

# EARTHQUEST NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF ANDREW COLLINS AND QUESTCON05 Vol. 8 No. 1, Spring 2005

Welcome to another year in the world of mysteries, whether ancient or more modern. I write this as I listen in the background to the funeral of Pope John Paul II on television, making me realise once again the importance not only of great figures such as he was, but also the continuing significance to the world of high ritual in religion. The bizarre ceremonies that surround the burial of one pope and the election of another are quite extraordinary, and are highlighted in THE DA VINCI CODE author Dan Brown's book ANGELS AND DEMONS, now set to be another super-seller for him. Already this year we have seen the impact of the Asian tsunami, which struck one day after Christmas 2004, and a follow-up earthquake of great magnitude which occurred one day after Easter Day. All of this has led the conspiracists to speculate that all of this is God's wrath and another disaster will follow the next major Christian calendar event. Strange days we live in, but now on to more refreshing matters, beginning with the upcoming Green Stone Tour 05.

## GREEN STONE TOUR 2005

Yes, we have been threatening it for two years, and at last Graham Phillips and I can announce details of the inaugural Green Stone Tour, scheduled to coincide with the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, and the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Green Stone quest. Between Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2005, those successful applicants taking part can expect to visit Harvington Hall, near Kidderminster, home of the Packington family and the Green Stone itself; Coughton Hall, where exhibits from the Gunpowder Plot period can be seen; the Knights Hill Pool, where the Meonia Sword was found; the Swans Neck, the bend on the River Avon where the stone was found in a casket; and the ruined tower on Dunstall Common, the focus of a key dream involving the swan in the tower. You can expect to stay two nights in a three-star hotel, dating back to Tudor times, enjoy a banquet meal in Harvington and another in the hotel itself, and take part in paranormal experiments to further the Green Stone quest itself in the company of Graham and myself.

This is a one off opportunity, which is not scheduled to be repeated at any time soon. For full details, go immediately to [meonia.com](http://meonia.com), and decide for yourself whether you might want to take part in a little piece of history in the making.

(Right) The Swan's Neck, where the Green Stone was found back in 1979.



## QUESTCON05

Details have just been announced for QuestCon05, which is to take place on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> November at Cecil Sharpe House, Regents Park Road, London NW1. As you can see below, it has to be one of the most impressive line-ups in its nineteen year history. Taking centre stage at the Questing Conference will be anthropologist **Jeremy Narby**, author of the quite extraordinary, ground-breaking book THE COSMIC SERPENT (1995). In this he describes the remarkable wisdom of the native tribes of the Upper Amazon, which includes a vast pharmaceutical knowledge of over 50,000 plants. Asked where this knowledge had come from, they said the spirits of the plants themselves gave this information to the shamans. Confused, and not believing what he had heard, Narby lived with these native peoples for some while, and eventually consented to take part in a shamanic initiation in which he ingested the hallucinogenic brew ayahuasca, which was said to aid communication with the spirit world. As a miasma of psychedelic imagery overtook him, he

saw before him twin serpents, which appeared to unconsciously convey information concerning their greater significance. The experience confounded Narby, and led to years of study in the nature of human consciousness. Finally, he was forced to conclude that the twin serpents seen by him, and present in primitive and religious art worldwide, signified the consciousness of DNA. Furthermore, he felt sure that they represented the subtle communication taking place during shamanic states between our DNA and that of the plant world. If this were possible, then it made sense of the various tribes' immense pharmaceutical knowledge accumulated across countless generations.



Jeremy Narby.

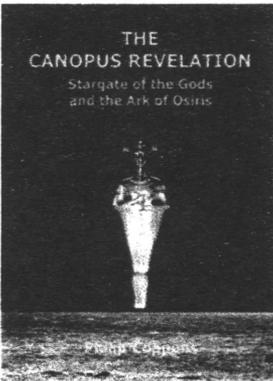
Since the publication of *THE COSMIC SERPENT*, which has revolutionised the way we perceive human consciousness, Narby has travelled the world speaking to shamans and scientists, further refining his thesis, and he will exclusively reveal his findings at QuestCon05, his only public appearance in the UK this year. Watch out also for Narby's new book *INTELLIGENCE IN NATURE* (Tarcher/Penguin, 2005), which furthers the theories voiced in *THE COSMIC SERPENT*.

