as deluded is a bit rich.

By the way, David Farrant is not Bishop Manchester's "*arch enemy*," as you claim on Amazon.* If you read the bishop's Introduction to *Confronting the Devil*, you will discover he clarifies that the Devil - not Farrant - is his arch-enemy.

This can be found at: <http://clearblogs.com/confrontingthediabol>

Thank you for deleting the post which duplicates Farrant's libel that "Lusia" is Jacqueline Cooper who is a private individual not involved in any of these matters and clearly not "Lusia" who has never been identified. Farrant takes great pleasure in disseminating misinformation of every conceivable kind where Bishop Manchester and his work is concerned. What the outsider must consider is this: how on earth would Farrant know "Lusia's" identity? Or anything else concerning the case of the Highgate Vampire as recounted in Bishop Manchester's book? Farrant did not meet "Lusia" or any of the other characters mentioned in the Highgate Vampire account. He had no contact with anyone involved with the case and was either out of the country, on remand in prison, serving a prison sentence, or drinking copious amounts of alcohol in his local pub when these events took place. All his claims regarding Bishop Manchester are spurious, fabricated and malicious.

Regards,

Katrina Garforth-Bles
FoBSM”

Well, I was to discover how David Farrant knew “Lusia, aka Jacqueline Cooper” and that part of the story is fascinating as well.

Now as to the last note from “KGB”, quite frankly it pissed me off by the sneering tone about my being an American. Let me refresh you,

*“Just how willing Bishop Manchester will be to respond to an American who describes him as being someone who is **“either a brilliant opportunist or is vastly deluded”*** I really cannot say.”*

Okay, I will be the first to admit that I am an American. However, if this bunch is trying to convince the planet that we are all at risk from the dreaded **undead** stalking us, (to turn us into a happy meal?) then one would think that they would welcome someone who is conversant in investigations to be involved in what would be a world-class criminal case. Not really as I found out, and I will state that all my bull-shit indicators were ringing loud and long.

I still did not wish to totally alienate this bunch so I tried once more and was very polite but honest with them. By now though, I decided this was pretty much a lost cause. This was becoming too “cultish” a group to try to really communicate with.

“Dear Ms. Garforth-Bles,

Firstly, you are welcome. (for the thanks you forwarded for removing my post on Amazon.)

Well, as a former criminal investigator with years on the job, which I might add included investigating murders and the subsequent incarceration of the perpetrators to prison, I will be the first to admit that I am skeptical about the fact of “supernatural vampires.” In 1981 I was the lead investigator on two cattle mutilations which in a round about way led me to discovering the Highgate case. (Both animals were exsanguinated.) At first blush, one should not be too harsh when my skeptical side rises, however I was willing to keep an open mind concerning the “possibility” that something with supernatural overtones did in fact occur.

One must agree (perhaps not you) that in light of almost non-existent evidence, supernatural vampires as an answer to Highgate and other cases, is a stretch of logic. The reason I purchased both “The Highgate Vampire” and “The Vampire Hunter’s Handbook” was because I was looking for evidence with supernatural overtones. I fear I have not yet found what I am looking for.

Now, placing my “detective” hat on, allow me to tell you what I’ve been led to.

If, and that is a very big **if**, a genuine supernatural vampire did exist ... and if said creature attacked and murdered humans, this would be a law enforcement priority of the very first magnitude. How would one go about proving such an outrage? The answer is **forensic science**. If “Lusia” was in fact a victim of a vampire creature, then her cause of death would be vitally important to not only religious authorities but to Law Enforcement agencies worldwide. (Not to mention her **corporeal body turning into a spider**... something I’ve never experienced by the way) I still have many law enforcement connections and I must say the idea of “vampiric infestation” does not register anywhere. But then I am trying to examine this using logic and not emotion. Your emotion (and apparent anger) shines through you missives, when if you believe this phenomenon is real, one would think you would be willing to discuss this in a rational manner. (Instead you sound as if you are sneering that I am an American.) **On another note**,

when my father was in England in 1943, the English were very happy to see him. However, water under the bridge.

You seem to castigate me for my initial skepticism about Bishop Manchester's assertion that supernatural vampires are real. Why yes, guilty as charged, but I am still willing to look and perhaps even be convinced with **proof**. Another Brit, one David Icke, asserts that the controllers of the planet are **reptilian humanoids**, which include the Queen and former President George Bush among many others. Icke has followers that are as intolerant of questions as you seem to be. Should you and I take Icke's word as fact without proof? Somehow I doubt that.

I have been respectful and courteous in my messages to you. I am genuinely interested in the Highgate case, which explains why I am in communication with you and the Friends of Bishop Manchester. But one thing I learned as a detective that has always rung true, when people are too intolerant of legitimate questions ... or regard such questions as an attack ... one must suspect that something is being hidden. If Bishop Manchester would not deem to speak or write to me because I've expressed legitimate skepticism, then I suspect he is much too thin-skinned, which would seem to hold true for any group that has a **perceived guru or infallible leader**. That would be a shame.

