

Mystery of corn circles deepens

A TEAM of French scientists and corn circle enthusiasts visited Silbury Hill on Tuesday to conduct further research into the mysterious rings appearing in the area.

And Colin Andrews, who heads the Andover-based Circles Investigation Group, reported that four more circles had appeared in a field north of the monument on Monday. Last week there were just 28.

"It seems to be where the major activity is. And there have been a number of reports of orange lights being seen that seem to be going into the ground, but we don't know what that's all about," he said.

Currently scientists are working on the theory that the circles are formed through imbalances in the world's geo-magnetic field, brought on by the ozone layer crisis.

Another strange development in the mystery is the appearance of circles with tadpole-type tails. The first was found south of Winchester two weeks ago.

The most peculiar find to date, an infectious jelly-like substance found in 1985, will soon be returned to this country from Spain where it has been in deep freeze.

Baffled scientists at first thought it was some kind of sugar, but exhaustive tests have failed to identify it.

Those who first came into contact with it experienced severe breathing problems within hours of sniffing it.

● For the first time in 11 years tourists will be able to touch stones at Stonehenge.

Not those placed there thousands of years ago, but two of a similar age – a blue stone brought from south west Wales and a sarsen from the Marlborough Downs. The sarsen was donated by farmer Robin Swanton, of Westwoods, Lockeridge.

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