

AN ERA OF CROP CIRCLES

Special Edition

MARLBOROUGH, WILTSHIRE - SATURDAY JULY 11 2015

New Exhibition on crop circles in St. Peter's Church in Marlborough

By Monique Klinckenbergh and Andreas Müller

A new exhibition is being opened in St. Peter's Church on 11th July in response to last summer's successful event *Exploring the mystery and Beauty of Crop Circles* which attracted a record number of visitors and a highly positive response on TripAdvisor.com. This year the exhibition will mark the 25th anniversary of the appearance of the *East Field Pictogram*.

Before 1990 crop circles were relatively unknown to the general public but the appearance of a 600ft. long pictogram in East Field, Alton Barnes, Wiltshire on the 12th of July, set media and public interest alight and awakened a worldwide interest in the phenomenon. Suddenly millions of people around the world wanted to know more about crop circles. Since the arrival of the *East Field Pictogram* 25 years ago, much research has been conducted to explore all aspects of the crop circle phenomenon and many things have been learnt.

The new multi-media exhibition in St. Peter's Church will feature a large selection of high quality photos of some of the most intricate and perplexing crop circles seen. Important topics from 'Before and After 1990' will be presented at the exhibition. Visitors will be able to read explanations, see film footage, hear recordings and watch videos recorded by experts in this field. There will be an interactive map on display showing the history, facts, latest research results, theories and ideas on crop circles. People will also read about local farmers' views on crop circles and the issues they cause.



The East Field Pictogram discovered on 12th July 1990 © Busty Taylor

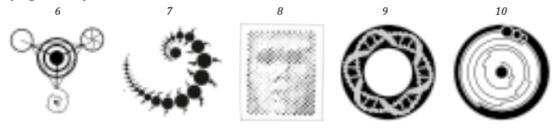
Shift in crop circle designs over the years

Between the late 1600 until the 1980s crop circle patterns consisted mainly out of simply circles, occasionally in groups or surrounded by a ring (Diagrams 1, 2).

During 1980 the patterns evolved into groups of three, four and five circles, suggesting a geometric or numerical underlying order (Diagram 3).

In May 1990 linear patterns started to appear, soon to be followed by the first crop circle pictograms (diagram 4) which were all reported throughout Hampshire.

On 12th July 1990 the first pictogram appeared in East Field Alton Barnes, Wiltshire (Diagram 5). After its appearance designs started to evolve into complex and geometric patterns and even pictorial designs. (Diagram 6 - 10).



Diagrams © Andreas Müller

Inside

- Historical Facts pages 4-6
- Why Wiltshire? page 7
- Eyewitness Accounts pages 8-10
- Light and Sound phenomena pages 14-15
- Man-made page 16
- Remarkable Events pages 19-25
- Research Results pages 26-29
- Farmers and Crop Circles page 30
- The End of an Era? page 31



© Bert Janssen



© Steve Alexander

Exhibition

St. Peter's Church
High Street Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 1HQ - UK

11th July - 28th August 2015
Mon-Sat: 10am - 4.30pm
Sundays: 10am - 3pm

www.cropcircleaccess.com
info@cropcircleaccess.com

Free entry

St. Peter's Coffee Shop is serving lovely refreshments and homemade food all day (including breakfast)
The Art and Craft Shop Busy Bees offers a wide range of unique gifts created by local Artists and Crafters

Point of Interest

During the same evening the East Field Pictogram (Photo 1) had formed a second 'sister-formation' of similar design and scale. This appeared in a field below Milk Hill at Stanton St. Bernard, just a mile away (Photo 2) but was quickly mowed out. A third circle of this 'pictogram-family' completed the triple on 27th July 1990 in a field nearby at East Kennett (Photo 3).



Photo 1: East Field © George Wingfield



Photo 2: Stanton St. Bernard © George Wingfield



Photo 3: East Field © Terence Meaden

Crop Circle Access Scheme evolves and expands

By Monique Klinckenbergh

From Summer 2015 and going forward, all the English farmers that have crop circles on their land, and who then make those crop circles accessible to the general public, will automatically become eligible for compensation via our access donation initiative. At its core, the initiative represents a greatly simplified evolutionary step for the 'Crop Circle Access Pass Scheme' that operated specifically in Wiltshire, UK in previous years. We will now use our experience and well developed relationships to build on the parts of our access scheme that worked and reduce or remove some components, in order to best serve the farmers and visiting public alike. From now on there will be no printed or electronic 'access passes' distributed to supporters of the donation scheme. Our aim is to reimburse as many farmers in England as is possible for allowing access to their fields, so the general public can visit and enjoy crop circles in the knowledge that the landowner will receive some compensation. The Farmers Crop Circle Reimbursement Fund is specifically set up for this, and is solely based on the principle of donations. Read more on back cover.

CROP CIRCLE ACCESS DONATION INITIATIVE

A simple and effective way to reimburse farmers

www.cropcircleaccess.com

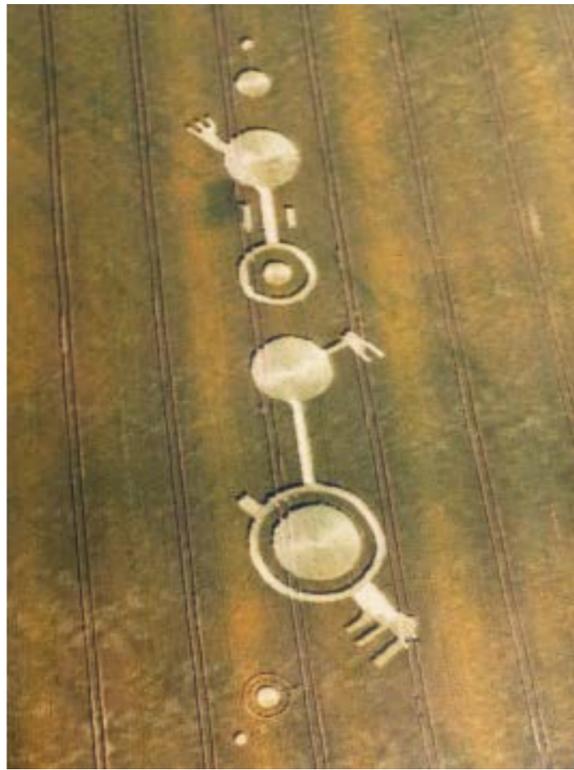
2015

FARMERS' CROP CIRCLE REIMBURSEMENT FUND

Photo © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk

1990 THE START OF A NEW ERA

— *for crop circles in Wiltshire* —



In the early morning of 12th July 1990 a large pictogram (approx. 600 ft.) was discovered at 7am in East Field by farmer Tim Carson.

*East Field, Alton Barnes, Wiltshire
Wheat, appr. 600 ft.
Photo © Busty Taylor*

This exhibition marks the 25th anniversary of the appearance of the *East Field Pictogram*. An event which precluded a new era in modern crop circle history. Before July 1990 crop circles were relative unknown to the general public. The arrival of this pictogram (photos above) in East Field at Alton Barnes, Wiltshire set the public and media interest alight and awakened a worldwide interest in the phenomenon. Suddenly millions of people around the world wanted to know more about crop circles and many thousands came to Wiltshire to experience them first hand. Much research has taken place to explore all aspects of the phenomenon and many things have been learnt. The exhibition will feature the most important topics, facts and factoids from 'Before and After 1990'.

While the crop circle phenomenon had been around for many centuries it quickly evolved in 1990 from geometrical arrangements of circles and rings into pictogram-like designs, it was this particular crop circle formation in East Field at Alton Barnes in Wiltshire that deeply affected all who saw it and the way the media and the general public would perceive the phenomenon in the years that followed.

At nearly 600 ft. in length and with its combination of different geometrical elements like circles, rings, straight paths, bars, keys and claws, it was the first indication of the impressive scale that future formations would be able to achieve.

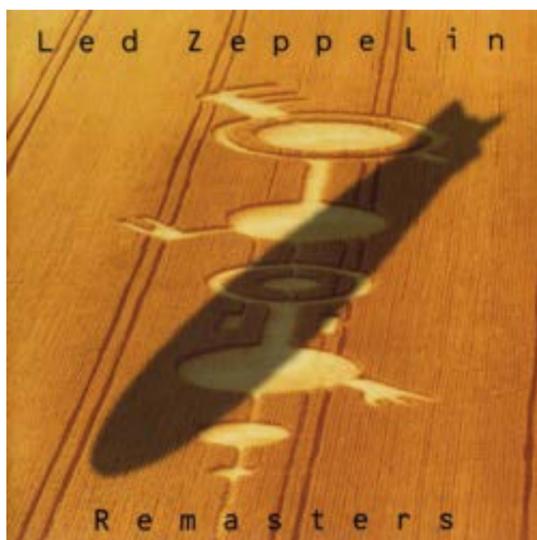
No single crop circle formation has ever received more publicity. The event made the headlines of the international news. Images of the *East Field Pictogram* appeared in major national and international newspapers and on television

news reports around the world. The famous rockband Led Zeppelin - worldwide known for their song Stairway to Heaven - decorated the cover of their album *Led Zeppelin Remasters* (picture below) with the pictogram, which helped to raise the interest into the phenomenon on an even larger scale.

Many thousands of national and international visitors came to the field, which had been generously opened to the public by it's owners farmers Tim and Polly Carson.

East Field and other fields belonging to the Carson family have been host to at least 120 crop circles since.

Throughout the years that followed a sudden increase and shift took place in crop circle designs, size, numbers and locations. All leading to more wonder 'what is going on', more research, more visitors and more frustration for the farmers, who had not asked for this to happen and where left with no choice.



CROP CIRCLES

— What are we talking about? —

Worldwide a great number of intriguing patterns appear annually in grain fields. The crop is not cut, but usually laid down - and often swirled - into attractive floor patterns. If not trampled the crop will continue to ripen in this position. Most formations appear in cereal crops like wheat and barley. In lesser numbers they are found in oilseed rape, maize, linseed, poppies, borage, grass, tobacco and in vegetables crops such as spinach, broad beans, carrots, potatoes and rice. So far approximately 7000 formations have been reported in more than 60 countries around the world. The majority of crop circles have been found - both historically and in the present - in the United Kingdom, with the highest concentration in the South West, especially in the county of Wiltshire.

Special Edition published on the occasion of the exhibition **AN ERA OF CROP CIRCLES** at St. Peter's Church Marlborough, Wiltshire, UK 11th July - 28th August 2015

EDITORIAL

Monique Klinkenbergh
Andreas Müller

EDITING:

Quirine Bruijninx
Jennifer Percival
Jae Percival

Printed on recycled paper

No part of this newspaper or exhibition may be reproduced or published, in any form or any way, by print, photocopy, microfilm or any other means, without prior written permission from the publisher
© www.cropcirclegroup.com
© www.cropcircleaccess.com

EXHIBITION CONCEPT, DESIGN, ORGANISATION

Monique Klinkenbergh
Crop Circle Group / Crop Circle Access
Tjarda Glas
Anne Scholten
Jan Willem Scholten
Madellen Scholten
Tessie Scholten
Mariette Wendrich

EXHIBITION CURATORS

Monique Klinkenbergh
Andreas Müller

EXHIBITION ASSISTANCE

Eva-Marie Bekkestrø
Nils Kenneth Fordal
Salve Johanson,
Jennifer Percival
Jae Percival
Marion Plesman
Anthony de Souza

CONTRIBUTING RESEARCHERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Karen Alexander
Steve Alexander
Werner Anderhub
Colin Andrews
Roeland and Nancy Beljon
Francine Blake
Robert Boerman
Frank Bonte
Roy Boschman
Eva-Marie Brekkestrø
Allan Brown
John Burke
Glenn Broughton and Cameron Broughton
Pat Delgado
Klaas and Dini van Egmond
Nils Kenneth Fordal
Michael Glickman
Patty Greer
Etjo Haselhoff
Robin Heath
Bert and Heather Janssen-Clewitt Jachowski
Michael Heseman
Monique Klinkenbergh
Michiel Koperdraat
Barbara Lamb
Frank Laumen
Alexander Lauterwasser
William Levengood
Anke and Bart-Jan de Lorijn
Jürgen Krönig
Charles Mallet
John Martineau
Terence Meaden
John Michell
Andreas Müller
Janet Ossebaard
Steve Page
Lucy Pringle
Shawn Randall
Freddy Silva
Nancy Talbott-BLT
Busty Taylor
Suzanne Taylor
Terje Toftenes
Coen Vermeeren
Dan Vidler
Jonathan Paul de Vierville
Paul Vigay
Ed Vos
Maria Whealtes
Jeffrey Wilson
Terry Wilson
George Wingfield
Annemieke Witteveen
Bertold Zugelder

A commonly held belief - and the accepted view of the media and the public is that *all* crop circles are man made. This exhibition presents evidence that some crop circles are the result of a so far unknown process. We do not pretend to have found the final answer. Instead, we have attempted to present most of the key facts on the crop circle subject. Facts that might throw some light on the possible forces involved into the phenomenon. Facts that can be presented thanks to the work that has been conducted by many researchers. Facts that make you wonder.

After more than 34 years of exploring and researching crop circles, it still remains a mystery what is able to create - more or less out of the blue - the so called 'unexplained' patterns in the fields. What is clear and can be seen in this exhibition, is that the magnitude of the phenomenon, is far more rooted in history than most people realize. Many people are also unaware that anomalies like floating *Balls of Light* and *Sound Phenomena* have been linked with the forming of authentic crop circles. Some of these anomalies have been captured on tape-recorder and on camera which can be seen and heard at the exhibition. In addition, the affected plants and soils have been analyzed and the results show a great variety of abnormalities, further information can be seen and read at the exhibition under 'Research'.



Crop Circle in oilseed rape, 14th April 2009, The Ridgeway near Avebury, Wiltshire
Photo © Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk



Crop circle in broad beans, 7th June 2010, Stoney Littleton Long Barrow near Wellow, Somerset. Photo © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk

Over 40 books have been written on the subject, many of which are on the reading table at this exhibition. We will also be continuously showing a selection of interesting films, documentaries and photos.

The exhibition was curated and compiled by us with the precious support of many other national and international researchers, photographers, enthusiasts as well as many helping hands and minds to whom we are enormously grateful. We had our first exhibition at the Wiltshire Museum in Devizes

in 2014 and are now very happy and honored to be given the opportunity to present this new exhibition in St. Peter's Church of Marlborough.

Our inspiration to organize this exhibition is to present more of the 'unknown' facts to the general public to make it clear that we are dealing with an authentic, mysterious and misunderstood phenomenon. A phenomenon that in our view needs to be taken seriously and demands further research. Another major aim is to bring the concerns of the farming community (see topic Farmers) to the attention of the general public. The exhibition is also an attempt to find a workable solution to help those farmers who are willing to allow access to the visitors, who have often travelled long distances to Wiltshire to experience the phenomenon.

Monique Klinkenbergh & Andreas Müller, June 2015



Crop circle in borage, 3th August 2005, Collingbourne Kingston, Wiltshire
Photo © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk

CROP CIRCLE HISTORY

— *not a modern phenomenon only* —

How old is the crop circle phenomenon? Most people think that we are dealing with a modern contemporary phenomenon only, born out of the blue in the 1970s. However, the truth is different as the history of crop circles dates back many decades, centuries and maybe even millennia.

Legends and Fairy Tales

The first descriptions of what we would today call 'crop circles' can be found in undated legends, folklore and fairy tales. Most interestingly, such stories sound amazingly similar whether told by native American tribes or appearing as part of the European folklore.

The German fairy tale 'The Twelve Swans' is one example for a variety of numerous similar tales: "Long time ago there was a farmer who had three sons. One year the farmer had been richly blessed with rain and sunshine, and each morning he went to the field and feasted his eyes on the golden-yellow wheat. But one morning some of this crop was flattened into a circular area. Much anger overcame the farmer, but when he took a closer look, he



was more surprised. Because in one way the wheat was pressed down but in the same way it was not. It looked just as if it was only flattened by very light feet, and what did the circular pattern mean?