With regards,

Don Ecker"

Of course much more was to come, but after I had requested getting an interview with Manchester via "KGB" this came to naught. I also asked John Spencer to make some inquiries to the Farrant group, John did and I received a note from his webmaster. I explained my interest to them and asked if I could speak to Farrant and also do an interview with him. After a few days (Farrant was tied up with some other matters) he agreed to my calling him for a short conversation. We agreed on a time and I called him and had a very interesting chat. I questioned him about "Elizabeth Wojdyla" and of course "Lusia." David Farrant gave me information I would of otherwise not been able to get on this side of the Atlantic ocean. For example, in the first edition of "The Highgate Vampire" there was a photo of "fang marks" on Wojdyla's throat and in the second edition this was removed. Farrant told me that he was able to find her in the late 1970's and according to what he told me, Elizabeth admitted to him that the picture was done as a joke with Manchester putting the "fang marks" on her with a "Magic Marker" pen. As far as Jacqueline Cooper, Farrant told me that Manchester had a romantic

interest in her and she was named in Manchester's divorcing his then wife with Cooper

Certificate of making Decree Nisi Absolute (Divorce)
No. 11323 of 1970

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FAMILY DIVISION
PRINCIPAL REGISTRY

Between *MARIE MANCHESTER* Petitioner
and *PATRICK SEAN MANCHESTER* Respondent
and *JACQUELINE FRANCES (CITIZEN AS JACQUELINE FRANCES) MANCHESTER (FORMERLY COOPER)* Co-Respondent

Referring to the decree made in this cause on the *24TH* day of *MARCH* 19 *71* whereby it was decreed that the marriage solemnised on the *1ST* day of *APRIL* 19 *67* at *CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, EDEN GROVE IN THE DISTRICT AND LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON* between *PATRICK SEAN MANCHESTER* the petitioner and *MARIE MANCHESTER (THEN RYAN)* the respondent be dissolved unless sufficient cause be shown to the court within *THREE MONTHS* from the making thereof why the said decree should not be made absolute, and no such cause having been shown, it is hereby certified that the said decree was on the *30TH* day of *JUNE* 19 *71* made final and absolute and that the said marriage was thereby dissolved.

Dated this *7TH* day of *JANUARY* 19 *80*



Divorce Registry, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LP. D.242

Attention is drawn to the fact that an order made by a magistrates' court, a divorce county court or the High Court for the payment of periodic sums by one party to the marriage for the maintenance of the other will automatically cease to have effect if the marriage is dissolved.

being named as cause.

On July 26, 2007 I interviewed David Farrant, long distance, for my Dark Matters Radio Show. The interview was not quite two hours in length and was enlightening in the depth of information garnered.

By this time I had gathered reams of information on the case, documents, geographical areas of interest, and from contacts in the United Kingdom, information that I would not have otherwise been able to gather because of my distance from the site. The Manchester group, or FoBSM, had been of no help what so ever, except they were very quick to send me news stories of Farrant's legal troubles over the years including a "news story" about his "de-flowering" a young "virgin" girl.

The following news story was taken from "The Sun", a British tabloid newspaper, dated October 31, 2006, sent to me by the FoBSM.

"Witch Orgy to take Virginity
By Virginia Wheeler

A SEX-MAD witch and a 200-strong coven plan to celebrate Halloween tonight by deflowering a teenage virgin.

Creepy David Farrant boasted yesterday how he will oversee the orgy to initiate the girl into his cult.

The 19-year-old trainee accountant will have full sex with a 30-year-old High Priest chosen by Farrant.

As the teen writhes naked with the stranger on the floor, the rest of the priest's coven drop their robes to watch the display in the **NUDE**. The 200 onlookers then take part in a **MASS-ORGY** at a property in Barnet, North London.

Farrant, 56, is High Priest of the British Psychic and Occult Society. He claims to have bedded 2,000 women in similar Wicca religious ceremonies.

He said last night: "Initiating a virgin on Halloween is very important for Wiccans in serious covens."

In this particular email a photograph of Farrant was included of him wearing a "t-shirt" and smoking a cigarette. The t-shirt was a cartoon-ish character called "Bishop Bonkers" taken from a short lived parody titled "Bournemouth Nights" that in a very funny manner, detailed the feud between Manchester and Farrant. This cartoon series ran on a website called "MondoSkepto." When Manchester found out about the series it was eventually taken down because of his complaints and possible legal actions. The following was also included in the email to me.



David Farrant

Bournemouth Nights



The Bishop Dreams of Princess Di

David Farrant "advertising a T-shirt distributed and sold by members of the J.R.E.F.F. The T-shirt displays on its

front a crude cartoon of Bishop Seán Manchester who is described as "Bishop Bonkers." Talk about infantile!