Joining Jeremy Narby will be **Stan Gooch**, one of the world's foremost authorities on the obscure origins, technological advances and spiritual mindset of Neanderthal man. For some thirty years, he has attempted to demonstrate that Neanderthal were much smarter and more enlightened than anyone has ever given them credit, and more than this – they did not die out. Gooch believes they integrated with their neighbour Cro-Magnon man, to create us, *homo sapien sapiens*, something which has caused somewhat of an identity crisis through to the present day. Everything from political views, through to sexual attraction, palmistry and attitudes towards women can all be explained in terms of the clash of consciousness between the two different types of human being coming together as one.

Stan Gooch will be introduced by his long time friend and colleague **Colin Wilson**, who will also be presenting his own talk on the greater antiquity of human civilisation. Back in 2002, Colin's book *THE ATLANTIS BLUEPRINT* explored this topic, but so much has occurred since then that he has written a sequel entitled *ATLANTIS AND THE OLD ONES* (Inner Traditions/Bear and Company, 2005), and he intends revealing all at QuestCon05.

## THE CANOPUS REVELATION

Also on the bill is Belgian investigative journalist **Philip Coppens**, author of an important new book entitled *THE CANOPUS REVELATION* (Adventures Unlimited Press/Frontier Publishing, 2004). For over a decade the world of ancient mysteries has come to accept that the constellation of Orion, the hunter, played a powerful role in the development of Egypt's sky religion. It has been identified with the Egyptian star group known as Sahu, and is supposed to have determined the basic layout of the Giza monuments. Orion was seen as the god Osiris, Lord of death and resurrection, just as Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky, reflected the light of his sister-wife Isis. Orion's role in ancient Egypt has inspired many writers and researchers to investigate mythologies worldwide looking for and finding Orion correlations relating to ceremonial landscapes and ancient starlore, elevating this asterism to one of the highest importance among our earliest ancestors.



Yet now there is clear evidence that the modern interpretation of Egypt's cosmology hinges on false assumptions. Belgian writer and mythologist Philip Coppens' decade of research into this fascinating subject has led him to identify Osiris not with Sahu-Orion, but with Canopus, the Southern Polar star of the ancient Egyptians, the premise of *THE CANOPUS REVELATION*. To them it was quite literally a 'stargate of the Gods', and esoteric lore from various ancient and more modern sources demonstrates that Canopus, as the second brightest star in the night sky, has been important in many esoteric traditions, from the Graeco-Egyptian mystery schools to the shadowy realms of the Priory of Sion. Philip Coppens' presentation will make you rethink everything you thought you knew about Orion, Sirius, and the ancient minds behind the construction of the Great Pyramid. Not to be missed.

## MERLIN, AVALON AND THE NEW WORLD

Our old friend **Graham Phillips** will also return to QuestCon this year to deliver a presentation on his new and dynamic research concerning the life and final fate of Merlin the magician. He has uncovered persuasive evidence that Merlin was a British warrior and learned advisor to kings who lived and breathed during the last turbulent days of the Western Roman Empire. More incredibly, Graham has unearthed evidence to show that the original Avalon, where Merlin was said to have ended his days, was based on stories of another island, much further away. A 1,500-year-old saga called 'The Voyage of Merlin' tells how Merlin finally left Britain on a boat bound for a mysterious island, far across the Atlantic. Here he found a magical spring, guarded by two giant serpents, the waters of which were able to cure all ills and grant eternal youth. This story, long thought by historians to be fictitious, was, Graham believes, based on accounts of a real journey *to the New World*. Off the coast of Maine in New England, Graham has found an island that matches the descriptions given of the Isle of Avalon. Native American legends talk of a sacred spring that holds curative and life-preserving properties lying in a valley flanked by two rocky headlands known as the twin serpents. The full story, along with new evidence of Native American graves in Europe, and European graves in North America, will be given by Graham, in this his umpteenth presentation for QuestCon. His book on the subject, *MERLIN, AVALON AND THE NEW WORLD* (Inner Traditions/Bear and Co, 2005), will be available on the day.

