

Climate Science Newsletters 2012

Friends of Science Society

By: Albert Jacobs

CliSci # 119 2012-12-24

The myth of Arctic temperature amplification

The Arctic area is supposed to show a more clearly expressed record of faster Global Warming than the rest of the planet. In a [paper in GRL by C. Franzke](#) it is shown that only 17 out of 109 considered stations have trends that can not be explained from three null models. Those stations were mainly in Scandinavia.

What increase in Sea Level rise ?

One thing is certain: World Sea Levels don't rise half as fast as Stefan Rahmstorf (Potsdam Institute - PIK) would want you (and the lawmakers) to believe. In a [GWPF article](#) David Whitehouse clears up the differences between the competing assessments, well linked to original studies.

A positive rate of increase in sea level rise, so much promoted by the IPCC in line with its predicted accelerated warming and publicised in a [World Bank publication](#) has instead actually been negative.

A [twenty year chart](#) shows a rate reduction occurring about halfway through the period. (Jason/TOPEX data available from [Colorado](#) graphed by Klaus-Eckhart Puls at [EIKE](#), the latter with an extensive article on the subject). It should be noted that there is not just "one" time series for all the world's oceans.

Incidentally, the "leaked" SPM Draft of the AR5 gives its opinion as follows: "It is virtually certain that over the 20th century the

mean rate of increase was between 1.4 to 2.0 mm/yr, and between 2.7 and 3.7 mm/yr since 1993. It is likely that rates of increase were similar to the latter between 1930 and 1950."

(h/t Hans Labohm & Max Beran)

The "Leak"

A battle has ensued after Alec Rawls leaked the AR 5 Second Order Draft. It has to do with the importance of the reluctant admission by the writers that there is something to the solar effect on climate beyond TSI. The battle involves Rawls, Joanne Nova and Dr Steven Sherwood, who denies it all. Rawls says: "Professor Steven Sherwood inverts the scientific method: he is an exact definitional anti-scientist" and then writes a clarification which includes a list of two dozen essential papers the authors of the SOD wish to ignore. See [Joanne's site](#) and comments on [WUWT](#).

A chicken-and-egg-question

GEOMAR researchers in Germany and at Harvard have studied the presumed link between climate and volcanic activity and report in a recent issue of "*Geology*" on their computer modelling. It leads them to believe that the rate of cooling or warming - whatever occurs during geologic history - shifts the balance between accumulated Ice cap and glacier masses and ocean sea levels to the point that crustal pressures and weaknesses result in volcanic eruptions. Milankovich is also invoked. Few have read the actual [pay-walled article](#), but the description of the hypothesis does not find much favour with the readers of [Anthony Watts' blog](#). Nor with me, for that matter.

Yet, the connection of climate to other natural events, including earth quakes and volcanic eruption, has been discussed before and is - in itself - not far-fetched. If one would read the further comments on WUWT, one comes across the more reasoned proposals for the relationships in the contributions by "Vukcevic"

(Internal earth movements can be related to solar magnetic anomalies, as are - in our opinion - climate changes), "William" and others, and opposed - as usual - by Lyle Svalgaard.

What's the sun doing?

Have a look at <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/> to see how the sun - apart from one hick-up - is having trouble getting to 75. sunspots. Yet, the prediction panel is forecasting a high of 90 in March 2013.

Ian Wilson formalises his Lavoisier talk in an article

Some time ago I alerted you to a short discussion I wrote (and posted on the FoS website) entitled "[Natural force of the changing climate: a review of current research](#)", in which I referred to Ian Wilson's 2008 talk to the Lavoisier Group, which reference had the form of a slide show.

A year ago he published the material in a paper in the General Science Journal under the title

["Are Changes in the Earth's Rotation Rate Externally Driven and Do They Affect Climate?"](#) which should replace the slide show.

The web location now includes the new reference.

(h/t Peter Ziegler)

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## **CliSci # 118 2012-12-16**

This issue of CliSci is dedicated to the involuntary release of the Second Draft version of the Working Group I portion "*Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis*" of the IPCC's Fifth

Assessment Report.

The following summary benefits from substantial input by Ken Gregory.

## **IPCC Draft of AR5 leaked**

The draft was "leaked" by Alec Rawls, an IPCC "Expert Reviewer" who says that the draft should fall within the terms of the FOIA Act, if only for being critical taxpayer-funded research. He deserves a medal. It provides much needed transparency to the IPCC 's process, albeit unintentional.

WUWT's headline screams: ".....contains game-changing *admission of enhanced solar forcing* – as well as a *lack of warming to match model projections, and reversal on 'extreme weather'* " and [provides download links in its early summary issue](#) . Take a look at the magnitude of material. It includes links to download the 14 individual Chapters of Second Order Draft (SOD), the SPM, and the Technical Summary, in total some 120 MB.

(Many sceptics' websites have now secondary links to the complete draft report; you will find some being less 'permanent' than others).