Is this the best the J.R.E.F.F cronies can come up with in their hate campaign against the bishop? In having David Farrant model their "merchandise" at London's Muswell Hill, however, they have exposed the degree of collusion (behind the scenes) between the J.R.E.F.F. and David Farrant in their mutual vendetta against a man who stands firmly by his faith and his principles.

David Farrant was sentenced to four years and eight months in the UK following convictions for vandalism, desecration and threatening witnesses in a case of sexual assault. David Farrant also has convictions for indecency in a churchyard, theft and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition. He has spent his entire life living off state benefits and still occupies the attic bed-sitting room he was found while on parole in 1976. David Farrant is a sixty-one-year old publicity-seeker.

One of the foremost inciters of hatred against Bishop Manchester is prominent J.R.E.F.F. member Catrena Hall of Cary, North Carolina, USA. She advertises anti-Bishop Seán Manchester items and other material on her websites. She nearly always uses the pseudonyms "The Vampire" (on the J.R.E.F.F.) or "vampire406" on her sites and elsewhere. She is a fifty-year-old female with irrational hatred and contempt for anyone who is Christian or who believes in the supernatural. Last year she also joined David Farrant's personal forum which is devoted exclusively to fabrication, falsehood and malice against the author and exorcist Bishop Seán Manchester.

During the course of the interview I conducted with Farrant, he was open and he was willing to discuss any aspect of the case. He was completely open in our discussion concerning his incarceration in prison, and while he did not discount some type of supernatural influence that may have "haunted" the Highgate Cemetery, he totally denied that there had ever been a vampire haunting the area.

I wanted to know about the two "vampire victims" that were discussed in Manchester's book. What was the story about Elizabeth Wojdyla and of course Lusja/Jacqueline Cooper? Had they, either of them, been afflicted by anything weird, odd, unusual?

The following is derived both from the show and our telephone discussions. (And this is again to remind the readers that I tried again and again to give Manchester his chance to appear on the show and “correct the record” with anything he may have disputed.

According to David Farrant,

“Well, it's true that Manchester claims that two girls were attacked by the Vampire; Elizabeth Wodjyla and the ever elusive Lusia.
What he fails to point out, is that the only two alleged victims, were friends of his.
Allow me to explain.

Elizabeth was indeed a real girl, but she also happened to be the girlfriend of a close friend of his, Keith McClean, with who Manchester is still friends with.
It was rather convenient, that his best friends girlfriend should be attacked by a Vampire that he created.

Elizabeth, many years later, and in a phone conversation to an associate said that the whole thing "Was just for a laugh."

Now, as to the fact that “The Highgate Vampire” went through two editions, with the second edition having several photographs removed,

“Manchester released two editions of his book The Highgate Vampire. The second edition omits a number of photographs. One in particular, shows a victim with two bite marks on her neck; the problem is, that it isn't Elizabeth's neck, nor is it Lusia.
If it is Elizabeth as he may claim, then the marks are not consistent with later photo's of her wounds. Manchester failed to realize that one day with the aid of digital technology, we would be able to scan and blow up images to such proportions, that even the finest detail would show.

What the original photo shows, is that the marks were quite clearly made by a marker pen or paint. The reason is that the lower bite mark has been dotted in twice; obviously the first attempt was too great a distance from the top mark. That isn't the only problem. If you look at both pictures of two obviously different women (the jaw line gives this away) you can easily see that the width of the two bite marks is different.
Now if this were a vampire in other words, the bite marks would be the same. If a vampire really existed, their teeth and bite marks would be no different forensically than the host body they inhabited.

It is physically impossible to leave two point like marks in a neck and not leave an impression from the mandible; in short, it's impossible to suck blood using only the maxilla and teeth. One need only look at the animal world to see the case in point.
Rather than two "Hollywood" pinholes, the throat would be torn apart.

So to recap:

*Bite marks are inconsistent;

*Elizabeth was his friends girlfriend;

*Elizabeth stated in a phone conversation that it was all "just for a laugh".

Now, I must state for the record that I have never seen the first edition of Manchester's book, it is almost impossible to find one anywhere. I do have the second edition book, but once again these photographs are missing showing "fang marks." For what it is worth at this point however, I accept what Farrant told me, if for no other reason than the Manchester group (let me use some police speak here) the Manchester group was "SO HINKY" with the information ... I knew something was **ROTTEN** in Denmark.

I spoke to someone that was extremely familiar with all the "in's and out's" with this case and after this person was assured that I would keep his name confidential, he provided me with the following.

"I should explain something else here.