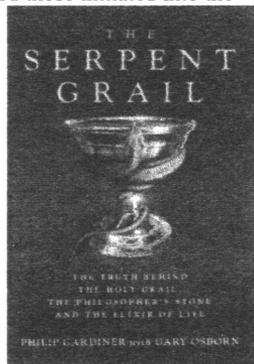
## THE SERPENT GRAIL

Next up at QuestCon05 will be two new faces. It is always a pleasure when young and enthusiastic researchers come up with revolutionary new theories, which change the way we think about life not only in the past, but in the present day as well. **Philip Gardiner**, author of the best-selling book *THE SHINING ONES* (2002), and mysteries writer **Gary Osborn**, have researched the extent and influence of the snake cult worldwide, both in ancient and more modern times. This revealed that the central rite of the cult involved snake venom being mixed with snake blood in a ceremonial vessel, which in European tradition came to be known as a 'grail'. Moreover, it can be shown that this powerful concoction was alluded to in ancient texts as the Elixir of Life, said to have contained healing properties that prolonged life.

Modern science is now investigating snake venom as a means of treating life-threatening diseases, and to prolong life. Indeed, it has been medically proven to enhance t-cell replication. Yet Gardiner and Osborn offer compelling evidence that ancient shamans masked any knowledge they held concerning snake venom as the elixir in myth and symbolism. Beyond this emerged an evocative tradition surrounding the shaman's embodiment of the snake, for absorbing the snake venom and blood mixture caused those initiated into the great mystery not only to achieve enlightenment but also to glisten in a manner which saw them being remembered as the Shining Ones.

Gardiner and Osborn show that the cult of the serpent was a worldwide phenomenon behind the genesis of world religions – including Christianity. They show also that Christ was a literary figure that sprang out of the concept of the perceived bloodline of the serpent cult. More traces of this universal current are expressed in the Naga snake cults of India and the Dragon descent of the Emperors of China, not to mention the serpent lineages among the royalty in South America and Europe.

The incredible findings of Gardiner and Osborn, which feature in their new book *THE SERPENT GRAIL* (Watkins, 2005), have dramatic repercussions for our understanding not only of shamanic experience and human consciousness, but also for the story of the Watchers and Nephilim as presented in the Book of Enoch. We advise no one to miss this fascinating and highly original presentation.



## TEMPLES OF EDEN

Then we come to my presentation for the day. In *FROM THE ASHES OF ANGELS* (1996) I revealed that the prime movers behind the Neolithic revolution in Western Asia were almost certainly those who are described as Watchers and Nephilim in the apocryphal Book of Enoch. These living beings, referred to as serpents and birdmen, are said to have revealed to human kind the arts and sciences of heaven, and to have taken mortal wives, who bore giant offspring known as Nephilim.

Only after the publication of *FROM THE ASHES OF ANGELS* did I come to hear about the discovery during the past two decades in southeast Turkey, which I identify as the land of Eden, of extensive megalithic structures and rectilinear sub-surface cult buildings. Some of them date back to 9000 BC, when the

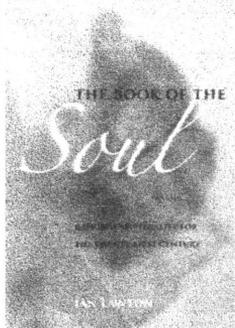
human race was still recovering from an ice age that had covered large areas of the Northern Hemisphere with ice fields a mile deep for up to 40,000 years. What is more, these remarkable structures – which constitute the oldest stone temples anywhere – were found to display a level of beauty and sophistication unequalled anywhere in the ancient world for thousands of years afterwards. Exquisite sculptures and carvings of birds, serpents and human heads, square-plan cult buildings, with terrazzo floors and astronomical alignments, and finely shaped standing stones - the precursors of megalithic structures worldwide – all suggested the presence locally of an advanced culture – moreover, one which had learned its technical skills thousands of years beforehand. Yet who exactly were they, and where had they learnt their trades?