When told about it, the oldest of his three sons said: "We will solve this mystery soon." And in the evening he went to the field and kept himself awake. After the bell rang eleven o'clock a thunderstorm raged as if the sky wanted to burst. The young man got scared and he ran home. The other day again a similar circle was found in the crop and now it was up to the second son, but to cut a long story short, he did the same as his elder brother. Then it was up to Hans, the youngest of the three. He went to the same place and sat down there on the third evening. Again the bell just rang eleven when the sky turned pitch black, but Hans sat as still as a stone and waited. Soon the storm faded and the stars shone clearly in the sky. From afar a quiet sound arose, as if it was caused by wings. Out of the sky twelve white swans flew down into the field where they became twelve maidens, who laid down the feathered gowns. They played and danced miraculously on their snow-white feet all around in a circle. They were not spirits, because the stems bent under their feet to the ground and sometimes even broke. But could humans float in such a way? One of their garments was lying not far from Hans. He had heard from his grandmother of the powers a man would gain who would actually make the garb of a swan maiden his own (...)"

Picture left: 'Meadow Elves' by Nils Blommer, oil on canvas painted in 1850
Courtesy of National Museum of Stockholm

The origin of such orally passed on fairy tales as above is hard to date. But as soon as written documents came into use, events appearing to be crop circles became part of written history.

1590 The oldest so far of such documents is the report of a witch trial held in 1590 in what is today the French region of Lorraine. It is extensively described in Chapter 14 of the book 'Daemonolatria' written by Nicolas Rémy (Remigius), who was the Crown Prosecutor at the City of Nancy and prided himself in having been in charge of bringing more than 800 witches and wizards to the stake.

The event itself happened on 24th July, 1590 in the small village of Assenencour near Sarrebourg, when a group of men and women was blackened for having danced with the devil leaving a "trampled circle in a field that showed traces of cloved feet in the ground".

The presence of the actual circle convinced Remigius that the accusation against the group was true and the accused were very likely burnt at the stake. As the circle is not described any further, one can only speculate if this event was related to modern day crop circles or if it was indeed a place where a ritual was celebrated.

Figs. Right: Several wood-cuts support the medieval idea that circles in fields and meadows were caused by witches, pagan spirits and demons, if not the devil itself.

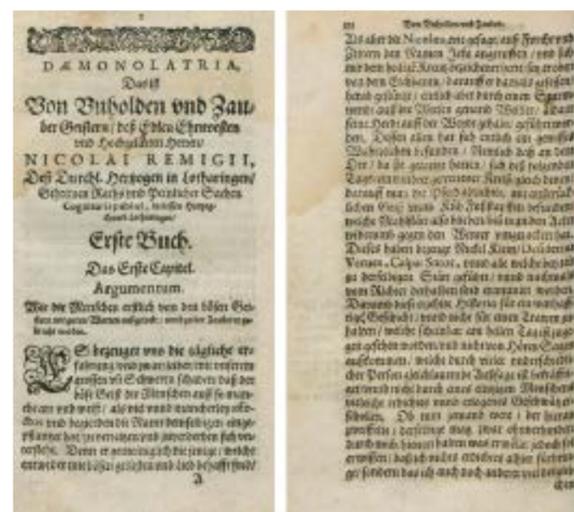


Fig. Top: Cover title of 'Daemonolatria' and excerpt of Chapter 14, written and published in 1590



CROP CIRCLE HISTORY

— not a modern phenomenon only —

1678 In 1678 a pamphlet titled 'The Mowing Devil' describes the following:

"Being a True Relation of a Farmer, who Bargaining with a Poor Mower, about the Cutting down Three Half Acres of Oats: upon the Mower's asking too much, the Farmer swore That the Devil should Mow it rather than He. And so it fell out, that very Night, the Crop of Oat shew'd as if it had been all of a flame: but next Morning appear'd so neatly mow'd by the Devil or some Infernal Spirit, that no Mortal Man was able to do the like. Also, How the said Oats by now in the Field, and the Owner



has not Power to fetch them away. (sic.)" The much lesser known following pages to the famous title (shown to the left), the pamphlet goes into more details about how the Devil 'mowed' the crop:

"And if the Devil had a mind to shew his dexterity in the art of Husbandry, and scorn'd to mow them after the usual manner, he cut them in round circles, and plac't every stalk with that exactness that it would have taken upon above an Age for any Man to perform what he did that one Night."

Title of the 1678 pamphlet 'The Mowing Devil'

1686 Only a few years later the English naturalist Robert Plot (1640 - 1696), Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oxford and the first keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, came upon some strange markings he called 'fairy rings'. While most of the rings Plot described in his 'Natural History of Stafford-Shire' do refer to circular markings caused by fungus growth some of his own illustrations suggest that he was also aware of cases of a more intricate geometrical quality similar to today's crop circles. Even if his explanation of what has caused the 'fairy rings' has to be judged as 'contemporary science', it was the first academic attempt to make sense of the strange markings in the fields. It should be noted that in the old days the term 'fairy rings' seems to have been used not only to describe the result of fungus growth that discolored and wilted grass, but also for rings and circles of 'flattened' plants.



Portrait of Robert Plot, by Sylvester Harding. Courtesy of the British Museum, London



A so-called 'fairy ring' caused by fungus growth. Photo © Andreas Müller



Plot's own illustration in the chapter on 'Fairy Rings' in his 'Natural History of Stafford-Shire', of skyborn sound trumpets causing the equivalent patterns on the ground.

1792 The discussion on the 'Origin of Fairy Rings' was taken further in 1792 when the contemporary British 'Gentlemen's Magazine' featured a series of letters on the topic. Again some of the described 'fairy circles and rings' appear to have much

more in common with 'crop circles' than with fungus growth: *"There are also several other rings in a large upland pasture belonging to the same farmer, but none so perfect as this, which may, perhaps, be attributed to the irregularity of the surface, IT BEING LAID DOWN IN LAYS..."*

1880 Crop circles were also described as 'Storm Effects' in great detail in a letter by the much respected spectroscopist J. Rand Capron from Guildford (Surrey), published in the July 29, 1880 issue of scientific journal 'Nature'. "The storms about this part of Surrey have been lately local and violent, and the effects produced in some instances curious. Visiting a neighbor's farm on Wednesday evening (21st), we found a field of standing wheat considerably knocked about, not as an entirety, but in patches forming, as viewed from a distance, circular spots. Examined more closely, these all presented much the same character viz., a few standing stalks as a centre, some prostrate stalks with their heads arranged pretty evenly in a direction forming a circle round the centre, and outside these a circular wall of stalks which had not suffered. (sic.)" Capron also pondered on the question of what could have caused the circles: "I could not trace locally any circumstances accounting for the peculiar forms of the patches in the field, nor indicating whether it was wind or rain, or both combined, which had caused them beyond the general evidence everywhere of heavy rainfall. They were to me suggestive of



J. Rand Capron (1829-1909)

some cyclonic wind action, and may perhaps have been noticed elsewhere by some of your readers."

Capron, known for his much detailed scientific illustrations, also had sent in a "sketch made on the spot, giving an idea of the most perfect of these patches", but unfortunately this sketch was not published by 'Nature' and has since been lost. Beside the fact that Capron described exactly the characteristics of modern day crop circles, one can only wonder, if the circles he described also formed a geometrical arrangement together without him being aware of this fact as he did not have a chance to see the whole appearance from above.



Image: Title of the July 29, 1880 issue of 'Nature' and Capron's letter

CROP CIRCLE HISTORY

— *not a modern phenomenon only* —

Second World War

Since the 1920s, in nearly every year crop circles have been reported in England and elsewhere. Farmers of the time mostly thought of them as a normal and natural phenomenon, one with which they were familiar since childhood both from their own experience and from stories told to them by their parents and grand-parents.

The phenomenon attracted official interest during the Second World War, when the reported circles were suspected to be signals made by members of foreign (German) spy-groups. Again, one example of such a discovery stands for several:

Mrs. Louise Wilson of Swanley in Kent wrote: "When I was in the Women's Land Army as a pest control operator during the war, I came across an odd situation. I was sent to a tenant farmer adjoining Lord Brocket's Land in Hertfordshire. The farmer had received complaints from the Hertfordshire War Agricultural Committee about the state of his field. The farmer said the damage in the middle of the field was not his fault but

caused by rabbits and pheasants. However I found no sign of this, although the corn in the form of a large circle seemed to have been flattened in a spiral fashion..." She later said:

"This 'damage' wasn't at all caused by animals like rabbits and pheasants. I am definitively sure with that... the crop was gently flattened in a spiral fashion in a large circle and in its centre there was a tuft of still standing plants. When I reported the case to my officer - and it was clear that it was no case of importance on a war strategical level - we did not document or followed the story further."



As today so it was in the 1940s: "The crop gently flattened in a spiral fashion in a circle and with a tuft of still standing plants in its centre there..."
Photo: Andreas Müller, kornkreise-forschung.de

Ancient African Crop Circles

"I have seen hundreds of crop circles in my lifetime. What you call 'Crop Circles' is the same as what the Zulu call 'Izishoze Zamatongo' and which means the designs or the writings of the gods. We have known about them for more than 4000 years."

Quote by Vusamazulo Credo Mutwa (1921), a well known Zulu spiritual leader and shaman. Mutwa grew up with both a native African and a western-style education and was chosen as high leader of 500 traditional shamans and healers.

In his book "Isilwane The Animal - Tales and Fables of Africa" Mutwa describes the following:

"...At harvest time, we left some of our corn standing so that passing birds could share in the bounty of our fields and by sharing bless us and ensure us of plenty of food. Sometimes large fields of corn and millet were planted. These were sacred to the goddess and were offered to the vast armies of birds to eat. No human being could enter the sacred cornfield.

The sacred fields were ploughed far from the ordinary millet, maize and corn, as they were left unfenced. Over centuries, people had discovered that the star gods sometimes communicated with human beings through these sacred fields. Time and again, strange circular depressions were seen in the centre of these fields. These depressions were called 'Izishoze Zamatongo', the great circles of the gods.



Diagrams: © Andreas Müller, kornkreise-forschung.de

These circles were an amazing sight to see. The gods never cut the stalks of corn or millet when they form these depressions. It appears as though a great circular, disk-shaped force has descended on the field. It pressed the corn firmly into the ground, without breaking the stalks or damaging the plants. Then the force appears to spin, resulting in the strange spiral appearance of the fallen stalks. Words cannot describe such a phenomenon, which I have seen more than thirty times in the course of my life as a traditional healer. Whenever a circle appeared in the fields, the people rushed to erect a fence of poles around the circle. They would dance and perform other sacred rituals honouring the star gods and the Earth Mother.

All the kings and chiefs awaited the arrival of these circles. The appearance would be cause for celebrations that lasted several days. These celebrations were accompanied by prayers to the gods to watch over the people and to talk to them through the sacred circles..."



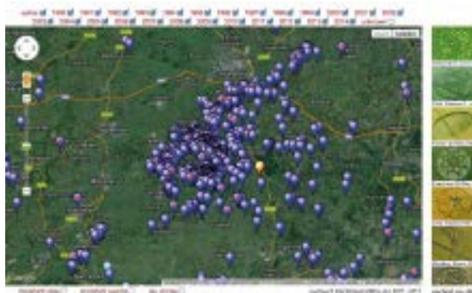
Image: Vusamazulo Credo Mutwa

WHY WILTSHIRE

as crop circle epicentre ?

With up to 80% of all crop circles appearing in the South-Western part of England, it is the unquestioned homeland of the phenomenon. Within the South-Western counties Wiltshire has become the main focal point of the annual crop circle activity. Why?

First of all, this has not always been the case: In the early days of the 'modern phenomenon era' - from late 1970s onwards - it was mainly Hampshire and the area around Warminster where the most crop circles were found. During the 1990s, the phenomenon moved Northwards, becoming centred around Avebury, Silbury Hill and the Pewsey Valley. The famous East Field near Alton Barnes became the hot-spot



for the biggest and most intricate designs. Today crop circles are found all over the British Isles, but still the largest number are to be found in the South-West. While many ideas have been explored to explain this, there are two interconnected theories that have become the most popular.

Fig. 1: You can get a good idea about the distribution of crop circles in the UK by using our interactive tablet-display. It features the extensive mapping project by Bert Janssen pinning down the locations of crop circles on interactive online-maps. Please help yourself and explore.
© Bert Janssen, cropcirclesandmore.com

Earth Energies

From the beginning of modern crop circle research, investigators soon realized that the circles seemed to be attracted by ancient sites such as stone circles, long barrows, hill forts and other archaeological sites like Silbury Hill (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2: Crop circle formations positioned close to Silbury Hill (Left) and the Avebury Stone Circle (right). Photos: Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

One of the earliest - much preferred and controversial - theories for this attraction is the idea that what has been build by man on ancient sites, marked what always has been part of the landscape: earth energies. This has been extensively explored by Alfred Watkins, Paul Devereux, John Michell, Hamish Miller, Maria Wheatley and others. Those energies - the so called ley-lines - are said to run invisibly through the landscape and concen-

trating at crossing points were they also emerge to the surface (Fig 3). Energies like these are known in many ancient cultures, e.g. traditional Chinese 'feng shui' - earth and water. While this concept is criticised as 'pseudo-science' (explaining the shown alignments of ancient sites as 'alignments of random points' due to the high density of historic and prehistoric sites in Britain), it is widely held



Fig. 3: The Michael and Mary ley-line are said to cross the Avebury area - marked by ancient sites such as the stone circle itself, Silbury Hill, West Kennet Long Barrow and others.



Fig. 4: Farmer using a dowsing rod to find water on a farm in Devon in 1942. Courtesy: Imperial War Museums

by proponents of edge-science and new-age research. The idea that such energies - for example caused by underground water - can be detected using dowsing rods, is an age-old tradition that is still in use by many naturalists as well as farmers. Experienced dowsers report detectable energetic changes within some crop circles today.

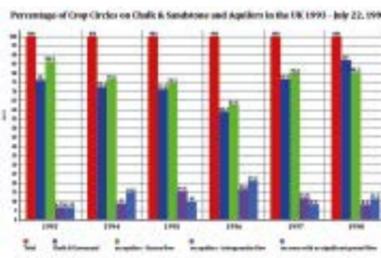
The Underground Connection

A new way to explain - not only why the South-West might be a focus-point for crop circles but also the earth-energy mystery - was explored by Glenn Broughton and Steve Page in the late 1990s.

By comparing sites where crop circles had been found with geological maps, they soon realized that the majority of crop circle formations of that time (1993 - July 22, 1998) were found on land whose geology was founded on chalk and green sand rock (Fig. 5).

At the same time they discovered that this area of chalk contains the main aquifer of Southern England and they concluded: "It appears that a combination of underground water and earth energy currents is what attracts or allows (genuine) crop circle formations to occur in any particular location". The high mineral content of the major aquifers of England makes

them good conductors of electricity, possibly derived through interaction with the Earth's electromagnetic field. The alkaline chalk is saturated with water. Beneath it is a flint-rich clay and on the top ridges of the chalk Downs it is topped by a thin layer of flint. We therefore have an alkaline solution sandwiched on either side by acidic layers. The theory of Broughton and Page is that this attracts and is then activated and 'charged up' by the powerful currents of energy flowing through the ground. This theory could explain the increase of the number of crop circles in the summer months, as it is this time when - due to the rising heat and drought - the aquifer sinks lower through the underneath soils and rocks. It is thought this process may contribute to a build-up of electrical energy within the chalk layer.



Note: The above text on the research by Broughton and Page is a heavily condensed version of their original work. Please visit www.journeyswithsoul.com/articles.php?id=19 for the whole and extensive article.

Fig. 5: Graphics: Glenn Broughton & Steve Page, journeyswithsoul.com

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS

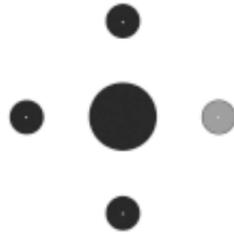
— *Of authentic crop circles being formed* —

It is a much neglected fact that well over 50 people have reported seeing a natural crop circle being formed. And surprisingly, whether the newly formed circle they saw was small and geometrically simple or of a much larger more intricate 'pictogram-like' design, their reports all have one thing in common: Everyone described the crop 'flattening' process as something that happened in a matter of seconds and as if it was being done by an invisible source.