In the late 60's/early 70's, Manchester made a short film on an old cine camera called "The Vampire Exhumed". In it, Manchester played not only the Vampire, but the Vampire Hunter as well. Only one picture exists outside of Manchester's lock & key and it was for the poster of his home movie. The poster shows Manchester dressed as a Vampire looking up at the camera after having bitten the neck of a woman who has been identified as Jacqueline Cooper. The film itself was shown to a small number of people back in the '70's. David Farrant was one of them.

A few months ago, by pure luck, one of the members of David's organization and a fellow author, met a man at a book launch who claimed to have seen this film as well, back in the 70's.

He corroborated the exact details that David had given of what he remembered.

David always maintained that there was a small section of home movie at the end of the film that featured what he believed to be Manchester and a woman having sex in a garden or in public on some grass, but as soon as this came on, that Sean would automatically put it out of focus so you couldn't see what was happening.

The new witness brought this up himself and said that the woman was Jacqueline Cooper.

He also shed light on something that has either been a source of amusement or wonder; the infamous Vampire decomposing pictures. Well David has maintained all along that it's Manchester himself under the make up, but he didn't know how the effect was created. This new witness explained that when he had asked Manchester back in the 70's with a lot of praise for the effect, Manchester explained how he did it.

Now it's important that you realize that Manchester had a photographic studio at the time; something he brags about given the chance and a knowledge of photography.

The film is basically time lapse photography played in reverse.

Manchester had a watery flour mixture on his face and a heater & fan set up nearby.

The heat source melted the mixture and the fan blew it off of his face.

Once the time lapse photography was finished, the effect was played in reverse.

As the frame rate was so stilted, you wouldn't be able to see the blow off effect but simply a very basic face morph.

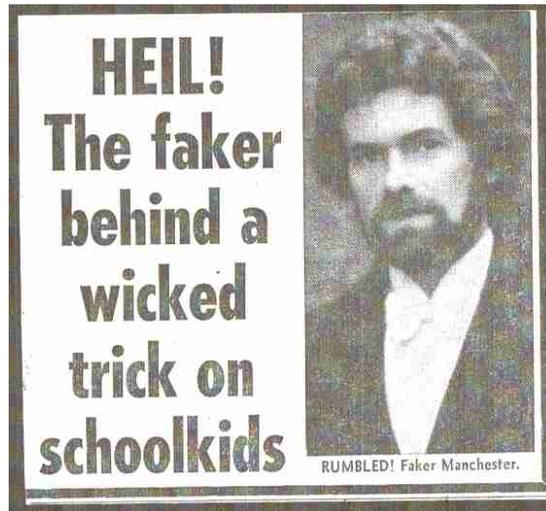
It is a set a 3 pictures from his home movie, that made their way into his book and on his own website.

3 very grainy pictures from someone who is supposed to be a professional photographer. The reason that they are so small, is that blowing up a cine film still, would leave too many artifacts in frame that would give the game away as to their origin.

It's also why he refuses to allow people to host these pictures and threatens them with legal action (copyright) if they do not remove them from their websites.



Highgate Vampire decomposing



News story on Manchester

Back on October 9th 1977, Sean Manchester was exposed by a national newspaper for attempting to create an anti-semitic feeling in a predominantly Jewish area of London. He had basically created a false story to try and get some free publicity, but it back fired in the most bizarre way. I've taken the liberty of uploading these to an online image server.

[Click](#)

[Click](#)

The rest of the article gives you an insight to the mentality of the man.

I should explain something else here. The date of the expose is very important. You see, Manchester claims to be a man of the cloth; a Bishop. He's not.

I have a letter of his excommunication by the very same man who ordained him.

This is a transcript of the original letter

*Proclamation from Archbishop Thomas
To Sean Patrick Manchester*

This document being an Instrument of Laicisation in the name of the Most Holy Undivided Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

I, The most Revd. Iltyd Thomas, Servant of Our Lord and Saviour Lord Jesus Christ, By the Grace of God, Bishop in The Old Catholic Church of Utrecht Succession, who did give you Holy orders, to the above named Sean Manchester, and again who on the 14th October 1991 did bestow upon him Episcopal Consecration which in itself was null and void as Sean Manchester had not declared he had been involved for some years in the occult which is strictly condemned by Christianity and Christendom. Therefore Bishop Thomas would not have given Holy Orders, to the above named. Therefore we declare His Orders invalid. His canonical oath useless and of no importance.

An Anathema upon any person or persons who deliberately set aside this information.

In faith and Testimony wherefore we have set our manual and sign.

This proclamation letter is signed by Archbishop Thomas and shows his home address etc.

Manchester is now claiming that he has excommunicated the man who ordained him. Impossible and rubbish.

Basically, his entry into the clergy was a tax dodge so he would be exempt from paying taxes. It's the oldest trick in the book.

I digress.

The date that Manchester gives for his various levels of ordination, from his own website, states that he became

"Superior General, Ordo Sancti Graal, 13 April 1973"

...1973, yet only 4 years later, he was dressing up as a Nazi and scaring the local Jewish community.