In May 2004, I was finally allowed to inspect the megalithic temples of southeast Turkey, which are situated close to the ancient cities of Edessa (modern Sanli Urfa) and Harran - the latter once the home of the Sabian star-worshippers, whose living descendants, the angel-worshipping Yezidi tribes still inhabit the region today (see online at [andrewcollins.com](http://andrewcollins.com) for a full report). Exactly what I discovered on this fascinating tour, and where it took me next, will be revealed for the first time. Yet over and above all this has come unparalleled evidence that those who founded the Neolithic revolution were more technologically advanced than anyone has previously understood.

As you read these words, I will have begun writing the book which is to become the direct sequel to FROM THE ASHES OF ANGELS. For the moment it is a top secret project. All I can say is that when it is published next year people's views on the foundations of human belief in cosmic origins, and the nature of life and death, will alter dramatically. In addition to revealing the true mindset of those responsible for the spread of civilisation in the Near East, i.e. the so-called Watchers of my earlier books, it is set to contain revelations concerning the ground-sky relationship at Giza which is going to shatter existing views on the subject. Watch this space!

## THE BOOK OF THE SOUL

Also joining the bill for QuestCon05 is **Ian Lawton**, author of GIZA:THE TRUTH (co-authored with Chris Ogilvie-Herald) and GENESIS UNVEILED. More recently he has turned his attention to researching the subject of life after death, or more specifically the 'interlife', the period experienced by the human soul between one life and the next. A number of pioneering hypnotherapists have conducted research into this subject, but their findings have never before been properly collated and compared, and then analysed alongside comparable research into near-death experiences (NDEs). These provide a remarkably consistent view of what occurs after death – encountering the white light, meeting spiritual entities, undergoing life evaluation and assessment, and choosing your next life. The results of Ian's extensive research are given in his critically-acclaimed new book THE BOOK OF THE SOUL (see [ianlawton.com](http://ianlawton.com) for further details).



Since Palaeolithic times shamanic trances have been induced through the use of powerful hallucinogens. These trigger altered mental states that share a number of similarities with NDEs and interlife regressions. Under the assumption that such experiences have a universal validity, they can tell us much about the nature of shamanism, and in particular the shaman's ability to enter 'non-physical realms' to bring back knowledge and wisdom. It is this fascinating subject that Ian will elaborate on in his presentation for QuestCon05.

## TICKETS AND DETAILS

QuestCon, or the Questing Conference, is arguably the best revisionist history event in Britain today. It has survived the post-millennium slump in the field, and is now growing with strength each year. It is for this reason that I want to make sure I bring you quality speakers who have something important to say - something that will help progress our understanding of the way we think about the past, and the way it affects the future. So I do hope that you support it, either by attending on the day, or by letting others know what's happening this year. In addition to the presentations, there will be several stalls selling new and antiquarian books (so bring your cheque books), and other attractions, along with the opportunity to chat to some of the speakers face to face. Moreover, on the day after the conference, Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, my friend and colleague Caroline Wise will escort delegates around the streets and buildings of central London looking for evidence of goddess worship, both in the distant past and in more recent times.

Ticket prices remain the same as last year - £30 in advance, and £32 on the day, with 10 percent discount for block orders of four or more tickets. They are available online via our secure server, which has

proved a great success, or via the credit card hotline at Atlantis Bookshop, Museum Street, London WC1, telephone 020 7405 2120 (+44 20 7405 2120), (£1 booking fee is applicable) or by post from QuestCon05, PO Box 189, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1NF, UK. Cheques are to be made out to 'Questing Conference', and a stamped addressed envelope (SAE) should be enclosed.