This document is critical, because for the first time the Second Order Draft admits to the following:

*"Many empirical relationships have been reported between GCR or cosmogenic isotope archives and some aspects of the climate system (e.g., Bond et al., 2001; Dengel et al., 2009; Ram and Stolz, 1999). The forcing from changes in total solar irradiance alone does not seem to account for these observations, implying the existence of an amplifying mechanism such as the hypothesized GCR-cloud link. We focus here on observed relationships between GCR and aerosol and cloud properties."*

As Alec Rawls concludes the IPCC has therefore acknowledged strong evidence for enhanced solar influences beyond the changes in total solar energy. The draft report goes on to say that satellite data of cloud behaviour is not good enough to confirm that galactic cosmic rays make a significant contribution to

changes in global cloud cover. The IPCC uses this as an excuse to ignore the strong evidence of enhanced solar influences on climate by some mechanisms, which may include processes other than the cosmic ray influence on clouds. The report falsely claims that natural forcing is small compared to anthropogenic forcing by ignoring the enhanced solar forcing. Alec writes, "Once the evidence for enhanced solar forcing is taken into account we can have no confidence that natural forcing is small compared to anthropogenic forcing."

Having read pieces of the relevant Chapter 7, I see it as a hesitant step by IPCC towards reality, but no wholesale change to natural causes. Nevertheless, the Draft is a significant break with the past.

There is a long way to go for the IPCC to engage some solar physicists to look beyond the Gamma Ray flux. Chapter 7 reads as if written by meteorologists. Attention is paid neither to the sun's gravity and magnetic connections to oceanographic oscillations, nor to the main element of interest to us in that respect: the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation. Even WIKI does better than that! All one reads in the SOD's Chapter 3 (Oceans) is about the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, what we would call the Gulf Stream complex.

"Expert Reviewer" Forrest M. Mims joined in and posted [his review comments](#) on his website. He is critical of the IPCC for the absence of any mention of a very important published paper on atmospheric water vapour. He writes, "However, the recently reanalyzed and expanded NVAP-M study found no trend in the global abundance of total column water vapor from 1989 to 2010. This finding totally contradicts the climate models results. The NVAP-M study reports the findings of the NASA Water Vapor Project which produces a global dataset of water vapour by atmospheric layers from many satellites and radiosonde data."

Ken Gregory, who has studied the water vapour problem for years has made several comments in the WUWT blog discussion in "[Another IPCC AR5 reviewer speaks out: no trend in global water vapor](#)". See [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). The AR5 [forecasts](#) show water vapour column increases from

1990 to date of 2.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. But the new [NVAP results](#) [bottom of Sample Results tab] actually show slightly declining total water vapour column during this period.

For worldwide reactions, see [HERE](#).

Judith Curry writes, "The extreme overconfidence of many of their conclusions is bewildering."

Roger Pielke Jr [reports](#) that the IPCC has made a complete reversal from AR4 on trends in drought, hurricanes, floods and is now consistent with scientific literature. The draft report says, "we have high confidence that natural variability dominates any AGW influence in observed/historical TC records" "unlike in AR4, it is assessed here..there is low confidence of regional changes in the intensity of extreme extratropical cyclones"

An important graph in the Second Draft is [HERE](#) . The IPCC's own evidence of 15 years of no warming versus its earlier model predictions. Will it survive into the final report? In the SPM? Don't hold your breath.

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CliSci # 117 2012-12-09

A better handle on polar ice melts

In the UK [The Register](#) Lewis Page writes: "Ice sheet melt massively overestimated, satellites show"

(Posted in [Science](#), [28th November 2012 14:20 GMT](#))

A new analysis of data from dedicated satellites shows that one of the main factors predicted to drive rising sea levels in future has been seriously overestimated. The new methods involve filtering out noise from the data produced by the Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment (GRACE) spacecraft, sent into orbit with the aim of finding out just how much ice is melting from the world's ice sheets and glaciers.

The original research [was published](#) in PNAS.

..... **and why such measurements may be highly uncertain**

A paper in [Science](#) - Shepherd et al on ice loss and sea level rise - that has been making the rounds in media (such as [this article in Science Recorder](#), claiming it validates global warming) is causing some stir, mainly because it has a powerfully written press release combined with a volume of researchers (47 scientists), plus additional never before used together satellite data; because more data and more scientists is always better, right?

In [WUWT](#) a discussion of this paper is followed by a new proposal from NASA JPL that admits to "spurious" errors in current satellite based sea level and ice altimetry, calls for new space platform to fix the problem.

Says [Anthony Watts](#): "I'd say it is more than a bit of a bombshell because the whole purpose of this new mission is to "fix" other mission data that apparently never had a stable enough reference for the measurements being made. This promises to rewrite what we know about sea level rise and acceleration, ice extent and ice volume loss measured from space."

Changes in the Earth's core observed

The GRACE system has also been very useful in mapping internal gravity and magnetic shifts in the earth's core. A mixed group of French and German researchers have a [paper in PNAS, Manda et al 2012](#) "*Recent changes of the Earth's core derived from satellite*

observations of magnetic and gravity fields", which is a useful counterpart to the effects astronomers find from solar gravity (orbital) and magnetism (dynamo).