It gets better.

A national magazine called "City Limits", in 1980, featured a picture of Manchester dressed as a Satanist charging a blade for a ritual.

The same picture appeared in a book by French author and Stanaist for Show, Jean-Paul Bourre around the same time.



Now if you look closely at the bottom, the caption reads "Lord Manchester charging the sacrificial dagger during a magic ritual."

Lord Manchester?

Yep, he was using this title in France for quite some time and pretty much lied about who he is/was.

This stems from another falsehood.

Manchester claims to be a descendant of Lord Byron but has absolutely no proof of this whatsoever. He bases this very loosely on the fact that Byron had sex with a housemaid; got her pregnant and that this is his lineage to Byron.

It's incredible given the fact that were it true, he'd have shown off the genealogy report to everyone online by now. His other claims, is that he is of Royal descent along with his wife, Sarah and that he is also related to King Arthur.

The fact that historians doubt Arthur even existed didn't deter him from making such a ridiculous claim.

A man of the cloth being photographed and exposed after his so called ordination?

He once claimed that it's not him in the photo's.

He then changed his mind and threatened legal action as the images were his copyright.

He now claims to be a Bishop, but once again, research has shown that he has never undertaken a single days worth of a Theology degree.

Even the most humble and basic Priest is required to study for three years.

Manchester claims to be an autocephalous Bishop, but this still doesn't explain non-study.

He also claims to be the Bishop of Glastonbury.

Interesting, considering there is no such thing; Glastonbury falls under the auspices of the Bishop of Bath & Wells.”

The next point of business was discovering just who Lusia was. I have recounted in earlier posts my reasons for attempting to discover her identity, also a certificate of death, if one existed, and what the Medical Examiner (ME) had to say on the certificate. However, as I was to discover, her place of internment, as identified by Manchester in *The Highgate Vampire*, the Great Northern Cemetery, no burial matching his description or dates, or matching “Lusia” was discovered. Once again, according to Farrant,

“The second victim, Lusia, was played out as some woman he met briefly, fell in love with, she got turned into a Vampire and he killed her. All very Stokerish in conception with a hint of “ships passing in the night”. Just one little problem. This so called stranger was anything but a stranger. She was in fact, Jacqueline Cooper.

Now you say you want to follow up her cause of death?
Well sir, again, here is where fact and fiction get mixed up.

Jacqueline Cooper was his live in lover and common law wife.
His first wife, Marie, divorced him on grounds of adultery and named Jacqueline Cooper as Co-respondent on the Decree Nisi Absolute.”

“Jacqueline is listed under a series of surnames, one being Jacqueline Manchester, although they were never married.

So you see sir, Lusia was actually his common law wife who he had used for a series of publicity stunts around the same time.”

Now, when I had requested what John Spencer might be able to “dig up” concerning this death and burial, John found nothing. This is what Farrant’s research had to say regarding the burial of Lusia. (And once again, the Manchester group, nor Manchester would speak to me concerning any of this information. Pretty odd for someone that alleges that the dreaded undead are stalking the land.)

“In his book, he claims that after he killed her, he buried her in the Great Northern Cemetery. Not true.

One of our researchers got in touch with the administration department of the cemetery prior to their renovation which saw hundreds of old graves bulldozed for a housing complex to be built over. She confirmed that no woman called Lusia or Jacqueline Cooper had been buried in the year stated in his book. Furthermore, no woman matching the age that Lusia would have been, was buried in any grave in that time frame.

Realistically, what we have here, is a man claiming to have killed his common law wife and buried her in a cemetery. Were it true, then he would have been arrested for publicly admitting his crime.”

I asked Farrant on the show about the decades long feud that has existed between Sean Manchester and himself and as he said “I could hardly deny that, it is a matter of public record.”

I mentioned on the air that I had invited Manchester to do a show, but that according to Manchester’s National Secretary, Katrina Garforth-Bles,

“Dear Don Ecker,

In October 1970, Bishop Manchester announced that he would not engage in any programme, project or debate that includes the interloping charlatan and self-publicist David Farrant. He is not about to overturn that decision thirty-seven years later.”

According to Farrant this was a rather odd thing to allege because David Farrant stated on the record that Manchester had not only written him while in prison, but when Farrant was released Manchester interviewed him. When I asked him why the FoBSM would tell me the above if that were not the case, he simply stated they were lying.

According to Farrant, the audio clip I had played on the show that Manchester’s “FoBSM” group had sent to me was from that interview and had Farrant making the following statement,

“As to the question of whether a vampire exists in Highgate Cemetery, well I can only say yes.”