Schleswig-Holstein, Welspang, Germany 1946

In July 1999, Mr. Henning Lagies remembered an experience he had in his childhood, which he described in a letter to crop circle researcher Wolfgang Schindler:

"It was a pleasantly warm summer day, not a cloud in the sky, and probably most significantly, not even the slightest breeze blowing. Walking along a dirt road I came to a section of the fields slightly elevated above the surrounding area. Suddenly I became aware of a faint whistling sound and a gentle swaying of the bushes. Then, about 25m to my left, I noticed a 3m wide column of plant debris spiraling counter clockwise upward to a height of about 18m. A second or two later, four smaller columns arose at 90 degree intervals around the central spiral, each about 1.5m wide and spaced approximately 2m, edge to edge, from the main column spinning clockwise. The one at the left rear from my position collapsed quickly, but the other three rose rapidly, and caught up with the central column. At the height the tops of all four started to whip around violently, and as they contacted each other, they dissolved into a single turbulent and widening column, that kept rising (...) to



Geometrical reconstruction of the described formation left behind by the vortex activity.
Diagram: Andreas Müller

a height of at least 80m and became too faint to be visible. By this time a brisk wind was blowing in the direction of the disturbance - presumably from all directions. I made my way through the crop to investigate it and found one large and three smaller sharply defined circles, of the same

diameters and directions of rotation of the downed stalks as their respective debris-columns, each with a central cone of stalks

wrapped loosely around each other. The collapsed spiral had left only a very faint trace (...)"



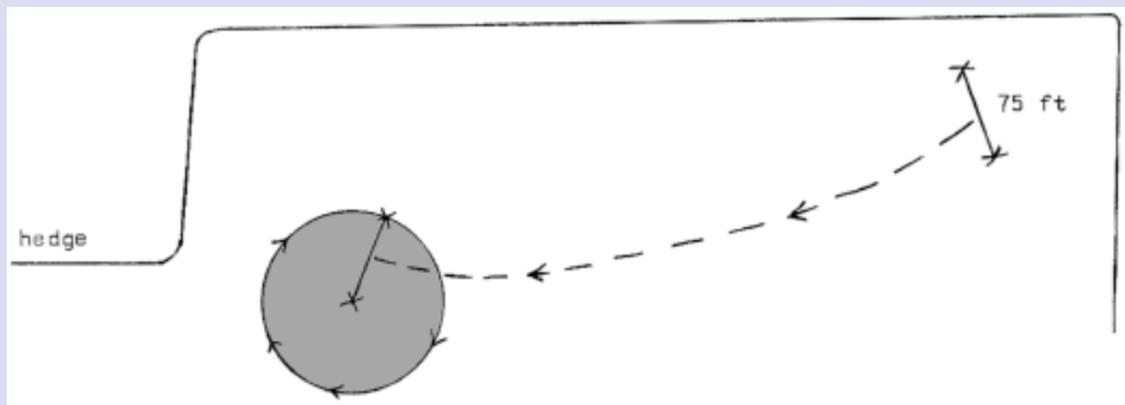
Even today's crop circles resemble the characteristics of the ones described by the witness in 1946: "rotational downed crop, with a central cone of stalks wrapped loosely around each other".
Photo: Andreas Müller

Westbury, Wiltshire, UK, 3th July, 1982

In 1983, crop circle researcher Terence Meaden investigated an observation reported to him by witness Mr. R. Barnes. In a letter published in Meaden's book "The Circle Effect and its Mysteries" Mr. Barnes recounted his observation as follows:

"About six or seven years ago I was fortunate to see one of these form in a field at Westbury. It appeared on a Saturday in early July just before six in the evening after a thunderstorm earlier that afternoon; in

fact it was still raining slightly. My attention was drawn to a 'wave' coming through the heads of the cereal crop in a straight line at steady speed; I have since worked this out to be about fifty miles an hour. The agency, though invisible, behaved like a solid object throughout and did not show any fluid tendencies, i.e. no variation on speed, line or strength. There was no visual aberration either in front, above or below the advancing line. After crossing the field in a shallow arc the 'line' dropped to a position about 1 o'clock and radially described a circle 75 feet radius (150' diameter) in about four seconds. The agency then disappeared."



*A simplified sketch map based on the original drawn by Mr. Barnes.
Diagram: Terence Meaden*

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS

— *Of authentic crop circles being formed* —

Yatesbury, Wiltshire, UK, 16th June, 1988

This case is of no less than ten single circles forming in a field around a farm at Yatesbury near Avebury in Wiltshire in 1988. It was investigated by pioneering crop circle researchers Pat Delgado, Terence Meaden, Busty Taylor, Richard Andrews and Colin Andrews who recounted the event as follows:

“Mr. Roger Partridge told me of his farm hand Roy Lucas, driving a tractor around the farm tracks, cutting grass verges at 8.15 am on the 16th of June in 1988. It was a dull overcast and rather chilly morning with light wind blowing. He reached a point near the large barn when to his right he witnessed some “white smoke” coming up from a small spot in one of the cereal fields. He



could not imagine why someone should be in the field making a bonfire. It suddenly became evident that this was not a fire or indeed smoke, but a white vapour which quickly took on the well defined form of an inverted cone. The white vapour was spinning at a fast rate but remained positioned in the same spot, as if anchored, even though a light wind was blowing. Roy was stunned and had never seen anything like this during all his years working on the farm. Without notice there was another development. The cone exploded as if a shell had been fired from a cannon. A cloud puffed violently out of the centre and in an upwards direction, and within moments the whole structure had disintegrated and had gone. Just a couple of minutes later with Roy only a few more yards further down the track, an identical thing happened, but in an adjacent field.”

One of ten single circles discovered in the Yatesbury field. Photo: Colin Andrews, colinandrews.net

Hoeven, The Netherlands, 21st August, 2001

There are very few actual crop circle researchers who have witnessed a forming event. One of these is Nancy Talbott, President of the ‘BLT Research Team’, whose main purpose is to coordinate scientific investigation and analysis into plant and soil samples from crop circles.

For many years Nancy has investigated the crop circles and strange events centred on a young Dutch man, Robbert van den Broeke. In 2001 Nancy was visiting his family when one night an extraordinary event happened in a field just outside the family house:

“On the night of August 20th-21st I was in the second floor bedroom at the back of the house, over-looking the garden and farm field. There were thin, gauzy curtains hanging at the glass doors.

Once upstairs I pulled the curtains closed. The lights were on and the room was well-lit. At about 3:05am I heard a few cattle nearby bawling raucously, as cattle do when they are disturbed. (...) The cattle quieted down for a few minutes but, at about 3:10am they started up again. (...) Then, at about 3:15am, a brilliant, intense white column, or tube, of light - about

8 inch to 1 foot in diameter from my vantage point - flashed down from the sky to the ground, illuminating my bedroom and the sky as brilliantly. Through the curtains I very clearly saw the ‘tube’ of light outside for a full second, it’s distinct edges and there seemed to be a slight bluish tinge along the sides of the tube. After about one second of total darkness elapsed outside, another tube of light - and soon after that - a third tube of the same brilliant white light appeared slightly to the left.

Again the room and the outside lit up spectacularly for about a second. There was no sound at any time during the light incident and the cattle were now quiet, nor did I smell anything out of the ordinary at all. The entire light display took 5-6 seconds; if the bawling cattle are considered to be part of this situation the total time would be about 10 minutes. (...)

Outside about 15ft into the bean-field behind the house - just barely visible in the darkness - was a new crop circle. I thought I could faintly see steam rising from the freshly downed beans, which I attributed to the interaction of the tubes of light with a heavy night-time dew covering the crop.”

The full and more detailed account of this event can be found at www.bltresearch.com/eyewitness/eyewitness1.php



The newly formed crop circle in a bean field next to the v.d. Broeke’s house and a survey sketch of it’s design Photo, Diagram: Nancy Talbott / BLT



Artistic reconstruction of the ‘light-tubes’ hitting the field, authorized by the witnesses. Image: Andreas Müller

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS

— *Of authentic crop circles being formed* —

Kekoskee, Wisconsin, USA, 4th July, 2003

In 2003 researchers around Jeffrey Wilson of 'The Independent Crop Circle Researchers' Association (ICCRA)' compiled a detailed investigation report of one of the rare eyewitness-observations in the USA:

On 4th July, 2003, at approx. 7:40am, retired truck driver Art Rantala was watching a weather front that was moving across the Dodge County, Wisconsin area. He leaned out the window and noticed that directly across the street, a group of trees started swinging every which-way. He followed the trees blowing around and his gaze naturally followed down into the wheat field. Just like a "black hole in the standing wheat" was the way the witness described how circles of wheat were flattened down. All the circles were flattened in roughly 12 seconds, but no more than 15 seconds. He also reported that there was no apparent means for the wheat to have been swirled and flattened.

Nothing unusual in the sky, no lights, no unusual sounds, and no unusual odors: "Whatever the energetic force was that caused the circles to form, it was beyond the range of visible sight."

Interestingly again this event represents strong evidence against the skeptics claim that only 'simple single circles' could be the result of a authentic phenomenon.



Aerial view of the Kekoskee-Formation
Image: Jeffrey Wilson, ICCRA.org

A selection of quotes by eyewitnesses

"Suddenly I heard a sound like the gentle humming of bees which rose to a high-pitched buzz that seemed to come from far away. I felt increasingly faint, but at the same time was dimly aware of circles being formed in the oats. The whole thing taking only three minutes."

**Frederick Smith, Fenland of Lincolnshire, UK
April 1947**

"The heads of the wheat seemed to be alive with electricity showing up as myriads of flashes of light, like wiggling glow worms lights but coloured orange-yellow, and running inwards towards a point in the field about 50 metres away (together with) a whirling, humming sound. (...) The next morning at the very same spot there was a crop circle."

**Tom Gwinnett, Woolaston, Gloucestershire, UK
July 1988**

"400 metres to the West of West Kennett Long Barrow I noticed a large ball of light in a wheat field. (...) I watched the base of the ball 'go flat' as it made contact with the crop and/or the ground. The ball then gave 'a little bounce' and after a further seven or eight seconds disappeared". After the sun rose he walked to the spot and found this new formation."

Unnamed local resident, living near Silbury Hill, Wiltshire, UK - June 29/30, 1989

"In 1934 I was gazing over a field of corn when I heard a crackling like fire and saw a whirlwind in the centre of the field, spinning stalks seeds and dust up into the air for about 100 or more feet. I found a perfect circle of flattened corn, the stalks interlaced and their ears lying on top of each other (some even plaited) on the periphery. The circle was hot to the touch."

**Kathleen Skin of Eversden, Cambridgeshire, UK,
in a letter to the "Sunday Express",
published August 12, 1990**

"Suddenly, in no more than five to ten seconds, about 20 yards in from the northern edge of the field, a perfect circle simply appeared in the crop as Martin watched, as if a vortex of air had spun the stems down."

Martin Sohn-Rethel, Swanborough - Iford, East Sussex UK - September 1991

"I was frightened to death. Suddenly the whole field was illuminated as in daylight. I heard a frightening thrilling sound, while the crop went down to the ground."

Unnamed local resident, Arad, Romania - 1994

"I noticed the tall grass in the farmer's field was whipping back and forth in a condensed area of about thirty feet, I looked to the night sky to see if a helicopter was about to make an emergency landing, nothing. To my surprise the wind stopped, the grass in a clockwise motion, just bent over flat to the ground."

Unnamed witness, Darlington Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada - September 1998

"On the night of June 17th 2004, I rushed outside at about 2am, when I heard the dogs howling a way they never have before. All the animals were looking across the railway tracks at our neighbor's field and trembling violently. Then I saw two rays of light like iridescent flames from a blowtorch or welder about 20 metres apart and quite low over the field. After a few seconds they were sucked back up into a black space above them, leaving trails like comets. When I went to tell Signor Spinoglio and we visited the field, I was amazed to see circles the way no human being could make them, right under where the flames had been."

Mrs. Piero of Castelnuovo, Pontecurone, Piemont, Italy June 17, 2004

A WORLD WIDE PHENOMENON

– spread over 60 countries around the globe –

Crop circles are often thought of as very a British phenomenon, especially because the largest and most impressive formations have been seen all across Southern England. However, crop circles have been recorded all over the world. Approximately 7000 formations have been discovered in about 60 countries, including Belgium, Canada, Germany, Norway, the Netherlands, Indonesia, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and in Africa.



Fig. 1: Crop Circle in a Rice field in Sleman, nr. Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 23th January 2011
Fig. 2: Crop Circle in Poirino, Italy 13th June 2010, Photo © Space Freedom
Fig. 3: Crop Circle near Boryoung City, South Korea, 12th June 2008 Photo © tragnark.com 98,papa
Fig. 4: Crop Circle in Århus, Norway 8th August 2010, Photo © Tor Øyvind Moen

Fig. 5: Crop circle formation in oil seed rape, 15th May 2001 at Zierenberg, Hesse Germany.
Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de
Fig. 6: Crop circle formation discovered in 2001 near Sinsheim, Baden-Wurtemberg, Germany
Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

Crop circles form in both cultivated and wild plants throughout the year all around the globe. In the northern hemisphere – where most crop circles are reported – the ‘crop circle season’ usually starts in April with formations in oilseed rape and lasts till October with circles appearing in maize. During the northern hemisphere winter-months formations are also found in grass and heather. Crop circles appear – although in lesser numbers – in the southern hemisphere in countries such as Brazil, Indonesia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

So far approximately 7000 crop circles have been recorded world-wide. These are only the ones which have been reported to researchers and the media.

The Netherlands has a noteworthy position amongst the countries where crop circles are discovered. Most of them are found in ‘Noord-Brabant’ where remarkable events and crop circles are reported every year. These sightings are all linked to Robbert van den Broeke who lives in the area. Robbert seems to have the ability to accurately predict the appearance of a new crop circle formation. Since his early adolescence he has experienced ‘visions’ which contain both the location and the design of the new crop circle. He says in the days just prior to these experiences he generally feels a build-up of physical and/or mental tension which disappears the moment the crop circle has actually formed.

Over the years Robbert van den Broeke has witnessed many crop circles forming, which were often accompanied by a Light Phenomena (not the same in every case). In both day and night time he has watched

Many others may well have appeared – and will continue to appear – but these will possibly never be reported because crop circles are generally discovered by farmers. Before 1980 the vast majority of farmers were not aware of the research into the crop circle phenomenon and nowadays it is very unlikely that farmers will choose to report a new crop circle as they feel they cause them too much nuisance. Many farmers confirm that they either had circles on their land before or after 1980 – which they never reported for the reasons mentioned above.

More information regarding both the locations and the numbers can be found on the website www.cropcirclecenter.com It has the largest online archive in the world on this subject.

either single or multiple spheres of a bright, white or yellowish light hovering over a field (see topic Eyewitness accounts) and noticed how under these spheres, the plants suddenly flatten to create a crop circle. Sometimes he sees just one or two multiple flashes of light, after which a new crop circle has been found in the field. Robbert works in close connection with Nancy Talbot (BLT research team inc.) Further read on www.robbertvandenbroeke.com

Point of Interest

While Robbert van den Broeke has predicted many crop circles before they were actually discovered, it has never been possible so far to capture the forming of such a predicted crop circle on camera. The same applies for the many researchers and crop circle enthusiasts who have been watching the Wiltshire fields with camera since the 1990s, but so far have not been successful in recording the manifestation of a crop circle on camera. Only one event has been recorded – Oliver’s Castle, Devizes in Wiltshire, 1996 – but is disputed since.



Various photos of the formation in grass of 28th April 2015 at Oudenbosch, The Netherlands. Photos © Roy Boschman



CIRCLES ON THE GROUND

— some intriguing examples —

The geometry and true beauty of a crop circle is best seen from the air. However the situation on the ground – especially in a ‘fresh’ formation – can be just as impressive. One has to look at both views to get a better picture what is going on.

The formation at Bishops Cannings 6th August, 1999 (Fig.1 and Photo 1) went in to history as the most complex and detailed crop lay ever. It was beyond anything seen before and nothing since has approached it. The crop had several layers apparently woven into each other, and was therefore quickly nicknamed ‘The Basket’. It was discovered by researchers Andreas Müller and



Werner Anderhub at 6.15am, during an early morning reconnaissance drive. One hour later the angry farmer arrived with his combine harvester. Fortunately photographer Ulrich Kox was in the air and photographed the new formation before it was cut out.

Fig 1: The ‘Basket’ at Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire 6th August, 1999
Photo © Ulrich Kox

The crop circle season usually starts in mid April, with the first formations appearing in canola - the oilseed rape crop - once it has grown to a height of 5 to 6 feet and is in full flower. When an authentic circle is found, these plants are found undamaged and although now smoothly bent over towards the ground, they continue to flower and grow. Sometimes these brittle plants have been elegantly woven (Photo 2). The delicate nature of these plants, with their thick stalks challenges the mind to understand what kind of ‘force’ has the capacity to make these changes without damage.