#### OTHER NEWS

Online I have posted a full review of Channel Four's mammoth documentary 'The Real Da Vinci Code', narrated by Tony Robinson of 'TimeTeam' and 'Blackadder' fame and screened in February as part of the broadcaster's Weird Worlds series. I will not go into the specifics here, but my main question after watching this programme, which highlighted the claims made by Dan Brown's bestseller THE DA VINCI CODE, was why bother to spend two hours trashing a book that makes no bones about being a fictional novel, written using knowledge of alleged secret societies and real events in history? What motivation did the producers have to put together a documentary that systematically destroyed everything from the legend of the Grail to the mysteries of the Knights Templar, the origins of the Priory of Sion, the secrets of Roslyn Chapel and the bloodline of Christ? Even though I have to agree with them on various of their conclusions, I see no point in doing all this unless the motive is either envy or personal religious bias. By the way, the documentary featured Graham Phillips and the Marian Chalice, or Hawkstone Grail, as they referred to it. Read my review online at [andrewcollins.com](http://andrewcollins.com), and decide for yourself.

#### FORTEAN TIMES

I might say almost the same things about the scathing review of my book TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY GRAIL in FORTEAN TIMES (Issue No. 194, March 2005). Normally, I do not respond to reviews, because reviewers have their own opinions, and it is not worth countering such attacks, since you simply end up in a lengthy two-way debate where nobody wins. However, what reviewer Kevin McClure wrote not just about my book, but psychic questing in general, was simply out of order, and there was no way that I could let him get away with it without a serious response (which after two subsequent issues has not been published by FORTEAN TIMES). What it is that makes people believe that psychic questing is simply a joke made up for your entertainment? There is a very real tradition of psychic questing going back to antiquity, and in the Himalayas up until recent times there was a whole Tibetan Buddhist school dedicated to the retrieval of artefacts, known as *termas* ('hidden treasure'). This was especially so among the practitioners of Dzogchen, the mysterious wisdom teaching practised by the *Nyingma-pa* 'Red Hat' monastic communities. The *terma* tradition almost certainly originated among the pre-Buddhist *Bon-po* practitioners, whose lifestyle was entirely shamanistic in nature. I'd like to see Kevin McClure attempting to rubbish the treasure finding of fearful-looking lamas such as Namkhai Norbu, whose book THE CRYSTAL AND THE WAY OF LIGHT (Snow Lion Publications, 2000) describes him witnessing such activities in his native Tibet. Moreover, McClure should attempt to dismiss the wealth of evidence for the existence of *terma* hunting in HIDDEN TEACHINGS OF TIBET: AN EXPLANATION OF THE TERMA TRADITION OF TIBETAN BUDDHISM, by Tibetan writer Tulku Thondup Rinpoche (Wisdom Publications, 1997). As with the debunking of Dan Brown's THE DA VINCI CODE in the above mentioned documentary, personal motives come to mind. How can people hate something so venomously that they feel the necessity to trash it to bits? You can read my review online, and decide for yourself.

For your information, hardback copies of TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY GRAIL are still available, although if you want one I should go about securing yours pretty soon. It is to be replaced by a trade paperback shortly, and will be followed next year by a mass market paperback.

#### OBITUARY

I was sad to hear about the sudden death in September 2004 of Andrew Chumbley, an Essex-based author, magician and sorcerer, who lost his life following a severe asthma attack on what was to have been his 37th birthday. He attended Earthquest meetings in Leigh-on-Sea during the late 1980s, and although we never always saw eye to eye, his knowledge of ancient magical systems, sorcery and books of magic was second to none, providing an inspiration for budding witches and occultists worldwide. He wrote his own grimoires (including AZOETIA: A GRIMOIRE OF THE SABBATIC CRAFT), a rare gift, and, more controversially, claimed to have made contact with surviving members of an age-old group of Essex cunning folk, which led him to found his own magical organisation known as the *Cultus Sabbatai*. Knowledge of Andrew's death came on the day of the launch of TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY GRAIL, leading me to say a few words to the assembled crowd on the fragility of life. He will be sorely missed by family, friends and occultists worldwide.