Farrant went on to state that about 1977-78 during that interview, Manchester told him that he (Manchester) wanted to write a book on the Highgate Vampire and detail David Farrant’s involvement in the case. Farrant stated on the show that Manchester had brought a small tape recorder to his “flat” and requested permission to tape him, then told Farrant what he wanted him to say. (This must be a British thing) Farrant went on to state that over the years this tape was altered using clips from the tape that were mis-leading. One example involved what Farrant claimed was his explanation of “white magic vs. the dark arts.” Farrant went on to explain that he broke down the differences of “Wicca vs. Black Magic” and explained that Wicca had two deities, a male represented by the Sun, and a female represented by the Moon. He said that in early Wicca, Lucifer meant the “Light Bringer” and later in the early Christian Church, in an effort to “demonize” pagan beliefs, turned Lucifer into the Christian devil. Manchester asked him if he “worshipped Lucifer” and Farrant said that in respect to how he just explained Lucifer, that yes he did. Farrant then went on to state that later Manchester took this out of context to discredit him.

One of the really funny anecdote’s as relayed by David Farrant involving Sean Manchester, were rumor’s that circulated that there was a “duel to the death” by sword-play that was supposed to have taken place in France. Farrant alleges that Manchester himself circulated a photograph that showed his “dead body” along with a obituary of

Manchester. Farrant told me that in the “obit” and photo of the “dead” Manchester, gore and all was a solicitation for funds so his body could be shipped back to Glastonberry, a place that had been “near and dear” to Manchester. The upshot was when the Highgate CID (Criminal Investigative Division) showed up at Farrant’s flat and asked him what he had done with Manchester’s body? Farrant was very amused and decided to be “funny” and told them that since Manchester’s death was outside UK jurisdiction they should contact Interpol! He said that the investigators were not amused. “I didn’t know what to tell them” he went on to say “because I didn’t know where his body was!”

The next area I covered with Farrant was whether or not Manchester was an actual “man of the cloth.” Farrant’s organization contacted the “Old Catholic Church” in Holland, the United States (and on Manchester’s website he states that the Vatican, and churches in the U.S. and Holland recognize his status) and the Old Catholic Church in the U.K. which, according to Farrant, claimed that Manchester did not have any status with them. (And I will add that when I was researching this case I also contacted the U.S. Old Catholic Church in Los Angeles, Florida etc. and they were not aware of any Bishop Sean Manchester. When I informed the several clergy why I was making an inquiry, concerning vampirism, well they were not amused.)

“Proclamation from Archbishop Thomas
To Sean Patrick Manchester

This document being an instrument of Laicisation in the name of the Most Holy Undivided Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

I, The most Recd. Iltyd Thomas, Servant of Our Lord and Saviour Lord Jesus Christ. By the Grace of God, Bishop in The Old Catholic Church of Utrecht Succession, who did give you Holy orders, to the above named Sean Manchester and again who on the 14 October 1991 did bestow upon him Episcopal Consecration which in itself was null and void as Sean Manchester had not declared he had been involved for some years in the occult which is strictly condemned by Christianity and Christendom. Therefore Bishop Thomas would not have given Holy Orders to the above named. Therefore we declare His Orders invalid. His canonical oath useless and of no importance.

An Anathema upon any person or persons who deliberately set aside this information.

In faith and Testimony wherefore we have set our manual and sign.

This proclamation letter is signed by Archbishop Thomas and shows his home address etc: “

There is more about that but a newspaper article from the Daily Mirror, dated Thursday November 5 1970 is more precise. The article reads,

WIFE was “Terrified” by Black Magic threat on the phone.

“A young wife received a terrifying telephone call from a man who made Black Magic threats to her, a court heard yesterday.

The man who made the call, she alleged, was Mr. Sean Manchester, president of the British Occult Society.

The wife, Mrs. Gillian Bradish said that at the time of the phone call, her husband was standing bail for David Farrant who was recently acquitted of being found unlawfully in Highgate Cemetery late at night.”

Later in the article it states,

“Mrs. Bradish told North London magistrates yesterday that Mr. Manchester said over the phone: “Do you believe in Black Magic? Unless Bradish gives up bail for Farrant, something odd will happen to you and the children.”

The article ends with “Manchester, 25, of Holloway-road, Holloway was ordered to keep the peace for a year in the sum of 200 Pounds.



After the Farrant interview was completed and aired, I tried to get Manchester to sit down to an interview to give his rendition concerning the Highgate case. By this time I had no doubt that “vampires stalking the earth” was absolute nonsense. The following is another email I sent to Manchester via his “National Secretary.

“Dear Ms.Garforth-Bles,

Since you seem to speak for Bishop Manchester I am contacting you to extend an invitation to him on my behalf to be interviewed on my show. (By himself of course, not with Farrant.)

I know you have suggested that I contact Bishop Manchester on his public website but I do not do things that way. Since you have described yourself as his National Security I am contacting you. Feel free to give Bishop Manchester my email address and ask him to send a note if he would appear.”