Two pictures of the same formation (East Kennet, 2009). A different sun angle can dramatically change the look of a crop circle. Photo left Monique Klinkenbergh and Photo right Lucy Pringle.

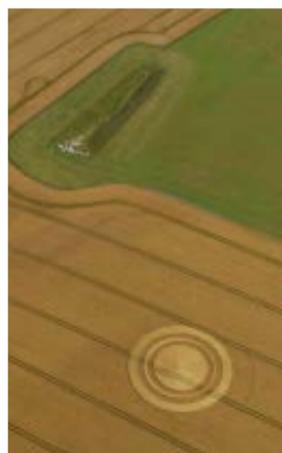
In man-made canola formations the stems of the flowers are broken, bruised and the plants wither and die. The ground is muddy from where the hoaxers trampled the plants down.



Fig. 3: Aerial Yatesbury Phoenix, 12th June, 2009
Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

From mid June onwards the first circles in barley start to appear. An intriguing formation – both from the air and the ground - was reported at Yatesbury Wiltshire in June 2009 (Fig. 3) and stunned everybody who saw it. The design was a stylized bird emerging from flames and therefore became known as the Phoenix. On the ground the fluffy barley was swept and swirled in constantly changing directions creating fantastic swirls as if a gigantic hair-dryer had been used. The formation featured several unusual sections of standing crop, one example can be seen on the displayed picture (Photo 3).

On 7th August 2000 a formation appeared below the Pewsey White Horse (Fig. 4) which had an unusual lay. A very thin ‘curtain’ made of single stalks only divides a small inner circle from the laid crop that swirled around it, forming a bigger outer circle (Photo 4).



Another interesting formation in barley was discovered near West Kennet Longbarrow by a Dutch couple on 25th July, 2011 around 5am, during their early morning reconnaissance drive in the area to check grain fields for new formations. They were the first to enter the circle. Although the design of the



Fig. 4: 7th August 2000, Pewsey White Horse, Wheat
Photo: © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk

formation was relatively simple, the situation at ground level was remarkable. Except for the unusual lay (Photo 5), they found a curious white substance in the centre of the circle, covering the small standing tuft of barley plants and the immediate surrounding area (Photo 6).

Fig. 5: on the left West Kennet Longbarrow 25th July 2011
Photo: © Monique Klinkenbergh

LIGHT PHENOMENA

- *witnessed and captured on camera* -

When Wiltshire locals are asked if they ever have witnessed strange lights or shining objects in the area, the reply is often that such lights have always been observed here. Since the systematic documentation of crop circles started in the 1980s, mysterious lights have also regularly been reported alongside crop circles.



Fig. 1: Globular, metallic items over crop fields. Photo ©. Klaas van Egmond, The Netherlands

Before, during or after the appearances of crop circles, *Balls of Light* (Bol) are often seen and thanks to today's digital age, these images have been often captured on camera (see footage displayed in digital photo frame).

It is evident from old prints that 'Earth Light' have been seen for as long as crop circles have. They also seem to occur in places where geological folds come to the surface and it is expected they have natural origin that we don't yet understand.

Various video recordings of the landscape happen to show lights 'wandering' across the landscape. These lights often have a pulsating character. The filmed lights are not from a camera artifact as, in some cases, the farmers who were present in the field at the same time as the video recording was being made, say they have seen

the lights too. The photo in Figure 1 were taken by the author in 2007. Five spheres were seen floating around just above the crop. The spheres had a diameter of ca. 2 metres, a metallic shine and moved away slowly. As the purpose that day was to install measuring equipment, a good quality camera was deliberately not by hand. A small camera was found after some searching but by that time the spheres had moved already some distance away. Fascinated by the spectacle it was failed to zoom in. Nevertheless, in the full size images, these spheres were still visible as can be seen in the Figure and digital photoframe. They finally disappeared towards a line of trees along a mostly dry stream near All Cannings.

Historical site names given to landscape features, such as 'Golden Ball Hill' near Alton Barnes, Wiltshire, suggest that this phenomenon has been observed here and is known for ages. Today their appearance, while floating above the grain gets frequently observed and associated with crop circle formations. Similar light phenomena have also been reported in other parts of the world - however not only and always connected with crop circle activity.

Point of Interest

Mysterious orbs and balls of light, unexplained flashes of white light and beams of light also seem to be witnessed and experienced by human circle makers while making circles in the field. The circle makers also claim to have experienced the presence of fog banks protecting them from being seen by watchers on hillsides. More high-strangeness events reported by human circle makers are included in the book 'On the Edge of Reality' by researcher Colin and Synthia Andrews, page 105/106

Falling Lights

Beside the floating Balls of Light - often amber in colour - also a second type of light gets observed: so called *Falling Lights* that in some cases seem to appear shortly before the manifestation of some crop circle formations.

Fig. 2 shows a picture of such a *Falling Light*, taken by an automatic camera. It is remarkable that the light comes right through the clouds. At night, clouds like these hang a few hundred meters above the ground. So this is not an image of a 'shooting star' as these enter and display in the atmosphere far higher. There were many other visual observations of this phenomenon that evening, but not photographed. The next morning, a crop circle formation was found at the place to which the light had moved (Fig. 2 and 3).



Fig. 2: Falling Light on 2nd August, 2004 1.33 hours; (the arrow points to the formation of Fig. 3) Photo © Steve Alexander



Fig. 4: The Heart Formation in East Kennet of 15th July, 2000 together with the Grid Formation of 12th July, 2000 Photo © Janet Ossebaard

It has been already hypothesized that this lights may be created by a plasma vortex of meteorite dust forming at the edge of the atmosphere and descending to just above Earth's surface, i.e. a flow of material that loses electrons at the edges.

Very close to the spot where an amber *Falling Light* and a thin vertical column of dust from ground level to infinity was observed by the author of this text on the evening of 14th July, 2000, a new crop circle was found early next morning.

Fig. 4 shows the so-called *Heart Formation* of 15th July, 2000, that appeared next to the *Grid Formation* at East Kennet, Wiltshire. That formation later became - as so many crop circles - the content of dispute about its authenticity but has been liked since by many at least for its positive symbolical message.

SOUND PHENOMENA

— recorded on tape and analyzed —

Many eyewitnesses talk of strange sounds being heard when circles form. The kind of sounds that have been reported are described in various ways and words, a ‘piercing’ buzzing sound, a static electricity sound, a loud mechanical insect noise as something between a grasshopper and the buzzing from a high voltage cable. Such sounds have been reported both from new circles and ones several days old.

The two best documented examples of sound-phenomena in relation to crop circles were reported in 1989. They consist of odd and loud trilling noises with a metallic edge. Both events were recorded on tape and analyzed.



Fig 1: In this crop circle formation at Cheesefoot Head in Hampshire, the “crop circle sound” was recorded in the summer of 1989z Copyright: Colin Andrews

The first event happened in a crop circle near Cheese-foot Head, Winchester in Hampshire at the closing of the surveillance project Operation White Crow (Fig. 1). While scientists and engineers were packing up their equipment a small group of researchers decided not to give up. They went to a crop circle in a neighboring field and sat down in it. Researcher Colin Andrews: “Suddenly we all heard a sound coming from the east. As we listened, it grew louder and we could sense it getting closer. We could all tell precisely where it was coming from, and we could follow it as it moved. The sound then rotated around us, floating around the circle three or four times. Then the sound stopped moving, froze and positioned itself in front of us. (...)” And one point the event was so overwhelming and frightening and they all decided to leave the site. However, curiosity got hold of Colin Andrews and George Wingfield and they decided to return to the circle. To their surprise the noise appeared again. They managed to record it on a tape recorder. The next day a police car drove by to inform the researchers that a new formation had just appeared. It happened to be on the location where the sound had been witnessed the night before...



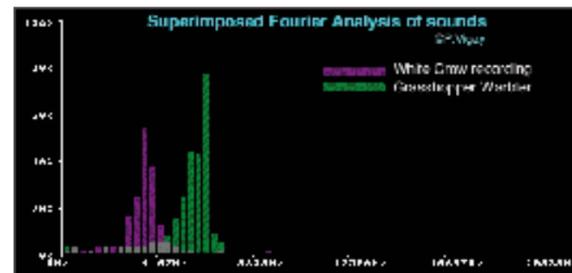
The common Grasshopper Warbler Copyright: Stefan Hage, www.birds.se / CC / by-SA

Later that summer, while the BBC was interviewing Pat Delgado and Colin Andrews near a crop circle at Beckhampton, the same sound showed up again. The hum was so loud and penetrating that one of the BBC cameras was destroyed. The BBC broadcasted the entire sequence of events, which lead to national headlines in Britain.

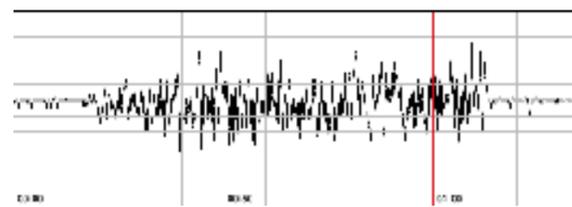
While some skeptics claim that the sound was the song of a small bird - the Grasshopper Warbler - researcher and computer expert Paul Vigay showed by a detailed analysis of the recordings that this was not the case. The recorded sound is mainly around the 5.0-5.2 KHz frequency, whereas the Grasshopper Warbler oscillates at around 7KHz - nearly 2KHz higher in frequency.

Both sounds can be heard by using the headphones next to the display.

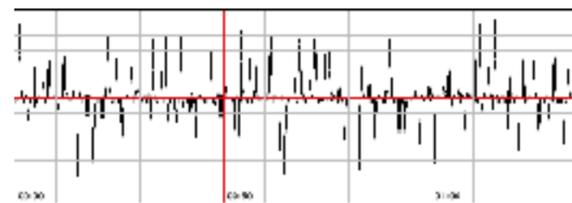
Note: Further reading: Colin Andrews, Crop Circles Signs of Contact, page 103 – 109. Freddy Silva, Secrets in the Fields, page 14 – 16.



Superimposed Fourier Analysis of a) the “crop circle sound” recorded in the above described event and b) an average recording of the song of a Grasshopper Warbler. © Paul Vigay, cropcirclesresearch.com



The Waveform of the White Crow recording. © Paul Vigay, cropcirclesresearch.com



The Waveform of the Grasshopper warbler. © Paul Vigay, cropcirclesresearch.com

Point of Interest

Cymatics (see also topic Geometry) is a field of research which is interested to consider in the context of sound phenomena. Cymatics was pioneered by Swiss medical doctor Hans Jenny, who experimented for years transferring sound vibrations to liquids and powders. Jenny showed how sound waves could be physically manifested in these fluids materials and how they became visible to the naked eye as symmetrical patterns. The higher the frequencies he used, the more complex the patterns he recorded (Jenny 1974).

Some of the cymatic patterns are strikingly similar to certain crop circle patterns. Some people think that similar processes could be involved in forming crop circles.

MAN-MADE CROP CIRCLES

an undeniable part

The 'all-man-made-theory' was born in 1991. Two British pensioners *Doug and Dave* self-confessed to the British tabloid *Today* newspaper that they were behind all the crop circles appearing from 1978. They said they 'conned the world' by using nothing more than poles, ropes, tape measures and swing boards to flatten the crops into circles.

There is no doubt they had indeed made some crop circles. But despite their 'confession', it was impossible they could have made every circle found across such a wide geographical area during this period. Furthermore the demonstrations they carried out in public (in front of the press and TV cameras) failed to impress the majority of observers including some skeptics. Although there seems to be very little of substance to support their claims (see note), their story caused a fundamental shift in the public perception of crop circles. The idea that all crop circles are man-made was out in the world and this legend helped inspire a wide range of followers. Soon the next generation of hoaxers took over and began to out-do *Doug and Dave*.



The article in the British tabloid 'Today' of 9th September 1991

Some of them have become artists – creating large scale crop patterns by stomping down brand logos or company and music band names into the crop (Fig. 1, 2). Others prefer to remain anonymous, proclaiming to be part of the crop circle mystery. Looking at some examples of man-made formations (Fig. 3, 4) some of the makers know how to flatten crop very well. As there is no transparency and little evidence to support man-made claims, the man-made element does very little to contribute to the actual research into the crop circle phenomenon aside from providing a base measure for comparative analysis of 'unexplained' crop circles (Fig. 5).



Fig. 1: Crop-circular birthday greeting to comic-idol 'Hello Kitty', made in 2004 in a field near Yatesbury. Photo: © Lucy Pringle



Fig. 2: Advertising with crop circles, commissioned by Mitsubishi in 1998. Photo © Werner Anderhub



Fig. 3: The result of a summer-school land-art project at Yatesbury, Wiltshire in 2012. Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de



Fig. 4: Man-Made crop circles made in full daylight in front of TV-cameras, Wiltshire in 1998. Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

The question for science was, and still is: Do man-made crop circles adequately describe what researchers call the 'authentic' phenomenon? And do man-made crop circles appear under the same conditions - and with the same result - as the unexplained formations?

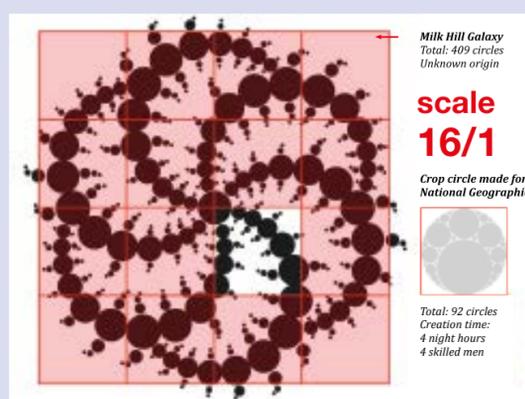
There is not one case in which a proven man-made formation showed significant changes in the plants and soils that researchers call 'unexplained anomalies' (see topic Research). When tested under blind conditions for these anomalies, none of the proven man-made crop circles showed significant changes.

Crop circles made by humans (and therefore mechanical means) neither explain the centuries old history of the circle phenomenon, the complexity of many formations or the more than 50 credible eyewitnesses who claim to have observed a crop circle being formed under their own eyes in a matter of seconds.

Note: Researcher Terry Wilson has done extensive research into the Doug and Dave claim. The results can be found on his website: www.menwhoconnedtheworld.weebly.com

Fig. 5: An interesting 'comparison-example' is the man-made crop circle made in a field of wheat near Yatesbury, Wiltshire of 8th July 2009. It was created by a well-known and professional circle-makers team and commissioned by National Geographic TV-Channel. The design was supplied by a mathematician from University College London and is based on what is called 'The Circles of Apollonius' principle. It took 4 experienced men 4 hours to create a circle of approximately 180 ft. in darkness while it was raining. Design-wise the team succeeded very well.

This demonstration can be regarded as a standard measure for what people can achieve under conditions similar to other crop circle events that are 'considered unknown'. At the same time such commissioned circles allows us to draw a comparison with other formations. The massive 'Galaxy' formation on 2011 (Fig. 6 and 7), discovered after a rainy night on top of Milk Hill was 16-times larger and included 4,5 times the number of circles. The demonstration of 2009 for National Geographic showed all hallmarks of mechanical activity. The plants were described by researcher Charles Mallett as "very heavily crushed in a pattern of repetitive impacts due to board stomping action. While in the Galaxy formation the plants were significantly undamaged".





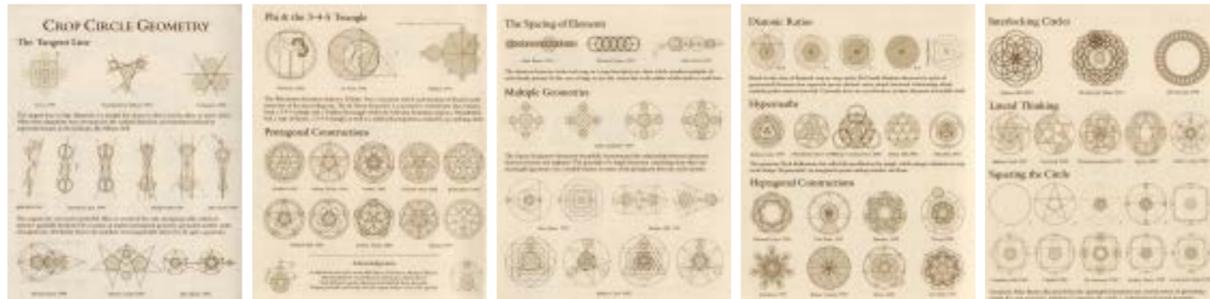
The Galaxy on top of Milk Hill, Wiltshire, England, August 12th 2001. Photos © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk



GEOMETRY IN CROP CIRCLES

— and in nature —

Another intriguing aspect of crop circles is their mathematical and geometrical complexity. Crop circle formations - regardless their size - can display a precision that is beyond belief. A wide range of different designs have appeared over the years; from simple circles, vesica pisces (equally overlapping circles), multifold patterns like pentagrams, hexagons, spirals, fractals, to 3D-illusions.



