

Matter 25

Summary

Cock-a-Doodle-Do!

Account by:	Nick Montague, 37. Journalist.
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Report

Cock-a-doodle-do!

- Dead chickens found on Cerne Abbas Giant
- No sign of how they got there
- Local drone club denies prank

By NICK MONTAGEW FOR THE DAILY MAIL

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Police detectives were flummoxed by a case of 'fowl play' yesterday, as three hundred dead chickens appeared overnight on the Cerne Abbas

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Giant – following the contours of the figure’s famously mighty penis.

Local walker Ted Harley, who was among the first to make the grisly find, described his initial shock at the discovery. “There were hundreds of white birds, all deceased, packed together over the chalk outline of the Giant’s todger. It wasn’t what I wanted to see at five-thirty in the morning.”

Detective Sergeant Kay Harrison, leading the police investigation, is not amused. “Whoever performed this sick act of vandalism may have believed it was funny, but the Cerne Giant is a scheduled monument. We take such incidents very seriously.”

When asked how pranksters could possibly have transported so many dead birds without leaving vehicle tracks, and then lay them out on the Giant’s 11-metre long erect phallus undetected, DS Kay declined to comment except to note, “It wasn’t aliens.”

An emerging theory is that the feat was achieved using drones, but local drone clubs have been swift to deny the accusation. “While there may in the past have been illegal swoops over the Giant’s willy, we draw the line well before reaching the chicken-massacring stage”, said a spokesperson.

Officials of the British Poultry Council are co-operating with police to identify the origin of the identical snow-coloured birds and to help establish what nobbled them.



The Cerne Abbas Giant is Dorset's best-known tourist attraction. Archaeological evidence suggests it was cut in Anglo-Saxon times, but some experts believe it to be much older – possibly dating from the Iron Age.

The National Trust, which owns the site, is keen to see the matter resolved. A brief press release stated that the site would remain closed until the weekend, adding, "We hope that this action does not detract from the enjoyment of any of our members."

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Notes

The MailOnline website withdrew this article within two hours of publication, on the advice of police citing worries about copycat behaviour.