“She” insisted that in order to contact Manchester I would have to write to him on his public boards. I never did hear from him directly. After they had sent along the audio file with Farrant, mentioned on the show I sent this along.

“Dear Ms.Garforth-Bles,

First, allow me to thank you for the audio wave file of Farrant asserting the reality of a vampire in the Highgate area. I will certainly ask about that.

Now, as to Bishop Manchester. I am not comfortable with your telling me that he would refuse to do an interview when I have not heard from him myself. I realize that you are his Secretary but if he does not wish to appear I prefer he let me know himself so as I am sure that he is aware of my invitation. And the invite is certainly still open.

Regards;

Don Ecker-Host
Dark Matters Radio

Later of course they placed a two page rebuttal on Manchester’s website whining and sniveling about the show and the “falsehoods” they claimed not only Farrant but also myself perpetrated upon the listening audience. But of course, I had to find it. ***They didn’t have the “balls” to forward it to me.***

Here is the response they posted on their website. And one thing more before I include their response. For some obscure reason, they refuse to spell Farrant’s last name. They simply put David F[--]. Weird, huh?

“Attacks in the 21st century against Bishop Manchester by those with an anti-Christian bias perhaps echo what happened to his predecessor? For example ...

Don Ecker wrote:

"In the late 1990's I began to do some research on Highgate via the web. ... My interest in Highgate goes back to about 1981-82 and I finally was able to get a handle on the case. I just interviewed David F[—] and at this point Sean Manchester does not wish to be interviewed by me. For a really delicious show I invite you all to check out Dark Matters ... etc, etc."

From the onset, Don Ecker's *Dark Matters* reveals someone who is willing to twist the truth to suit his agenda which certainly includes a form of emotional blackmail to try and force Bishop Manchester into being interviewed by piling up a mountain of libel that some people would want to address. Ecker falsely attributed content of e-mail exchanges he had with Katrina Garforth -Bles, claiming that she made "snide remarks" about Americans and then tried to capitalise out of the initials of her name, *ie* "KGB." He did this on a number of occasions. Curiously, or not as the case might be, David F— does exactly the same thing. No need to guess where Ecker's leads were coming from. The claim that Katrina made such remarks is completely untrue and we shall offer to publish all of the e-mail exchanges with him on one of our forums to demonstrate this fact provided Ecker agrees.

Don Ecker allowed and indeed encouraged David F— to give voice to what can only be described as an endless stream of libellous abuse and fabricated nonsense about Bishop Manchester who is the author of *The Highgate Vampire*. Not once did Ecker challenge F— on any of these defamatory insults by simply asking: *"Where is your evidence?"* David F—, for example, alleged that the good bishop was selling to the public copies of his ordination "certificates" and videos of his episcopal consecration. Bishop Manchester would not dream of doing anything of the kind and anyone who has evidence to the contrary is invited to produce it. Copies of his instruments of ordination and consecration appear in his book *The Grail Church*. The episcopal consecration was professionally filmed for the Church archive, but this film has never been offered to the public. Some television programmes have requested to use parts of it, but this request has always been refused for copyright reasons. F— also made the usual slurs about how this or that Old Catholic community in the USA or Holland had denied all knowledge of Bishop Manchester. In fact, Bishop Manchester is very well known by Old Catholic jurisdictions outside his homeland where he just happens to be the presiding bishop of the British Old Catholic Church. Ecker just went along with one fabricated piece of defamation after another, often adding fuel to the fire with his own comments.

Don Ecker is a man who styles himself as a "criminal investigator" yet he showed absolutely no interest in the crimes of his interviewee who, let us not forget, was sentenced to almost five years' imprisonment for offences relating chiefly to Highgate Cemetery and threatening people with black magic (voodoo death dolls sent to police witnesses). Ecker's interest was clearly focused on the man he was *not* interviewing about whom both were prepared to misrepresent and libel at considerable length. Bishop Manchester was discussed far more than the topic the programme was supposed to be about.

There was not one single truthful statement made by the character Ecker was talking to on the obscure radio slot where *Dark Matters* surfaces. It would be pointless to plough through all the poisonous allegations and expose each one for the malicious falsehood it palpably is. This would turn into a very long response indeed if I was to attempt to do that. Let me instead take just a couple of brief examples.

Ecker played his guest (who was speaking to the radio programme from Muswell Hill, London in the UK via telephone) a sound file where David F— could be heard saying: *"As to the question of whether a vampire still exists at Highgate Cemetery, well, I can only say yes it does."* This from the man who keeps repeatedly stating that he does not believe in vampires and has never sought them out. Ecker recognised the voice to be authentic and asked F— about the sound file which had been forwarded to the radio station by Katrina. The identity of the voice was undeniable, but listeners were told by F— that this was a cut and spliced excerpt from an interview given in the 1970s to the author of *The Highgate Vampire*, *ie* Bishop Manchester. Ecker did not question this even though he must have known the words are from a video made and sold by the man uttering them; a video, moreover created in 1998, not in the 1970s. The interview on videotape comprises David F— sat in his Muswell Hill bed-sitting room talking about his pet subject, peppered with images (some stolen from *The Highgate Vampire*), with his final comment being the few seconds played by Don Ecker. The video was created in 1998 and offered for sale under the title *In Search of the Highgate Vampire*. Bishop Manchester had absolutely no part in this video

or the somewhat amateurish interview which featured David F——. Nobody has subsequently picked up on this glaring falsehood.