The above pages were reproduced from Michael Glickmans book 'Crop Circles'.

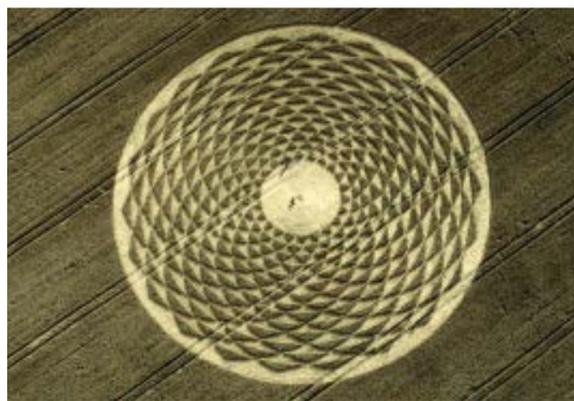


Fig. 1: Formation at Woodborough Hill, Alton Barnes, Wiltshire
Photo © Fank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

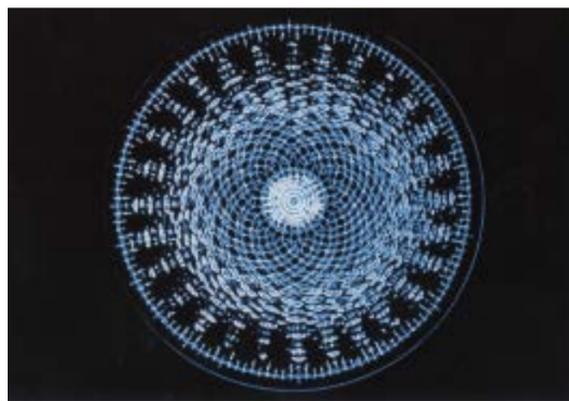


Fig. 2: Cymatic pattern created by a 102.562 Hertz frequency.
Photo © Alexander Lauterwasser, wasserklangbilder.de

Nature is the source of many beautiful symmetrical patterns, think of snowflakes and ice crystals. Many crop circles also have designs similar to those highly complex shapes created by nature. However many scientific experts and laymen are mystified by the question of how and why, so many intricate geometrical patterns arise in crop circles.

It is natural to question what force or mechanism is behind the magnificent patterns nature expresses. But why do people start immediately pondering about 'messages from above' when they have seen a 250 ft. long crop circle pattern, while similar geometrical masterpieces are seen in so many living elements, just think of the beauty of a simple flower.

It might be worth considering if the same kind of geometrical force, mechanism, information or message - call what you like - not only brings pattern into nature but also into some crop circles? Here are just a few some examples to ponder: Patterns created by resonance can also be seen when either solid or liquid surfaces are subject to vibration. The patterns always show circular symmetry. When solid panels are vibrated, there are very discrete frequencies at which they resonate, just as the string of a musical instrument does. The lower the

frequency the larger and simpler the pattern created by the resonance. At high 'harmonic' frequencies more complex patterns are made up and smaller elements occur. The patterns made by this vibration can be seen on a circular metal plate by sprinkling a powder on it. The same effect can be created on the surface of water by illuminating it and stimulating it with sound.

Many crop circles show similar circular symmetry. On the morning of August 12th, 2000 a 300 feet wide crop circle design (Fig. 1) was discovered in a field of - ready to harvest - wheat next to Woodborough Hill near Alton Barnes in Wiltshire.

Within the Sunflower head numerous small individual five-petaled flowers *florets* are oriented toward the next by approximately the so called *Golden Angle* of 137.5° , producing a pattern of interconnecting spirals, where the number of left spirals and the number of right spirals are successive *Fibonacci numbers*. This pattern produces the most efficient packing of seeds within the flower head. A very similar spiral pattern emerges as soon as the peacock fans its tail and one connects the 'eyes' with each other, as well in a nautilus shell and in plants like cactus or pinecones. So is sound also behind the creation of crop circles patterns?

Sunflower © Esdras Calderan, CC by SA 2.0
Peacock © N. A. Naseer, www.nilgirimarten.com

Nautilus © Chris 73 / Wikimedia Commons, CC by-SA 3.0
Cactus © flickr.com/people/madtag



REMARKABLE CROP CIRCLE EVENTS

day time formations

Most crop circles are being formed during the dark hours of night in far-off fields. In rare cases they appear during broad daylight near public areas. The most famous of such examples is the 'Julia-set', a 915ft. long formation consisting out of 151 circles. It appeared in a maximum span of 45 minutes on a Sunday afternoon 7th July 1996 near Stonehenge.



Fig. 1: On Sunday afternoon 7th July, 1996 a 915 ft. long spiral formation consisting of 151 circles was discovered next to Stonehenge, Wiltshire © Lucy Pringle, Lucypringle.co.uk

A pilot - accustomed to having seen crop circles from the air - was flying over the field that day around 5.15pm. With him was a doctor who booked the flight to take pictures of the ancient archaeological site. The aircraft flew several circuits directly above the field. Both men were looking down from the aircraft and neither of the men noticed anything. On their way back - around 6pm - the pilot saw to his own amazement a massive new crop circle formation in the field opposite Stonehenge (Fig. 1).



Fig. 2: The Julia-set was in full view of Stonehenge (see arrow) and the other way around. Photo © Andreas Müller

One could suspect that both men missed the already present crop circle at first, but there were many more who supports the view that the 'Stonehenge Julia-Set' appeared in broad daylight. Amongst those the farmer who later told Researcher Andreas Müller that he had farmhands working along the field's fence until 5:20-5:30pm and that none of them had noticed the crop circle or any suspicious activity within the field (Fig.2). This was confirmed by security guards of the Stonehenge site - from where the formation was visible as distinct circular shadows. They said that the presence of the crop circle was not noticed before circa 6pm and it was also not before about that same time that they became aware of first cars and onlookers trying to stop alongside the road to get a view or even trying to enter the field. Researcher Colin Andrews - who interviewed the Wiltshire Police - was told that the police emergency lines received several 999 calls just before 6pm reporting a large number of vehicles pulled off the road causing a hazard.

Many years later researcher Lucy Pringle coincidentally came across an eyewitness of the forming of the Julia-set. Pringle: "In April this spring of 2009, I had been giving a talk at Alton College in Hampshire. Shortly after that a friend telephoned me to say that a friend of hers had been in a taxi and had mentioned to the taxi driver that she had just been to a fascinating talk on Crop Circles. M, the taxi driver said " I saw one appear opposite Stonehenge". Pringle got in touch with the taxi driver and managed to arrange meeting where she got the story down on tape. The full report can be read on her website: <http://www.lucypringle.co.uk/new-version-old/Articles/stonehenge-eyewitness.html>

The formation became known as the 'Julia-Set' as the centipede-like pattern resembled the fractal pattern discovered by chaos-mathematician Gaston Julia. It was an exact representation of the 'Golden Spiral' in sacred geometry.

Point of Interest

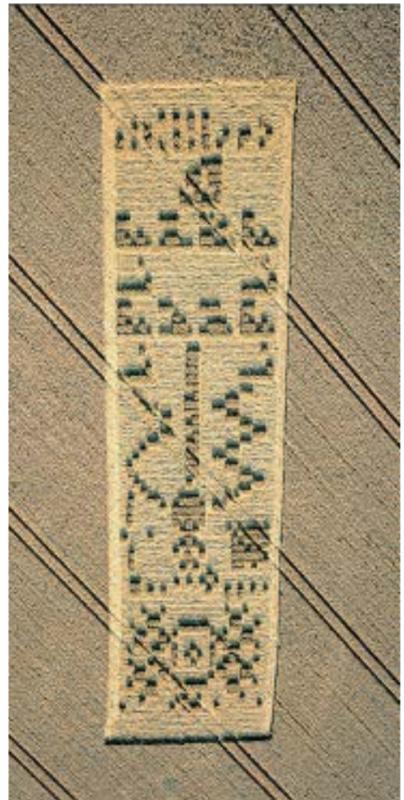
A triple Julia-Set (Fig. 3) formed 3 weeks afterwards on 29th July at Windmill Hill near Avebury, Wiltshire. Each circle displayed a different swirl detail. This pattern was over 200 meters across.



Fig. 3: The triple Julia-set Windmill Hill near Avebury, Wiltshire. © Lucy Pringle, Lucypringle.co.uk



Photos © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk



REMARKABLE CROP CIRCLE EVENTS

faces in the fields

On the morning of 14th August 2001, the Chilbolton Observatory in Hampshire was offered an unexpected sight of a face staring up from the wheat field next to it. This was the first time a crop design had been formed in rectangular and showed a recognisable picture. In the years to come more faces in exceptional designs appeared.

The 'face' at Chilbolton consisted of numerous standing circles as 'half-tone dots' (Fig.1) and looked like a reversed image, the same method as used for printing pictures in newspapers and magazines. On ground level there was absolutely no pattern discernible, only rows of standing circles of wheat.

Six days later the face was joined in the same field by another crop circle (Fig. 2). This formation represented an entirely new lay of the crop, consisting of 73 rows of 23 small squares made up of either standing or laid corn. The formation showed a pictorial binary code sequence very similar to the message which was sent into outer space in 1974 from the radio telescope at Arecibo in Puerto Rico. The Arecibo pictorial message was part

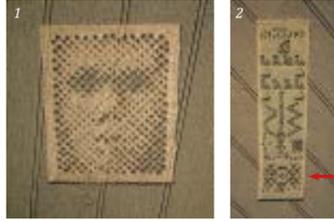


Fig. 1: The 'Face' 2001

Fig. 2: The 'Reply'

Fig. 3: Crop circle of 13th August 2000 in the same field as the 'Reply' of 2001. Photo's © Steve Alexander



of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) project whose objective was to attempt to communicate with extraterrestrial intelligence. During this project, various items of information about our planet, our solar system and us humans were binary conveyed into space.

Initially, this design in the crop was thought to be a copy of the Arecibo message, but then it was discovered that it could be read as a 'reply' to it (Fig. 4). Interestingly at the place in the Arecibo message that showed the radio telescope as our transmission medium, the 'reply' in the field pointed out to the crop circle discovered in the very same field exactly a year before (Fig. 3).

While both designs – the message and reply – showed (A) the 'numbers one to ten' as well as the 'atomic numbers of the DNA-making-elements hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, and phosphorus' (B), the crop circle had silicon inserted into this table. Then again 'the formulas for the sugars and bases in the nucleotides of DNA' (C) were shown in both designs alike: while (D) the number of nucleotides in DNA, and (E) a graphic of a double helix structure of DNA was changed in the reply into a triple-DNA-helix.

At the position where the message showed a human figure (F), its average physical height (G) and the Human (H) population on Earth the reply now portrayed a humanoid figure but smaller (about 3 ft) figure with a much larger head and eyes. The new population (H) read approximately 21.3 billion. While the message showed our Solar System indicating planet Earth as the source of the message (I), the reply showed another planetary system, now with three planets highlighted. Finally where the message showed a graphic of the Arecibo radio telescope (J) and the diameter of the transmitting dish (K) the reply showed a graphical representation of a crop circle that was discovered the year before in the same field (J) as well as a change in the information on its physical diameter (K).

Interestingly, the SETI Institute, whose aim is the Search for – signals of – Extra-Terrestrial Intelligences, ignored this crop circle as an option. They also misinterpreted most of the points explained above (claiming e.g. that the shown graphic representation of the crop circle of 2000 was intended to show a "space satellite with solar cells"...) they judged it as nothing but "good fun and a nice example of grain graffiti":

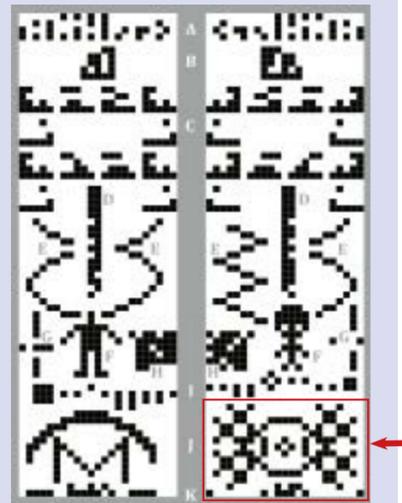


Fig. 4: Graphic comparison between the 1974 'Arecibo-Message' (left) and the 2001 'Chilbolton Reply' (right). Diagrams © Andreas Müller, kornkreise-forschung.de

The second 'face and message' formation appeared at Crabwood (Fig. 5) near Winchester in Hampshire on 15th August 2002. Again a rectangular box encloses a picture of a face, this time with the almond-shaped eyes, large-domed bald head, small mouth and narrow chin of a classic 'Gray' alien. The execution of this picture was different from Chilbolton, consisting entirely of solid or broken horizontal lines of varying thickness, rather like an analogue TV picture. Implemented in the picture of the face is a circle of laid crop covered in tiny squares of standing corn arranged in a spiral, the whole thing looking from the air a bit like a CD (Fig. 6). Computer expert Paul Vigay discovered that the 'data disc' contained a binary coded message, although very different in format and content from the previous years's message. Vigay split up the the strings of binary digits on the



Fig. 5: Crabwood, 15th August 2002 © Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk

(Fig. 6) Close-up of Fig. 5



'data disc' into groups of eight and took each group to represent a character in the ASCII alphabet, as used in computers. The message which emerged was in English and read as follows "Beware the bearers of FALSE gifts & their BROKEN PROMISES. Much PAIN but still time. (damaged word, possible "Believe"). There is GOOD out there. We Oppose DECEPTION. Conduit CLOSING (bell sound)". Many have wondered what the meaning could be behind the non-standard use of small and large letters. Could there be another level of coded message in that as well?

(From the book *Crop Circles, History, Research and Theories* by Eva-Marie Brekkesto, Wessex Books).

This formation became among researchers – as so many crop circles – the content of dispute about its authenticity.

REMARKABLE CROP CIRCLE EVENTS

faces in the fields

The most recent face or faces (Fig. 1, 2) – depending on how you choose to interpret the event - were discovered on 30th July 2010 by Madelien Scholten. That day a rumor of a new crop circle formation next to the M4 motorway at Wickam near Hungerford came in. As she was just about to make a reconnaissance flight over the area to look for new crop circles, the pilot and she headed in that direction. They returned with the news that there were two formations, one on each side of the motorway and that the designs were quite unusual.

Looking at the individual pictures it was difficult to make anything out of the designs. Later it was discovered that if the two images were superimposed on each other (Diagram A & B), the result bears a striking resemblance to the face of the Shroud of Turin (Fig. 5), a centuries old linnen cloth that bears the miraculous image of a crucified man, a man that millions believe to be Jesus of Nazareth and the evidence of his resurrection. These two formations were the most symbolically challenging of the season 2010.



Fig. 1 and 2: The Faces next to the M4 motorway near Wickham 30th July 2010. Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

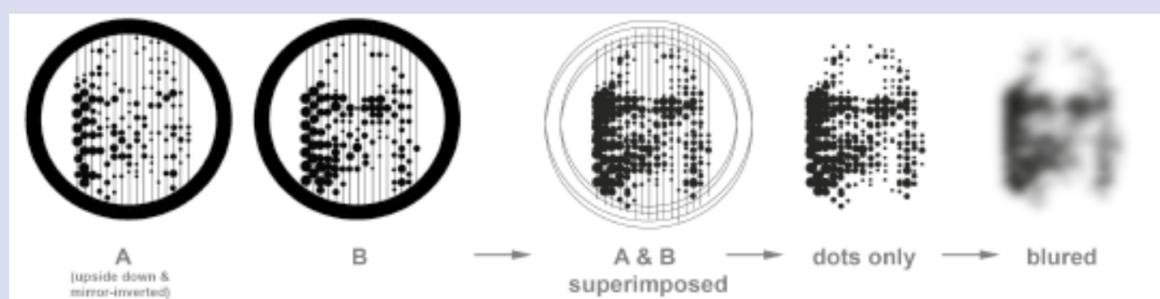


Fig. 4: Seen as two individual designs (Diagram A and Diagram B) the two crop circles did not really make a lot of sense. But if the diagrams get superimposed (Diagram A&B) a face emerges that bears a striking resemblance to the Shroud of Turin (see Fig. 5).