## TUTANKHAMUN NOT MURDERED – IT'S OFFICIAL

Tutankhamun was not murdered – that's the official line from Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities following a new examination of the recent CT scan survey of his remains. In contrast, there is now mounting evidence that the boy king died following a fall, a theory championed by Chris Ogilvie-Herald and myself in our book *TUTANKHAMUN: THE EXODUS CONSPIRACY* (Virgin Books, 2002).

In January, an all-Egyptian team of pathologists, radiologists and anatomists, overseen by Dr. Madiha Khattab, Dean of Medicine at Cairo University, removed the pharaoh's skeleton from its stone sarcophagus in the Valley of the Kings, and used ultra-modern CT scan equipment to take a total of 1,700 pictures.

In the presence of three independent foreign observers, one from Switzerland and two from Italy, the images were scrutinised at length by the all-Egyptian team. Although there were differences of opinion among the scientists, they all agreed on one thing: Tutankhamun did not die from a blow to the head, a theory popularised by those who believe he was murdered, since no evidence of any cranial fractures were found, or indeed any evidence of foul play.

A careful examination of the skull's interior area did reveal the presence of two loose bone fragments, although these came not from the cranium as is believed by some, but from the neck (more specifically from the fractured cervical vertebra and foramen magnum). They are thought to have been dislodged by the embalmers during the mummification process, most probably when a second entrance was sought in which to



Zahi Hawass oversees Tutankhamun's CT scan

pour the embalming fluid (the nasal cavity was also used for this purpose). In addition to this, no trace of the aberration, or 'dark area', first noted at the back of the skull following an x-ray examination of the remains by Professor Ronald Harrison of Liverpool University back in 1968, was seen, further confirming that Tutankhamun did not suffer a blow to the head, or suffer any kind of brain haemorrhage as a result of it. Tutankhamun's skeleton - which reveals that he was slightly built - indicates also that in life he was well fed, healthy and suffered no major childhood malnutrition or infectious diseases.

Another rumour dismissed by the recent CT scan survey is that the boy king suffered from a crippling medical condition. Most favoured is Klippel-Feil syndrome, which results from the congenital fusion of any two of the seven cervical (neck) vertebrae, and will eventually lead to various symptoms of illness including head deformation. It is a theory championed by supporters of the murder solution to Tutankhamun's demise, who felt they had recognised its presence in the boy king from artistic representations of him and his family, along with the presence in the tomb of some 130 walking sticks, and a close examination of the 1968 x-rays. In their opinion, a disorder of this type would have caused the young pharaoh to lose grip of the country, resulting in his death at the hands of someone in the royal court.

However, the CT scan found no evidence that the king had a curved spine, even though the upper vertebrae did seem to be out of place. This has been put down to heavy handling of the remains during the autopsy in 1925. Moreover, the Egyptian scientists noted that although the king's cranium *is* slightly elongated, it is typical of skulls belonging to members of the same family group, who ruled Egypt at the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty, c. 1400-1320 BC.

Despite these findings, advocates of the murder hypothesis, which include Zahi Hawass, Director General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, now consider it possible that because the age in which Tutankhamun lived was plagued by religious turmoil and political intrigue the young king could have been poisoned.

Yet with speculations concerning Tutankhamun's murder fast fading, another mystery raises its head. The pathologists who examined the CT scan results determined that the king's thigh bone and ribcage were both broken. Since embalming material had seeped inside the thigh wound, and there is no obvious evidence that the bones had started to heal, the Egyptian team admit it is possible that these fractures occurred shortly before death.