Ecker allowed his interviewee to claim that he was set up in 1970 by the BBC who provided him with "props" to fulfill the role they wanted him to play when, in fact, he was contacted by the BBC as a direct consequence of his arrest in August of that year at Highgate Cemetery, subsequent court appearance and imprisonment whilst on remand. The BBC merely invited F—— to reconstruct what he was doing on the night of his arrest. This involved him prowling about the graveyard with a cross and a stake with the stated intention of plunging the latter into the heart of the vampire if ever he made its discovery. This was reiterated by David F—— in the *Evening News* newspaper on 16 October 1970 when he took staff reporter Barrie Simmons on a vampire hunt in Highgate Cemetery equipped with cross and wooden stake. Pictures of F—— stalking the vampire at midnight were included in the article.

David F—— has a history of claiming that he was set up by this journalist or that journalist, by a television company, by the judicial system and, of course, by Bishop Manchester whom he regards as his arch-enemy. Ecker already knew this because Katrina had provided him with facsimiles of the relevant documents that underline the abject charlatanism of this man. This was done at a time when Ecker was trying to interview both parties individually to boost his ratings. It was explained that Bishop Manchester would not wittingly contribute to any programme or project that also includes David F—— and that this has been the status since October 1970.

On *Dark Matters* F—— was allowed to get away with anything and everything. He was provided with a platform on Ecker's programme to propagate lies at the expense of not just the author of *The Highgate Vampire* but also a totally innocent person, completely unconnected with the case, who was unjustifiably identified by her full name. F——, of course, will involve absolutely any innocent third party to execute his vendetta which now spans thirty-seven years.

Ecker's entire exercise on *Dark Matters* was a travesty of the first order and should any libel lawyers in the USA show an interest in taking action against the offenders, namely Ecker and his interviewee, the Vampire Research Society and its founder will co-operate to the fullest on a *no win no fee* basis. Such a case would be open and shut due to the seriously damaging allegations being completely unsubstantiated and demonstrably false."

I loved the last part, looking for free-be lawyers to sue us. Wouldn't it be fun if someone got Manchester into court?

Okay, so you may ask why I bothered with any of this? A fair question, to be sure.

I was ready to accept, with proof, that something with a "high-strangeness" factor MIGHT have happened but you bet I would want a lot of proof. I never did consider an actual vampire, but I am willing to concede there might be "something."

All those years ago, something drained those cattle I investigated, something appears to periodically attack livestock in Texas, Mexico, Central America, etc. and they attribute it to a creature they call the "goat-sucker." Is it possible there is some type of "natural" creature that feeds on animals by ripping out their throats and drinking the blood? I don't know, maybe.

So, it always rubbed me the wrong way when someone expounds something so preposterous as an actual "honest to God vampire" and I am supposed to simply take their word for it. Furthermore, if you ask legitimate questions suddenly you are the ENEMY! For over 20 years I encountered that in the UFO research field. But I had a

reputation because I was willing to expose the frauds and the bull-shit artists that inhabited that field. I know investigations and how to conduct one. This case was no different, even though I was many thousands of miles from the actual site.

I had no doubt that Manchester and his cronies would attack me, or that they would claim I took the word of a “convicted felon” but as a former police officer with some of the information I dug up, Manchester seems to have escaped that fate (of being a felon himself) by “The Grace of God!” They have claimed I defamed him, I liabled him and all the rest of it, but he refused to speak to me either on or off the record. As a matter of fact, if there is a “KGB” he HID behind her by refusing to even write me via email time after time. My impression was he expected me to “Kiss The Ring.” Well sorry, I don’t kneel, nor do I kiss rings. I could have gone on about this case, Manchester’s claims to glory by reason of an alleged ancestor of his, a maid, who refused to keep her knee’s shut and the infamous “Lord Byron” knocked her up. Manchester says this is one of his line. No proof that I am aware of, but still another example of something we are simply to accept because “Bishop Manchester” says so.

So if you ask me for my bottom line on this story, I will simply have to say ... “BULL SHIT.” As far as was there ANY SUPERNATURAL influences a-foot? I doubt it. And by buying Manchester’s “The Highgate Vampire” and his “The Vampire Hunter’s Handbook”, well Hell, I’m out over \$40.00.

Don Ecker