Fig. 5 shows a gradual super imposition of the two crop circle designs with the face on the Turin Shroud. The Shroud of Turin is a centuries old linnen cloth that bears the image of a crucified man, a man that millions believe to be Jesus of Nazareth. The Shroud of Turin is displayed relatively rarely to the public, but was presented in Turin, Italy in 2010.



Fig. 5: A gradual superimposition of the two crop circle designs with the face on the Turin Shroud. Diagrams © Andreas Müller, kornkreise-forschung.de

WHO OR WHAT MAKES THE CIRCLES?

— hypotheses and theories —

Who or what is responsible for creating crop circles? So far no definitive final answer has been found. However, there are many ideas, hypotheses and theories. They have changed much over time and reflect contemporary thinking and state of belief, technology and science.



As has been the case with many other mysterious phenomena, 'crop circles' were explained during the Middle Ages and into Renaissance as the work of fairies, witches and wizards, ethereal spirits, demons and even the devil himself.

In the 18th century heavenly or sky born 'sound trumpets' were discussed as a possible explanation for strange patterns on the ground.



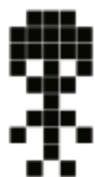
During the 19th century a first scientific report, published in the journal *Nature* pondered on 'cyclonic (whirl)wind action' as the cause of crop circles in Surrey.

During the Second World War, some crop circles found in the UK were thought to have been made as silent communication by foreign Nazi-spies. There are rumours that the Nazis thought it was the other way around.



When crop circles were found during the peak time for world-wide UFO-sightings in the 1960s, crop circles were interpreted as 'landing-markings' of classical flying saucers from outer space.

From the late 1980s on more and more hypotheses and theories were presented and published, such as the most famous and controversial idea that electrically charged whirlwinds – a so-called Plasma-Vortex – could account not only for simple circles but also for the more complex early designs such as triple arrangements and quintuplets.



While the evolution of simple circles into more complex geometries and even into pictorial designs excluded the idea that crop circles could be landing-marks of extraterrestrial crafts, the idea that aliens of that same source could be behind the phenomena in the sense of delivering messages was and still is one of the most popular ideas.

As strange sounds have been described in connection with the appearance of crop circles, it has been discussed if sound could also be a key mechanism in the creation of authentic crop circles. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that sound frequencies can indeed produce intricate patterns of standing waves on liquids (so-called Cymatics) that again find their geometrical counterparts in some of the most complex crop circle designs.



In 1991 the claim went viral that two British pensioners, Doug & Dave, had made all the circles so far. In the aftermath, the headlines put out by the publishing newspaper "*Men Who Conned the World - How we made the circles and fooled the world*" can ironically be interpreted in different ways.

Beside human earthlings and space aliens another theory still ranks in the Top 5 of the most popular explanations for crop circles: Earth Energies that – some claim – can be detected with dowsing rods not only within the 'sacred landscapes' but also within crop circles.

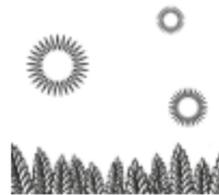


With the arrival of the more complex designs, the theory that crop circles could be the result of mating animals could not maintain.

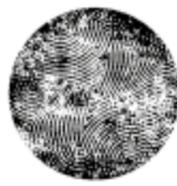


The 'Gaia' theory, a SOS call by our planet, as an explanation for the increase of crop circles both in numbers and complexity revived in the 1990s. Sad enough, it would make much sense...

Spherical light phenomena have always been reported from many sites with a concentrated crop circle activity. While it is still debated what function they have – are they actually making the formations or are they just a side-effect of the involved energies, there are witness-reports that describe such 'Balls of Light' in direction connection with the crop circle forming.



At about the same time biologist Rupert Sheldrake introduced the concept of 'morphic resonance' – mysterious telepathy-type interconnections between organisms and of collective memories within species – an idea that has been both popular and much criticized since. Could some crop circles be a not less mysterious expression of such processes?



Even if discussed less in public, the idea that crop circles could be a way of so-called 'transcommunication' by the spirits of the dead was followed by some parapsychologists.



Following the myth of Doug & Dave, the next generation of hoaxers took over, even outmatching their idols with intricate designs. But can they explain the whole complexity of the phenomenon?

While some complex crop circle geometries seem to exclude the idea that they could be the result of natural processes, comparing even some of the most complex crop circle designs with some of Nature's geometrical masterpieces can make one wonder if that really is so...



With more and more surveillance technology used by governments and the military, some think that crop circles are made by hidden agencies using space satellite laser or other science fiction devices to conduct training, environmental control or simply to study how people will react. While it can't be totally excluded as an option, at least the historical aspect of the phenomenon can not be explained by this idea.



Another theory does not ask for technical machinery and devices: Proponents of it are convinced that the human mind itself is powerful enough to manifest crop circles by some sort of conscious or unconscious form of telepathy and telekinesis.



If you find a crop circle on a satellite image by using google Earth, you know pretty well when it was shot. So the idea that 'time travelers' are using crop circles as 'time markers' might be not as far fetched as it sounds – at least if you believe in the concept of time traveling.

REMARKABLE CROP CIRCLE EVENTS

— thoughts in the fields? —

One hypothesis regarding the origin of crop circles, is that some of them could be the result of a ‘interaction’ between a person’s thoughts and the energy that forms the crop circle. There have been many reported cases of individuals who have ‘requested’ or ‘wished’ a crop formation be manifested for them and finding one has appeared. Some of such experiments seem to have been successful and may open a new way of understanding the principles at work.

The earliest recorded case of ‘wishing’ involves two early pioneers of crop circle research, engineer Colin Andrews and pilot Busty Taylor. In his book *Crop Circles Signs of Contact*, Andrews describes this event that took place on 25th August, 1986: One day, while flying over southern England with Busty Taylor, Busty com-

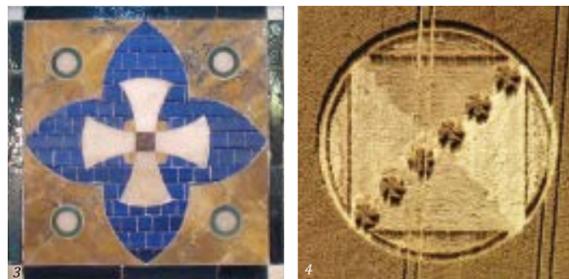


mented to me that he would love to someday find all the previous crop designs wrapped into one stunning new formation. The next day, just such a formation appeared, precisely below where the aircraft had been when Busty had expressed his wish 24 hours earlier (Andrews, 2003, p. 162).

Fig. 1: Crop circle pioneer Busty Taylor.
Fig. 2: Diagram of the formation Busty had wished for. © Diagram Andreas Müller

Another noteworthy example is related to St. Peters Church. On 1st August 2005, a group of Dutch crop circle researchers gathered for a dinner at the Black Horse pub in Cherhill. They decided to work together to try to manifest a crop circle with a pattern which had never previously been seen before in any crop circle. They chose a photo which had been taken earlier that day of a frieze in St. Peters Church in Marlborough. The picture showed an unusual design of a rosette-like cross which they took to be a Knights Templar symbol. The group all focused on the picture for a few minutes before they returned to their merrymaking and forgot all about it. Two days later Janet Ossebaard found a new formation near to Savernake Forest, east of Marlbor-

ough, containing a square with a diagonal line of six crosses which bore a close resemblance to the central parts of the cross in the photo.



The Dutch group consisted of Klaas and Dini van Egmond, Janet Ossebaard, Roeland and Nancy Beljon, Bert and Heather Janssen- Clewett Jachowski.

Fig. 3: The frieze in St. Peters Church in Marlborough (next to the Altar). Photo © Bert Janssen
Fig. 4: The crop circle near Savernake Forest of which the patterns resembled to the central part of the frieze in St. Peters Church. Photo © Bert Janssen, cropcirclesandmore.com



Fig. 5: Crop Circle with the ‘Origami’ design of 28th July 1999 at Beckhampton, half a mile west of Silbury Hill. Photo © Janet Ossebaard, graancirkelsite.nl

On 27th July 1999 a group of eleven Japanese researchers gathered at Silbury Hill to meditate on a special design they wanted to see. The group specifically requested the following things; the crop circle should appear the following night, to the West of the group’s position and its design should show a clear reference to the Japanese culture. The next morning - just as they wished for - a new crop circle formation was discovered in a field, to the West of the group’s position with a Japanese design. It was a depiction of Origami, the paper folding art, inherent in the Japanese culture and no crop circle had been seen like it before.

Another example of a possible mind-connection between the phenomenon and those who observe it happened in 2003, when a British crop circle geometry researcher recalled a dream in which he had hovered over East Field, looked down into it and saw a pyramid. Just a few days later an unfinished man-made crop circle was found in East Field (Fig. 7)– however with no obvious relation to a pyramid. When graphic artist Allan Brown completed a geometrical reconstruction of the circle, the formation would have given the impression of a pyramid looked upon from above (Fig. 8). The fact that both - the ‘dreaming researcher’ as well as the hoaxers - worked with crop circle geometries opens a fascinating possibility of unconscious interaction between them and/or with the phenomenon.



Fig. 7: Unfinished and failed attempt in East Field, 2nd August 2003
Photo © Lucy Pringle, Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk
Fig. 8: Geometrical reconstruction of the unfinished design and the ‘finished idea’ on paper.
Diagram © Allan Brown

REMARKABLE CROP CIRCLE EVENTS

— thoughts in the fields? —

On 14th June 2009, while waiting for a flight over the area to look out for new formations, Monique Klinkenbergh was lying on the grass thinking about a conversation she had the night before with a friend. They had been discussing the mysterious Nazca lines in Peru. While pondering on the origin of the Nazca lines she noticed a little dead bird lying on its back with the face turned to one side and decided to bury it under a tree. Shortly afterwards - when the pilot and Monique were flying above the area - she found a new crop circle formation in the shape of a Aztec bird, and more surprisingly, this birds head was turned to the exactly the same side as the little birds that she had found on the grass.

Fig. 9: Aztec Bird formation, Barbury Castle, Wiltshire, 14th June 2009
Photo © Monique Klinkenbergh, cropcircleaccess.com



On 1st July 2009 a crop circle appeared on top of Waden Hill, near Avebury (Fig. 10 and large Photo 1 right). However it's story started 14 days earlier on 17th June when a new crop circle was reported to researcher Charles Mallet.

Before an aerial photo could be taken, the formation was cut out by the farmer. Ground researchers managed to reconstruct the shape of the circle and they had discerned that it had been a seven-fold circle with twenty-eight sperm-like shapes inside. This was confirmed by a photo which was taken in the very early morning by the people who had discovered it (Fig. 11).

The very next morning - on 18th June - the defaced circle 'revived' with an addition in the shape of a 'tail' and a new 'frame' (Fig. 12). And the next morning - on 19th July - two extra tails were added (Fig. 13).

Twelve days later - on 1st July - a new discovered crop circle (Fig. 10 and Photo 1) turned out to be the replica of the defaced and revived circle. This time the farmer decided to leave the formation in the field.

Note: When a crop circle is mowed out by the farmer, it often happens that the design appears within a few days or weeks in the same field or in a field close by. Similar case is in the story below this one.



Fig. 11: The only known photo taken of the first formation.
Photo © Kristie Halvorsen



Fig. 12: The circle on the morning of 18th July 2009, added with a 'tail' and a new 'frame'. © Monique Klinkenbergh, cropcircleaccess.com



Fig. 13: The circle on the morning of 19th July 2009, with the addition of two more tails. © Monique Klinkenbergh, cropcircleaccess.com



Fig. 10: The repeated design of 1st July 2009, Waden Hill, near Avebury, Wiltshire. Photo © Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk

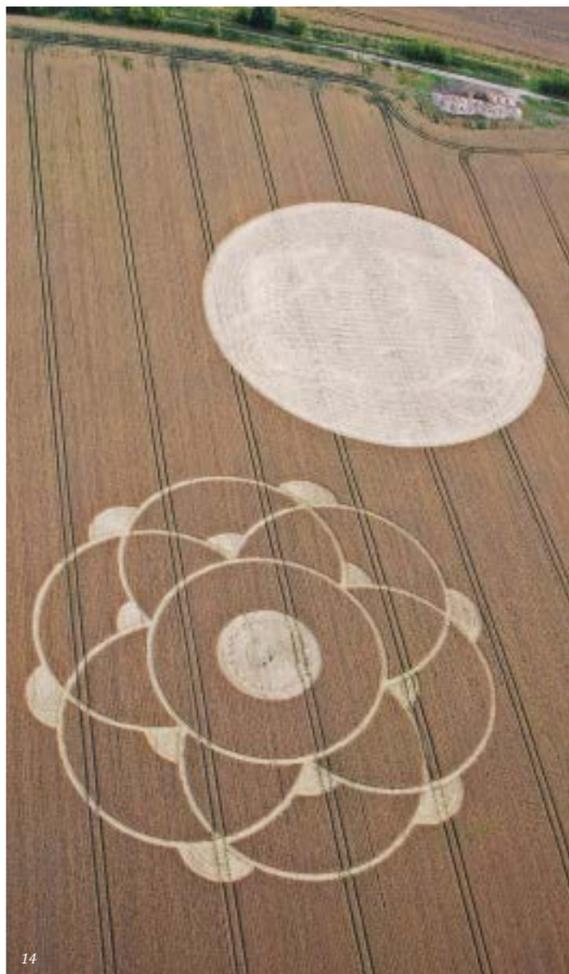
In July 2009 Norwegian researcher Eva-Marie Brekkestø visited a field at Winterbourne Bassett, Wiltshire in which the farmer had mowed out a new crop circle before it had been seen or photographed by researchers.

Researcher Shawn Randall visited Eva on the night she wished for a similar repetition. Eva telepathically asked the circle makers to revisit the Winterbourne Bassett mowed formation field and create another circle, possibly even to repeat the one the farmer had removed. Her meditation was brief and heartfelt.

The following day Eva got up early in the morning to hire a microlight plane to fly over the Winterbourne Bassett field and take photographs just in case the circle makers had 'heard' her request. Shortly afterwards Eva telephoned Shawn and to tell her she found a new formation at Winterbourne Bassett right next to the one mowed out.

'From the thesis by Shawn Randall for her master in Transformational Psychology at the University of Philosophical Research Los Angeles, California in 2009'

Fig. 14: The new crop circle at Winterbourne Bassett, Wiltshire of 31st July 2009. It appeared next to one that was mowed out the day before.
Photo © Eva-Marie Brekkestø, cropcirclesnorway.com



EFFECTS ON PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

— and electronic equipment —

It is not unusual that crop circles affect people on an emotional and spiritual level. This can happen by simply looking at a picture of a crop circle. Stronger emotions are experienced when people visit a formation. These emotions vary from intense happiness and physical wellbeing to unpleasant, feeling uncomfortable and even being sick.



Fig. 1: Crop Circle at Alton Priors, 11th July 1997 © Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk
In this crop circle several people reported cases of 'unexplained' healing.

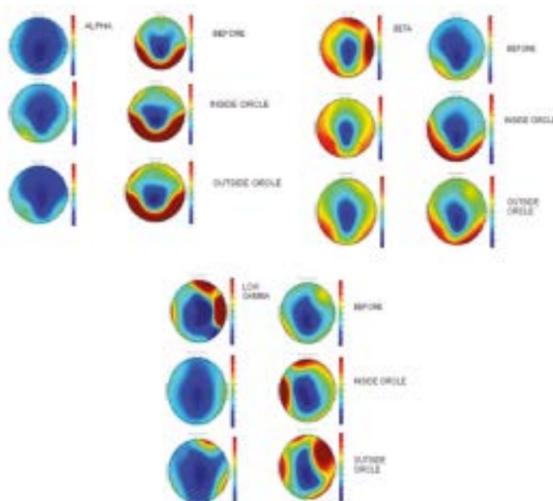


Crop Circle at West Kennet Longbarrow, Wiltshire, 4th May 1998 © Lucy Pringle, lucypringle.co.uk
In this crop circle the taperecorder of a Wiltshire reporter speeded up and finally stopped.