On learning this news, Robert Connolly, Senior Lecturer in Physical Anthropology at Liverpool University's Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Biology, re-examined the original x-rays from 1968, and admitted that if the breakages did not occur when the body was autopsied in 1925, then it is clear evidence that the young pharaoh might have suffered an accident shortly before death.

In his opinion: 'It's possible Tutankhamun's thigh injury could have been sustained in an accident. There are remarkable similarities between his ribcage injuries and those of a British mummy - St Bees Man in Cumbria - who sustained fatal damage to his chest in a jousting accident. It is therefore highly possible that the king could have died as a result of a chariot or sporting accident, or even at war.'

In **TUTANKHAMUN: THE EXODUS CONSPIRACY**, Chris and I find support for the idea that the young king fell from a horse or chariot, leading eventually to his death, in a most unlikely source - the Jewish Talmud, the collected folklore of the Jews. Here an unnamed Egyptian pharaoh, equated with the biblical Exodus and identified by the authors as Tutankhamun, is said to have sustained injuries after a fall, and died shortly afterwards.

According to the account, as the king's steed passed into a narrow place on the borders of Egypt, other horses, running rapidly through the pass, 'pressed upon each other until the king's horse fell while he sat upon it, and when it fell, the chariot turned over on his face, and also the horse lay upon him. The king's flesh was torn from him... [and his] servants carried him upon their shoulders ... and placed him on his bed. He knew that his end was come to die, and the queen Alfar'anit and his nobles gathered about his bed, and they wept a great weeping with him.'

We believe that this account from the Talmud is consistent with the injuries sustained by Tutankhamun shortly before his death. What is more, if correct, it places the ancestors of the Jewish people in Egypt at the time of Tutankhamun's reign, and indicates that they might have preserved a tradition concerning his untimely death for over 3,300 years. Should this theory prove correct, then it reignites the debate over the identity of the Pharaoh of the Exodus, an event that almost certainly occurred around the time of Tutankhamun's reign.

The CT scan survey of Tutankhamun is to feature in the exhibition 'Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs', which is about to open in the United States and hits Britain in the autumn of 2007.

Thanks to Chris for providing source links on this story, which are cited online at [andrewcollins.com](http://andrewcollins.com).

#### SAVING THORNBOROUGH HENGE MONUMENT

Finally, how would you like to help save an important prehistoric monument in North Yorkshire from oblivion at the hands of our favourite construction company Tarmac? Over 36 times the size of Stonehenge, this triple henge complex is unique to the British Isles, and forms part of a wider ceremonial landscape. The whole area is being wrecked and left flooded and robbed, and worse still it is being used as a landfill site. A battle is now underway to try and prevent Tarmac from quarrying right up to the edge of the Thornborough monuments, and thus ruining the setting completely. Campaigning groups such as Heritage Action and TimeWatch are trying to get as many people as possible to write letters of protest in the hope of influencing any decisions made with respect to the site's long-term future.

George Chaplin, newly elected chairman of TimeWatch has said: 'When we first started campaigning to protect Thornborough from destruction there were only a few of us so we were extremely pleased to find a supportive home within the national organisation Heritage Action. Our campaign has now grown so large within Heritage Action that it makes sense to launch it as a completely new front in the struggle to oppose the plans of Tarmac. We shall now adopt a wider remit and address all impacts, not just the potential disaster that is threatening the archaeology'. For those interested, a writer's objection kit for sending a letter to Environmental Services, Planning and Countryside Unit, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AH, is available at [heritageaction.org](http://heritageaction.org). In addition to this, we suggest going to the help page of the Friends of Thornborough website ([friendsofthornborough.org.uk](http://friendsofthornborough.org.uk)), where more information on what you can do to make a difference is to be found. Archaeologists have proposed that, as at Giza, the 5000-year old triple henge site reflects a ground-sky correlation with Orion's belt, a theory outlined at <http://thornborough.ncl.ac.uk>. Thanks go out to English Heritage for permission to use the aerial shot of the Thornborough monuments seen here.



