



Aliens On Earth.com

Resources for those who are stranded here



[UFOs](#) | [Paranormal](#) | [Area 51](#)
[People](#) | [Places](#) | [Random](#)
[Top 100](#) | [What's New](#)
[Catalog](#) | [New Books](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Our Bookstore
is [OPEN](#)

[Mothership](#) -> Here

UFO UpDates Mailing List

UpDate: Crop Circles: A Plea For Sanity

From: **Jenny Randles** <nufon@currantbun.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 2000 23:19:07 +0100
Fwd Date: Fri, 11 Aug 2000 05:50:47 -0400
Subject: UpDate: Crop Circles: A Plea For Sanity

Crop Circles: A plea for sanity

This week the British media, via several TV reports, national news, major newspaper articles and ongoing hype have revived the long flagging field of crop circle research through coverage that puts this 'mystery' into the context of UFOs and aliens.

Indeed in the Daily Mail (10 August 2000) the noted author Colin Wilson pens an article 'Why I still believe that aliens created crop circles' and includes with it an image of a 'grey' being from an alien abduction book to cement the relationship in the public imagination.

UFOIN (the UFO Investigators Network) has in its team many of the pioneer researchers within this field. Chris Rutkowski, who investigated Canadian circles long before they appeared in the UK, Ian Mrzyglod and Marty Moffat, from the only UFO investigation team to study the earliest discovered British circles (1980) and Paul Fuller and Jenny Randles, who produced the first ever circle evidence publication and (with Mike Wootten - our web site designer) arranged the first conference in 1985. They also co-authored the book 'Crop Circles: A Mystery Solved' in 1990 and were the only UFOlogists invited to attend the one scientific conference ever held to debate circles (in Oxford) and that involved scientists from Europe, Asia and America (its proceedings being published in 1991)

Given this extensive collective background and a probably unique track record of association UFOIN has decided to issue a statement on the matter.

We believe that crop circles are the result of two primary causes. The vast majority - and virtually all circles being reported today - are hoaxes. A very few (mostly simple circles; although occasionally these are found in small groupings) result from a combination of largely well understood atmospheric phenomena.

There is no mystery, no strange forces, no aliens, no spaceships and no secret messages trying to persuade the earth to mend its wicked ways. The intergalactic cavalry are not coming.

Such claims are wishful thinking that evaporate once the evidence is properly evaluated with objectivity.

These are the main reasons why we hold to this opinion after over 20 years of research.

1: Complex, geometric shapes and images only began to appear in

crop fields AFTER the onset of media interest in the early/mid 1980s. They clearly played to the gallery and were the consequence of an intelligence at work.

2: The choice is between an 'alien' intelligence and a 'human' one. We know that humans exist. We know that they love playing tricks. Aliens are largely speculative and their presence on earth controversial at best. As such good evidence is required to argue that aliens - not humans - are creating circles. There is no such evidence (not even bad evidence).

3: Humans, on the other hand, have frequently displayed a talent for faking convincing crop circles. A body called Circlemakers have proven their expertise and been filmed creating complex formations that defied the verdict of the so called experts. The first hoax exposed was back in 1983 when one national newspaper set out to hoodwink another by paying a farmer to fake circles. Since then armies of hoaxers, skeptics, fantacists and jokers have deliberately played games with the media, the crop circle fans and engaged in a battle of wills upping the ante with ever more amazing designs. It has become a challenge that is made worthwhile every time silly media stories take their circles seriously.

4: Other motives also apply. There is a tourist potential to having lots of fine circles in your area every summer. Whilst most farmers are honest and have their land wrecked by wanton hoaxers and unwelcome visitors, some have recognised that circles on their land can be an asset. It is possible to make more money from charging viewing fees than by harvesting crop - especially if it has been trampled on by circle spotters constantly on the prowl for new prey.

5: There is ample evidence for human association with circles. Circles appearing near locations such as 'Fakenham' and 'Little Green' (where the image that 'Little Green Men' did it was the obvious intent) are some examples. When English words were spelt out in a field by a hoaxer they were taken seriously by many despite a basic error made by the trickster. The message read 'We are not alone'. Any aliens, of course, would have written 'You are not alone'.

6: However, we also believe that a few circles each year (unfortunately swamped by the circus that goes on) are the result of natural forces. Every indication from study of these suggests that they result from atmospheric forces akin to fairweather whirlwinds and electrostatic fields. Their precise nature has been studied by meteorologists and physicists and attempts to recreate them in the lab have been partially successful. It has even been possible to predict other environments in which to find circles from their physical characteristics. They have in this way been discovered in snow, sand, and even dust within underground railway tunnels.

7: Although the complex (human engineered) circles are a product of recent times simple circles are not. The easiest way to test the 'natural phenomenon' hypothesis is to demonstrate its universal and sustained existence. If aliens were sending us a message they would surely not do so unaltered for centuries. If simple circles result from atmospheric forces then on the other hand they would have always been reported. They have been. We have records of circles as far back as the 16th century. There were reports of them in science journals around the world - for example a case from near Guildford reported by the august journal Nature in 1880. They have featured in other prestigious publications such as New Scientist and these references start long before crop circles or even UFOs were discussed.

8: In addition there is a long track record of eyewitness observations to the creation of a crop circle. These stem from first hand reports dating back to at least the early 20th century. In virtually every case simple circles are all that has been observed under formation. In no case was anything like an alien craft described. Instead these observations are consistent with the premise that atmospheric forces produced the circles.

9: As with all real natural phenomena (such as mirages or comets) circles have even generated mythology. There is a woodcut describing the formation of circles in Hertfordshire in the 17th century and ascribed to the work of the devil. One of

our team has even spent time talking to aborigines in Queensland where reed bed circles have been reported for centuries and where they were photographed 20 years before the media interest in circles in the UK even began.

It is our opinion that the crop circle phenomenon has been extremely well studied, its nature has been largely defined through scientific methods and the latest revival of it is nonsensical, inappropriate and completely unnecessary - especially given its baseless association with alien imagery.

As such the evidence needs to be seen in context.

We simply wanted you to have the benefit of our collective experience to see why we do not believe that crop circles have anything to do with aliens and why, in our opinion, this is now a solved mystery.

UFOIN

[[Next Message](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [This Day's Messages](#)]
[[This Month's Index](#) | [UFO UpDates Main Index](#) | [MUFON Ontario](#)]

UFO UpDates - Toronto - updates@globalserve.net
Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

A Hand-Operated E-Mail Subscription Service for the Study of UFO Related Phenomena.
To subscribe please send your first and last name to updates@globalserve.net
Message submissions should be sent to the same address.

[[UFO Topics](#) | [People](#) | [Ufomind What's New](#) | [Ufomind Top Level](#)]

To find this message again in the future...
Link it to the appropriate [Ufologist](#) or [UFO Topic](#) page.

Archived as a public service by [Area 51 Research Center](#) which is not responsible for content.
Software by Glenn Campbell. Technical contact: webmaster@ufomind.com

Financial support for this web server is provided by the [Research Center Catalog](#).