Some crop circle visitors say they have been cured of pains by being in formations or experienced a healing effect. A personal experience – the healing of shoulder injury while being in a crop circle - inspired researcher and crop circle photographer Lucy Pringle to experiment in the field of the body's reaction to crop circle energy. Since the early 1990's she has conducted extensive investigations into physiological effect that crop circles seem to have on the biological and neurochemical systems of people visiting crop circles. She is doing this with the cooperation specialized clinical physiologists using EEG-Scans (Fig. 3). Pringle has measured levels of hormones in people before, during and after visits to crop circles and reports that levels of thyroxin fall dramatically while her subjects are in crop circle, while levels of adrenaline and melatonin increase.

Not only humans but animals too seem to experience unusual energies inside crop circles. In some cases, Pringle found, dogs have been known to sit down and refuse to go in to the formations. Other times they have followed their owners but have showed clear signs of being unhappy, nervous or violent (Pringle 1999). I myself have heard similar stories by farmers about dogs reacting strangely whilst in a crop circle and stories about horses suddenly refusing to walk on while approaching a formation.

Fig. 3: Preliminary results of EEG-Scans of visitors, taken before, inside and immediately outside the crop circle formations. Diagrams © Lucy Pringle



Perhaps the strangest story comes from Dutch researcher Dr. Eltjo Haselhoff who had collected corn samples for research from a formation in Melick, The Netherlands 1997. All corn samples (both from inside and outside the circle) were clearly labeled.

A few weeks later when Haselhoff wanted to work with the samples to see if there was any difference in germination rate, he found out that the mice had eaten the corn but had not touched any of the corn taken from inside the crop circle (Haselhoff 2001).

It is not unusual for visitors or photographers to discover that their electronic equipment starts to behave strangely or refuses to work. Especially problems with batteries are common. Paul Vigay was one of the first to experience mobile telephone failure in a crop circle. As he walked around a crop circle in Alton Barnes in 1991, his mobile stopped working, but as soon as he held it an arm's length outside the formation, he obtained full signal strength. This happened each time he repeated the experiment. Many incidents are experienced and reported of sudden battery failure or camera's refuse to work while flying over crop circles. Also tape recorders have a habit of failing in crop circles. In May 1998 a Wiltshire reporter was interviewing a researcher inside a crop circle (Fig. 2) when the tape recorder started speeding up, going faster and faster until it stopped altogether.

Note: Further reading Lucy Pringle *Crop Circles, the Greatest Mystery of Modern Times*, Thorson 1999. Eva Marie Brekesto *Crop Circles, History, Research and Theories* Wessex Books (p.153-156)

Lucy Pringle's Questionnaire on Crop Circles and Health

A part of Pringle's research is the analysis of her 'Questionnaire on Crop Circles and Health', given to visitors of crop circles to ask for their physiological and mental observation and experiences before, during and after their visit. She has the largest database on this subject worldwide.

If you also have visited crop circles, experiences something out of the ordinary and if you want to share this observations, please feel free to fill out the provided questionnaire and drop it into the Questionnaire box.

Lucy Pringle is the pioneer researcher and known expert into the effects of electromagnetic fields on living systems. This includes the physiological and psychological effects reported by people after visiting or being in the vicinity of a crop formation. Also animal behaviour, remote effects, luminosities, mechanical failures and audio effects are part of her research.

Further reading about her research: lucypringle.co.uk/articles

RESEARCH INTO CROP CIRCLES

plant abnormalities

The BLT research Team Inc. has examined thousands of plants and soils from more than 200 crop circles in different countries. The samples, taken from both flattened and standing crop within crop circles were compared to plant and soil controls, taken at various distances outside the flattened areas. The physical changes found in these crop circle plants have all been determined to be statistically significant at the 95% level of confidence. Three papers reporting their crop circle research have been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. They present evidence for the evolvement of three different types of energy involved in the creation of crop circles; a heating agency; strong magnetic fields; unusual electrical pulses. The most important findings by BLT are summarized here.



Fig. 1: Enlarged plant stem nodes (both laterally and longitudinally), which are the fibrous 'knuckle-like' protuberances along the plant stem beneath the seed-head, compared with the normal control plants.

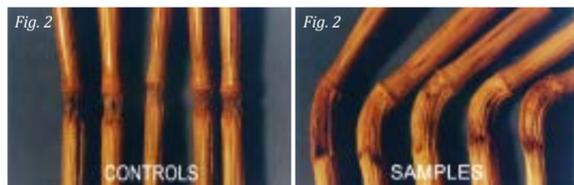


Fig. 2: In some crop formations the energy system involved is intense enough to cause bending of the apical (top) node (first node underneath the seed-head) as it does not get caused by natural plant recovery processes.



Fig. 4: Expulsion cavity in maize

Fig. 3: Bending of the plant stem nodes can occur at all nodes. usually this bending (if it is determined to be significant) is in the range of 45-90 degrees. however, this 'node bending' is one of the most mis-understood and mis-represented facts as people were judging all kinds of discovered bend nodes wrongly as this abnormality. Fact is: depending upon the growth-stage of the plant at the time it is downed and the species of crop, natural recovery processes - like phototropism (the plant's natural tendency to reorient itself to sunlight, after being flattened) and gravitropism (the plant's tendency to reorient itself to the earth's gravitational field) - begin to take effect within days. Only when bend nodes are found within 24-48 hrs. after a crop circle formed, and significant node bending (40°+) is observed, this effect can be called significant.



Fig. 5: Nodal expulsion cavities in wheat (top right) and barley (top left) compared with normal nodes from control plants (below).

Expulsion cavities (holes blown out at one or several of the plant nodes), these holes are thought to be one of the plant abnormalities caused by exposure to microwave radiation which - particularly in circles which occur in young crop - instantly turns the plant's internal moisture to steam. If the amount of moisture in the stem node is great enough, it can only escape in the lower nodes can by blowing holes out through the tough external fibres.

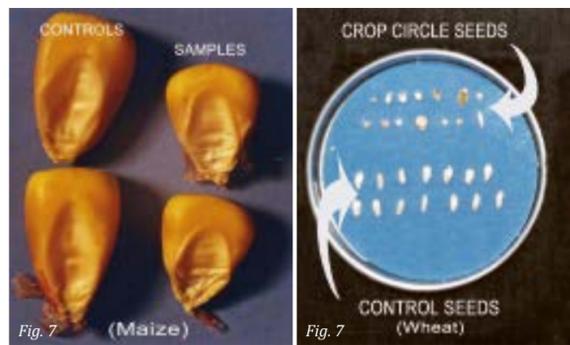


Fig. 7: When crop circles occur at a slightly later growth stage, in young crop where the seed is still forming, the developing embryo fails to grow normally. These seeds will be visually stunted (smaller), weigh less than their controls, and will exhibit reduced germination. Here, the reproductive capacity of the plant has been compromised.

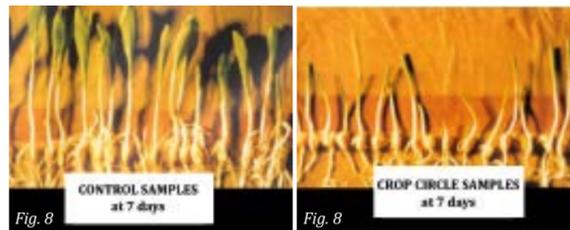


Fig. 8: Normal control maize seedling at 7 days (top) compared with the seedling from a crop circle formation (below) in the very same field also at 7 days. Showing reduced seedling growth-rate, which typically occurs if crop circles form in plants which are at an intermediate growth-stage.

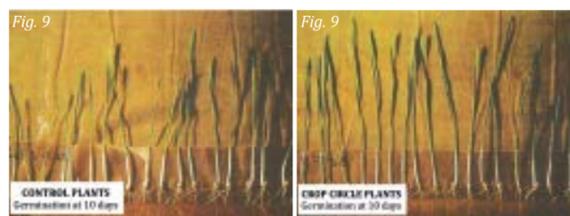


Fig. 9: When crop circles occur in mature plants with fully formed seeds, these seeds often exhibit a statistically significant massive increase in growth rate and vigor, with growth-rate up to five times the rate of the control seeds. Further, these seedlings can tolerate extreme stress (lack of water and/or light) for considerable periods of time without apparent harm.

Germination capability

Changes to the seeds and germination capability in crop circle plants have also been documented. They depend upon the species of crop involved, the growth phase of the plants at the time the crop circle occurs, the composition and intensity level of the energy system involved:



Fig. 6: If the crop circle occurs prior to anthesis (the flowering of the plant) and the development of the seed, the somatic (non-reproductive) tissue of the plant will continue to develop normally - but seed development ceases or is impaired. Normally-formed glumes have been found which are totally devoid of seeds.

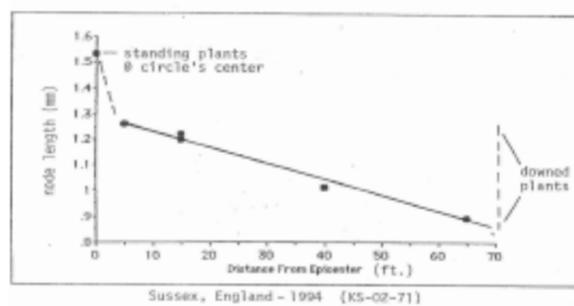
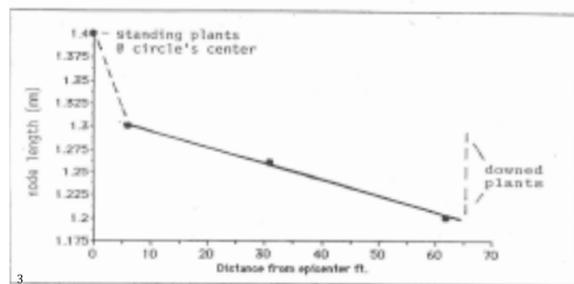
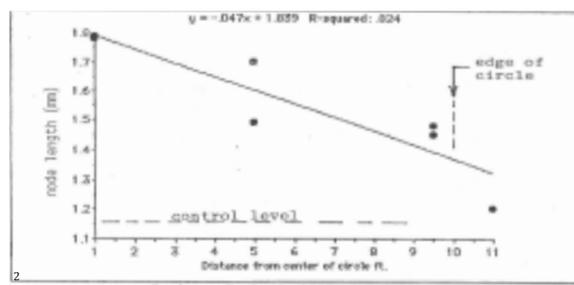
RESEARCH INTO CROP CIRCLES

plant abnormalities

Beer Lambert principle

A clear indicator of an electromagnetic (EM) nature - likely a microwave or microwave-like agency - of the energies which cause node-length change in crop circles, is the discovery that in some formations, node-length change decreases from the centre of the circle out to its edges in a very precise manner that agrees with a well-known law in physics: The 'Beer-Lambert Principle' describes the absorption of EM-energy by matter. In these cases the node-length increase was greatest at the centre of the circle, decreasing as a function of sampling distance away from the centre and toward the perimeter.

Example 1, below, is of a completely flattened circle; example 2 and 3 each had a standing central tuft.



The hard work of these field teams and their careful adherence to field-sampling protocols has contributed enormously to the on-going discoveries in the laboratory and the large data-base of factual information which now exists.

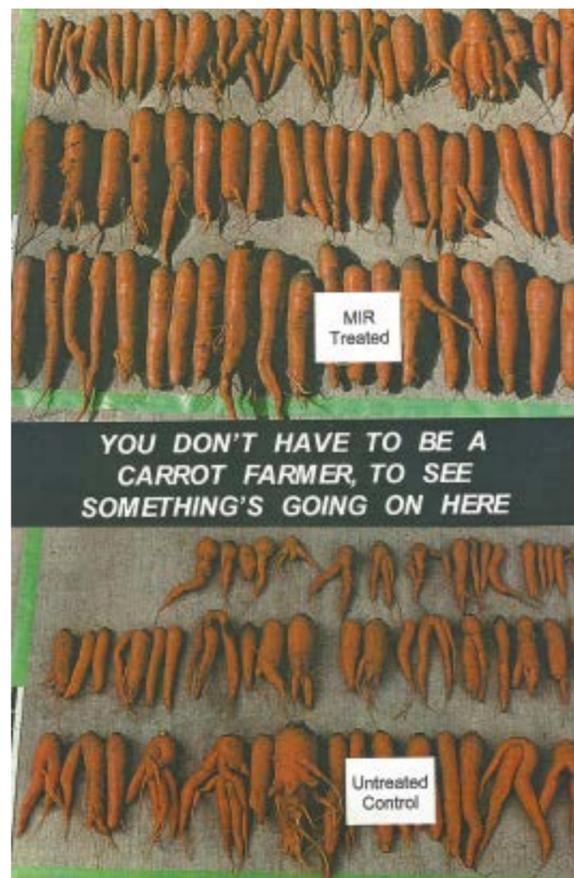


July, 1996 - W.C. Levensgood (& local TV cameraman) examining plants in Paulding, Ohio crop circle

Laboratory replication of crop circle plant changes

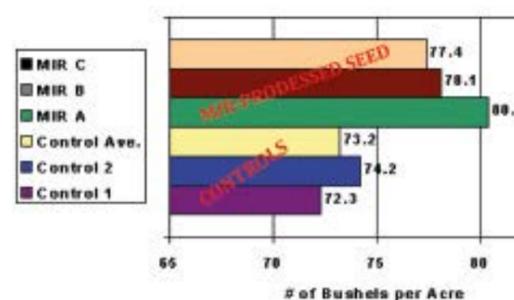
Apical 'node elongation' and 'expulsion cavities' have been reproduced in normal plants in the laboratory by placing them in a commercial microwave oven. The microwave radiation is heating up the moisture inside the plant stem which - as it turns to steam and expands - either stretches the more elastic fibres at the top of the plant, or blows holes in the tougher nodes farther down the plant stem.

The more positive plant changes - enhanced growth rate, increased yield and increased stress tolerance - observed in the laboratory in seedlings grown from crop circle plants which, have also been replicated in the laboratory. In 1998 W.C. Levensgood and John Burke of BLT obtained a patent (Patent #5740627) based on this observations that delivers unusual electrical pulses to normal seed. The so-called "MIR" process and Trademark "Stressguard"-equipment creates organized electron-ion avalanches which then form organized plasmas, to which seeds are exposed.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A CARROT FARMER, TO SEE SOMETHING'S GOING ON HERE

Carrot, Corn, tomato and many other seeds showed, after exposure to this process, increased seedling growth-rate and accelerated maturity, increased yield (25-35%), and a substantial improvement in ability to withstand typical plant "stressors" such as lack of water and/or sunlight. The ability to replicate in the laboratory many of the changes documented in crop circle plants is a strong indicator that the (microwave) energies utilized in the lab are also involved as causative mechanisms in the field. However, in the field the major question is: Where are these plasma systems originating, and why?



Graph showing increased yield consistently produced by seed treated with MIR "Stressguard" process.

RESEARCH INTO CROP CIRCLES

magnetic materials in soils

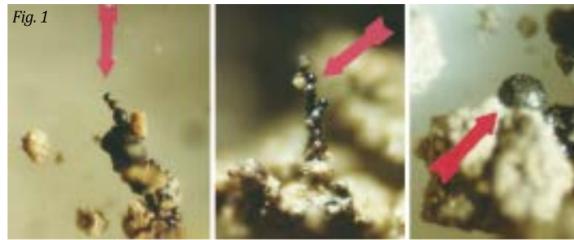


Fig. 1: Photomicrograph of 10-40 micron diameter, spherical, magnetic particles found in crop circle soils.

Beside the plants also soil sampling and analysis is part of BLTs work. As a result tiny 10-40 micron diameter spheres of unusually pure iron have been regularly found in crop circles soils. The fact that they are magnetized reveals they were formed in a magnetic field.

The dispersion of these very small, perfectly spherical, strongly magnetic particles in a linear deposition usually with the particle amounts increasing towards the

perimeters of the circles and larger spheres found clustered around (or just outside) the perimeters of circularly-shaped crop formations, suggesting that centrifugal force is distributing this material out towards the edges of the flattened areas.



Fig. 2: Soil samples from this ringed circle discovered in 1999 at Midale in Canada revealed a linear deposition of magnetic particles.

Fig. 3: Distribution of magnetic material in soils inside ringed circle increases linearly, from the circle centre (left) out to the edge (right) of formation.