REGULAR MEETINGS

NORTHERN EARTH, one of the world's oldest journals of the earth mysteries and neo-antiquarianism (A year's subscription from just £7.50 – go to **northernearth.co.uk**), has provided me with a listing of regular meetings taking place in the UK. So for those who might wish to go along to an event of this kind, I include it here with their thanks.

**ABC Quarry House, Leeds.** Alan spiritsong@synergynet.co.uk 0113 286 9210

**Cornish Earth Mysteries Group (CEMG).** Last Thurs of month, 7.30 Acorn Theatre, Penzance. £2.50. (01209) 831 519. www.meynmamvro.co.uk/earth.htm

**Dorset Earth Mysteries** Peter Knight stoneseeker@waitrose.com, 01258 474658; www.stoneseeker.net

**E Midlands Dowsing Group.** 2nd Fri. in month, 7.30. Bramcote Memorial Hall, Nottingham

**Glastonbury Earth Mysteries Group (GEM).** 2nd Weds of month. 7.30pm Library of Avalon. £1.50.

Summer trips. ffi - sig@geomancy.org, 01458 835818.

**N & S Yorkshire Ancient Egyptian Groups** Last Weds/ 3rd Thurs of month resp.

**London Earth Mysteries Circle.** 2/4th Tues in month, 7 pm. At Diorama Centre, 34 Osnaurgh St, NW1 £3.50 www.lcmc.ic24.net/

**Megalithic Meets** FFD Tim Prevett http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MegMeets/ e-mail

shropstones@tiscali.co.uk. *These walks are organised free by friends for friends and any interested folk. Any attending are responsible for themselves, and any juniors in their care; a disclaimer may be asked to be signed to this effect.*

**Merseyside Anomalies Research Association** Meetings last Fri.of month. John Hall (0151) 475 7935 j.l.hall@livjm.ac.uk

**Norwich E.M. Group** Alt. Mons. 7.45 Hog in Armour, St Benedict's St. jak@cwcom.net

**Research Into Lost Knowledge Organisation (RILKO).** Talks, 7.15, last Fri of month, 41 Queens Gate, London SW7. £7

**TEMS, Travel & Earth Mysteries Society (Surrey/Mx).** Last Sun. of month. 020 8544 9478; (020)-8979-3148

**Treadwell's** 34 Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London. 7.15. £5. info@treadwells-london.com. www.treadwells-london.com

**Wessex Research Group (WRG),** Sherborne, Dorset, fortnightly, 7.15 Mons. (01935) 812353; Totnes, Devon (01803) 868744); Frome, Somerset (01373) 466391

**West Yorkshire Archaeology Service (WYAS).** All guided walks free. FFI Dave Weldrake, walk leader; 01924 306809, dweldrake@wyjs.org.uk.

**Libra Aries Books,** 9 The Broadway, Mill Road, Cambridge. (01223) 412 411. Sunday tea parties - weekly series of free talks, discussions & workshops. 10.30-6 pm. Talks at c.4pm

-----  
**BOOK ORDER FORM: Signed copies available of Andrew Collins' books.**

Complete form and send with cheque payable to 'Andrew Collins' to Andrew Collins, PO Box 189, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1NF (postage and packing are included in the prices given below).

- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of ALIEN ENERGY, Eagle Wing Books, paperback,  
2003, 248 pp, @ £12 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of FROM THE ASHES OF ANGELS, Signet, paperback,  
1997, 448 pp, @ £7.99 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of GODS OF EDEN, Headline, paperback,  
1999, 464 pp, @ £8.99 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of GATEWAY TO ATLANTIS, Headline, paperback,  
2001, 436 pp, @ £7.99 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of TUTANKHAMUN: THE EXODUS CONSPIRACY  
Virgin, paperback, 2003, 412 pp, @ £10.99 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY GRAIL  
Virgin, hardback, 2004, 260 pp, @ £20 each UK only £ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

To whom book(s) to be signed: \_\_\_\_\_