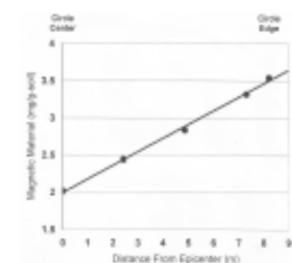
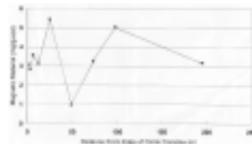


Fig. 4: The magnetic particle distribution found in the control soils - soil samples taken outside the circle - revealed an erratic distribution pattern.

Clay-mineral crystallization case study

After reasoning that certain expandable clays in the soils in crop circles might provide additional evidence of heating effects in the forming process, tests were conducted on crop circle soils and revealed a pronounced increase of the degree of crystallinity (greater ordering of the atoms) in clay minerals (illites/smectites) that is shown by the "Kubler Index" within the crop circles as compared to the controls.

Such an increase in degree of crystallization in clay minerals has not been documented in surface soils before. Changes are typically seen in sedimentary rock which has been exposed - for thousands of years - to both heat from the earth's core and the massive pressure of overlying rock.

Finally a seven-circle formation (overall length 191 ft.) at Edmonton in Canada discovered in September 1999, was selected for an in-depth study (See Fig. 5 and 6).



Fig. 5: Aerial composite of the Edmonton crop circle formation

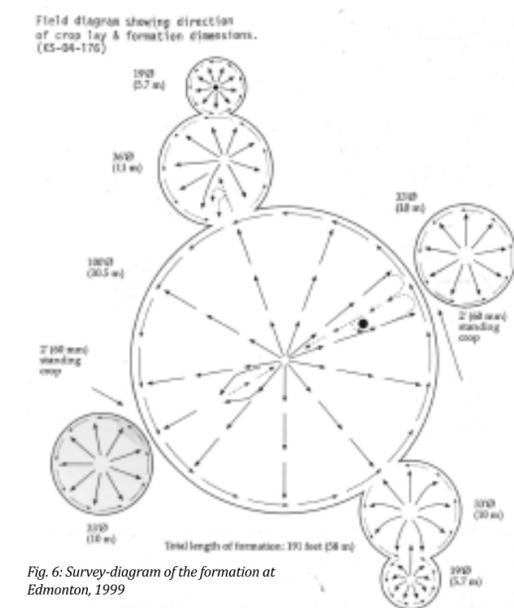


Fig. 6: Survey-diagram of the formation at Edmonton, 1999

Study Objectives

- To determine through x-ray diffraction examination (XRD) and measurement of the consequent Kubler Index (KI) whether changes in crystalline structure exist in clay minerals in surface soils inside crop circles.
- To determine the statistical significance of the KI data.
- To determine whether changes in crystallinity of the illite/smectites minerals in crop circle soils (changes in the KI) are correlated with apical node-length changes in crop circle plants sampled at the same sampling locations as the soils.
- To determine if the XRD/KI results rule out direct mechanical flattening of the crop circle plants.
- To determine if the XRD/KI results offer support for the hypothesis that an atmospheric plasma vortex system, emitting microwave radiation, is involved as a causative agent in the crop-circle formation process.

This information and material was kindly provided by Nancy Talbott, President of 'blt research team inc.'. please note that the information shown here is only a very small and condensed part of the whole work and the described findings. For more and detailed information on this work please visit: www.blresearch.com

Study Results

- A sharpening of the mica 001 peak [a decrease in the Kubler Index (KI) value, indicative of growth of the illite/mica crystals was observed in the crop circle soil samples, as compared with their controls.
- This increase in crystalline structure was found to be statistically significant at the 95% level of confidence.
- A correlation was found between this sharpening of the mica 001 peak (KI) and increases in plant stem node-length (NL), a correlation which is statistically significant at a greater than 99% level of confidence.
- The increase in the KI of the mica 001 peak cannot be attributed to mechanical flattening of the crop circle plants since (in the absence of any evidence of geologic pressure) temperatures of at least 6-800°C over several hours of exposure would be required to produce such increased crystal growth.
- Because the temperatures needed (a minimum of 6-800°C over a period of several hours) to cause mica crystal growth would have incinerated any plant material present at the site (as well as causing other measurable effects), and because we know of no energy which can selectively affect soils to one degree and plants at the same locations to another, we suggest that we may be observing a new - as yet undiscovered - energy source at work. It does appear that heat is involved, but more research is needed to determine its precise nature.

FARMERS AND CROP CIRCLES

— a complicated situation —

Wiltshire is the epicentre of the worldwide crop circle phenomenon and receives huge attention from the media and general public. Many TV-shows, documentaries and books have been produced on the subject. As a result of the ongoing publicity the region has been experiencing a dramatic rise in the numbers of visitors arriving from all over the world, who want to see a crop circle for themselves.

What many visitors are not aware of is that the appearance of a crop circle is often a big problem to the farmers whose land they appear on. Simply put, the fields in which the crop circles appear are situated on private land and belong to farmers whose livelihood depends on their crop production.



Photos © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples

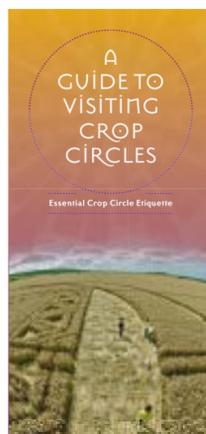
It is often very frustrating for farmers to have an 'unwanted' crop circle appear in one of their fields as this immediately results in a stream of 'uninvited' visitors who trample across and trespass their fields. It's been estimated that an average crop circle costs the farmer between £500 - £1,000 in lost income. Since the appearance of the famous *East Field Pictogram* 25 years ago the situation for local farmers has been growing steadily worse.

In August 2012, farmers in the Vale of Pewsey area of Wiltshire, where most crop circles appear, decided collectively to deny all access to the public by cutting out crop circle as soon as they appeared. Although this action resulted in a loss of crop yield, it successfully minimized damage to their fences and surrounding crops

and assured their privacy and peace of mind. While the farmers frustration and strong reaction is understandable, for crop circle researchers and the many national and international visitors, this development has led to great disappointment and a drop in the numbers of visitors to Wiltshire.

To address this impasse a 'Crop Circle Access Pass Scheme' was initiated in 2013 with the aim of compensating those farmers who were willing to allow access to their fields by giving something back to them to make up for their loss of revenue.

In 2015 this has evolved into the 'Crop Circle Donation Initiative' – please read the Banner for full details. In addition, members of the Crop Circle community have produced 'A Guide to Visiting Crop Circles', to help prospective visitors understand and respect the farmers wishes and know how to behave in their fields. Please take a copy of the 'Crop Circle Guide' if you are planning a visit.



The Farmers main concerns:

- Crop circles have a significant impact upon their business, causing an estimated loss of £500 -£1,000 in yields per crop circle and through damage to the surrounding area.
- Visitors to crop circles can be disruptive to the normal operation of the farm and the farmer's privacy.
- Crop circle visitors sometimes park vehicles in dangerous locations or block vital farm access.
- People can often become lost or disorientated and stray off the public rights-of-way.
- Farm security is an ongoing major issue, with thefts of valuable farm machinery becoming more common. There is the potential for thieves to say that they are looking for crop circles to avoid challenge when trespassing in areas close to valuable farm equipment, etc.
- Litter, which is a potential hazard to farm animals as well as farm machinery, has often been left on a farmer's property.
- In the past donation-boxes placed by farmers for people who are visiting crop circles have been broken into and/or stolen, even when the collections is taking place for charity.

Important:

Crop circles made without the permission of the landowner or farmer is regarded as vandalism by almost all farmers - and in English law is regarded as 'criminal damage'. Visiting a crop circle without the farmer's permission is trespassing. You will need his permission to enter his field. Do not assume permission is given when arriving at a circle. If there is a sign asking that you do not enter please respect it. If you are asked to leave a field by the farmer or one of his representatives please do so immediately and without question, discussion or argument. Keep in mind that you are on his land and in his crop.

Point of Interest

The question is: Who is responsible for the creation of the crop circles and why has nobody been capable of catching the circle-makers in the act? It is a remarkable fact that during the last 25 years – in which thousands of crop circles have been created – only once a hoaxer has been caught, charged and convicted - and only once a 'mysterious' event was captured on camera (Oliver's Castle 1996, see footage in digital photoframe at exhibition).

Crop circles, Culture & Heritage

While crop circles occur globally, Wiltshire proudly lies at the heart of the crop circle phenomenon and people travel from all over the globe annually to visit the circles and to enjoy in the mystery and beauty of the phenomenon. Crop circles are part of a global cultural heritage and attract popular interest for artistic, spiritual and scientific reasons. Over the years the crop circles have become a regular part of British culture and way of life, they have come



Photos © Steve Alexander, temporarytemples.co.uk

to be seen as sacred spaces in their own right - for many they carry the significance of a modern-day Avebury or Stonehenge. While it is understandable that for local farmers crop circles became an unwanted nuisance, for a great many the crop circles have a significance that goes beyond vandalism, or even art. For many, a visit to the anonymous and anomalous crop circles of Wiltshire is a modern day rite of passage.

Karen Alexander

2015 THE END OF AN ERA?

— for crop circles in Wiltshire —

The curators of the exhibition are looking for local eyewitness reports regarding crop circles or events before 1980. Please email to info@cropcircleaccess.com



Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de



Photo © Frank Laumen, visiblesigns.de

Many farming families in Wiltshire and other counties in the UK have stories, handed down through recent generations, of unexpected geometric patterns in their fields. Some felt the circles were a gift when they appeared on their land and some used to picnic and play in the circles when they were children. When research was started in the early 1980s most farmers were interested in the subject and usually allowed researchers to examine the circles on their property.

The first books on Crop Circles (1989) attracted a lot of media attention but the arrival of the *East Field Pictogram* (1990) sent shockwaves throughout the media and embedded crop circles in the mind of millions around the world. Along came many thousands of visitors to the area and research organizations multiplied in number.

In 1991, when the two self-confessed hoaxers Dough and Dave suddenly appeared on the scene (see topic Man-Made) confusion and doubt was created within the minds of many.

From that moment on the crop circle subject and research was ridiculed. Many farmers felt fooled and over the years became more and more irritated by the seemingly unstoppable work of well-known but clandestine hoaxers/claimants, their supporters and their PR machine.

Some farmers - concerned by the increasing numbers of 'unwanted' crop circles and their 'uninvited' visitors - started to cut or deface crop circles to protect their crops and their privacy. Some placed donation boxes in their fields to compensate their losses and to collect money for charity.

Due the rise of the internet and facebook, new reports of crop circles were quickly communicated without first informing the farmer and without asking per-



mission to enter their their field. When donation boxes were stolen - from 2009 onwards - the situation started to worsen. In 2012 it became clear there would be a real likelihood that farmers would cut out all formations and there would be nothing to visit and to research in the future years.

Consultation with Claire Perry (Member of Parliament) and meetings with local authorities, farmers, NFU representatives, Rural Crime Team of Wiltshire Constabulary, VisitWiltshire, crop circle researchers, tour and conference organizers led eventually to the development of the non-profit Crop Circle Access Pass Scheme; A save version of the donation box system set up to reimburse famers for their losses and to communicate farmer's wishes with respect to crop circle access management. The Crop Circle Access Website and Centre is now the official origin of information to the public about the latest crop circle formations that are accessible with the farmers permission.



In 2015 the Access Scheme will be taken to another level (see topic Farmers). All English farmers that have crop circles on their land and who make them accessible to the public can automatically become eligible for compensation via our access donation scheme. Donations and distributions to farmers are managed by the Farmers' Crop Circle Reimbursement Fund.

CROP CIRCLE ACCESS DONATION INITIATIVE

— *compensating farmers* —

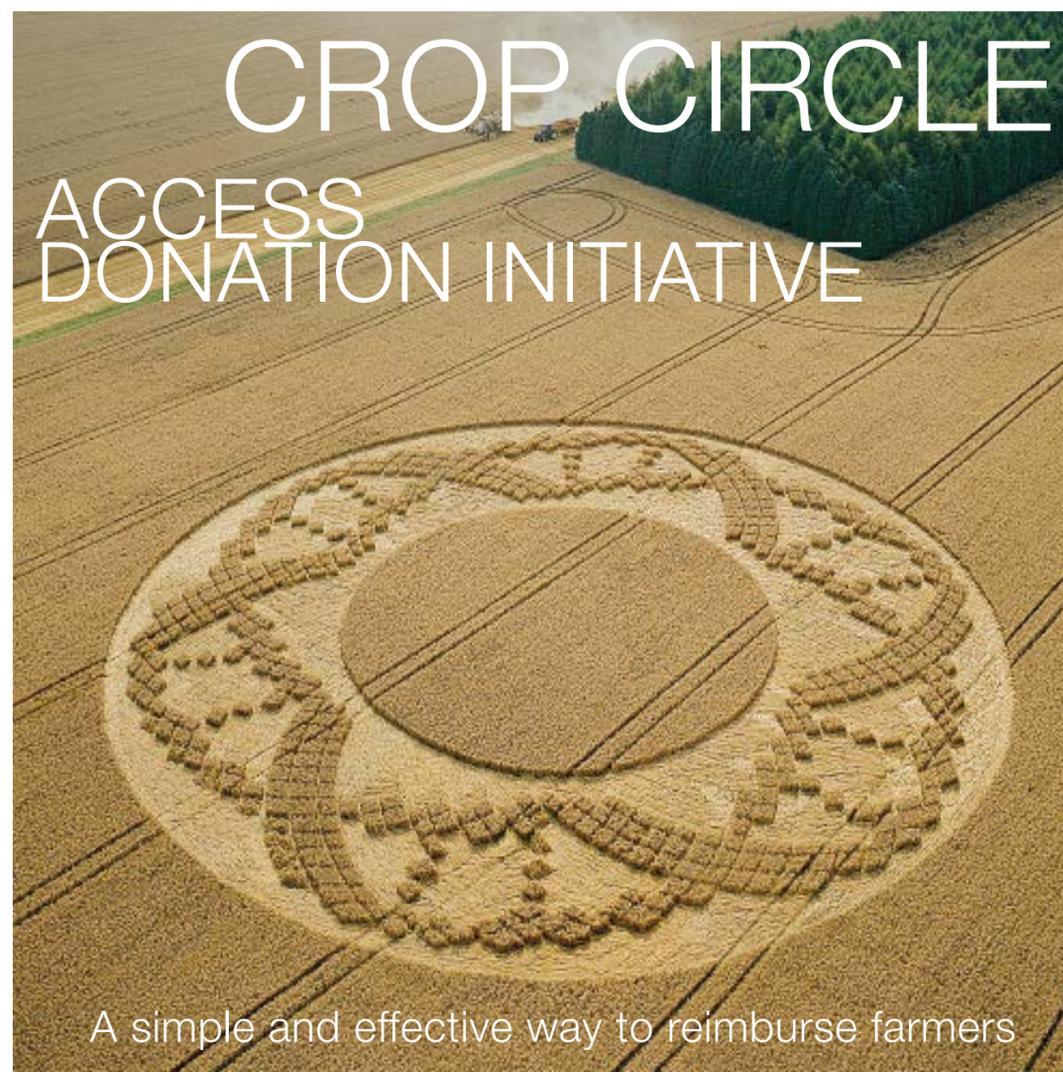
How does it work?

Simple... At our Crop Circle Exhibition in St. Peters Church in Marlborough, as well as other crop circle related locations, we will collect donations in special donation boxes from the visiting public, crop circle researchers and other interested parties in order to compensate the farming community for losses caused by the creation of crop circles.

At the end of the summer season we will have a clear documentation of all crop circles in England that farmers graciously allowed visitors access to. All of the donations collected over the preceding period will be evenly divided between these farmers who allowed access to crop circles and forwarded to them.

After all monies have been distributed to affected farmers, a statement of account will be made publicly showing how much was collected and to which farms the donations were forwarded to.

Our aim is to reimburse as many farmers in England as is possible for allowing access to their fields so the general public can visit and enjoy crop circles in the knowledge that the landowner will receive some compensation. The Farmers Crop Circle Reimbursement Fund is specifically set up for this, and is solely based on the principle of donations.



CROP CIRCLE
ACCESS
DONATION INITIATIVE

A simple and effective way to reimburse farmers

www.cropcircleaccess.com

2015

FARMERS'
CROP CIRCLE
REIMBURSEMENT
FUND