It seems likely that many years of research will yet have to take place before these complex matters are resolved.

The cycles we observe on the surface of our planet have ties to solar behaviour (LOD, PDO, AMO); to what extent do gravity and magnetic shifts within and above the core cause fluid motions on decadal scale, as well as changes in mass distribution that may have a similar influence?

See also [comments in WUWT](#) .

Solar effect on climate

One of the videos prepared by Anthony Watts as a rebuttal to the 24 hour Gore-a-thon 2012 of warming doom is a presentation by geologist Dr. Sebastian Lüning, who works with ex-PIK researcher-now-sceptic Fritz Vahrenholt and was his co-writer in "*Die kalte Sonne*". This hour long video is much worthy of your time as it gives an inventory of the work of international researchers who are looking for connections between the sun and our climate changes, finding cycles real and imagined. One of the much touted cycles, Fred Singer's 1500 year, is not finding favour as it is deemed to be a statistical construct. Lüning insists that those of his favourite selection are all statistically sound.

The video is at WUWT of November 30th, or at YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=1kdxxbSmUwQ#!>

Climate Scepticism in Europe

Hans Labohm has made a survey of the state of climate scepticism in Europe, which has been published in essence by [Pierre Josselin's NoTricksZone](#) and the Dutch e-paper [De Dagelijkse Standaard](#).

The full text is [HERE](#) as it will appear in a future issue of E&E.

Battle of the Stats

Record Warmest Year a "Virtual Certainty"

It's a "virtual certainty" that 2012 will be the **warmest year on record for the United States**, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported Thursday in its November "State of the Climate Report."

In September, [weather.com reported that the likelihood of the United States recording its warmest year on record was very high](#).

The existing record for the United States' warmest year on record was 1998, covering 118 years of data. The record covers the Lower 48 states.

UK Endures Coldest Autumn Since 1993

The UK Met Office report that the UK has just had its coldest autumn for nineteen years, leaving 2012 on course to be **second coldest year since 1996**.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/12/07/uk-endures-coldest-autumn-since-1993/>

History of atmospheric CO2

David Middleton presents an extensive and well-illustrated [survey of carbon dioxide in WUWT](#), using a variety of proxy measurements on several time scales. Variability of CO2 levels in the atmosphere in times before humans started burning fossil fuels is examined. While the well established lag time of CO2 increase with respect to Temperature, as determined from ice cores, is confirmed, it is also found in other proxies. Middleton looks at some previous CO2 record levels on times scales of both human and geologic history. Reference is made to [Tim Ball's 2008 article](#) on the FoS website and to two dozen papers.

CliSci # 116 2012-11-29

IPCC not invited to Doha Climate Summit --- Quickly repaired

The upcoming regular "Conference of Parties" (COP 18), the Governing body of the UNFCCC, which is the creator of the IPCC, has not invited its operating creation to the Doha conference, something that has never happened before, reported the [Gulf Times](#) last week.

IPCC Chairman Pachauri says he does not know why he has been left out.

The embarrassing situation was remedied two days later. IPCC announced that Pachauri will now address the meeting.

Sea Surface and Solar Data

Vancouver area-based Paul Vaughan has been comparing earth-sun parameters for some time now. Un-hosted and un-funded, he has developed a number of very interesting connections. For his recent work visit a discussion of his latest composite graph on [Tallbloke's blog](#) .

I've told you before: This man needs some long term \$\$\$ support.

Third Anniversary of Climate Gate, a sample

From: Phil Jones

To: ray bradley , [mann@xxxxx.xxx](#), [mhughes@xxxx.xxx](#)

Subject: Diagram for WMO Statement

Date: Tue, 16 Nov 1999 13:31:15 +0000

Cc: [k.briffa@xxx.xx.xx](#), [t.osborn@xxxx.xxx](#)

Dear Ray, Mike and Malcolm,

Once Tim's got a diagram here we'll send that either later today or first thing tomorrow.

I've just completed Mike's Nature trick of adding in the real temps to each series for the last 20 years (ie from 1981 onwards) and from 1961 for Keith's to hide the decline. Mike's series got the annual land and marine values while the other two got April-Sept for NH land N of 20N. The latter two are real for 1999, while the estimate for 1999

for NH combined is +0.44C wrt 61-90. The Global estimate for 1999 with data through Oct is +0.35C cf. 0.57 for 1998.

Thanks for the comments, Ray.

Cheers

Phil

Prof. Phil Jones

Climatic Research Unit Telephone +44 (0) xxxxx

School of Environmental Sciences Fax +44 (0) xxxx

University of East Anglia

Norwich Email [p.jones@xxxx.xxx](#)

NR4 7TJ, UK

McKitrick's contribution to the anti-Gor-a-ton on WUWT-TV

The "WUWT-TV" stream of anti-Gore presentations is slowly being put on the internet.

Guelph Un.'s Professor Ross McKitrick gives a much-lauded one hour presentation on the economics of energy and emissions, now on:

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/11/23/climate-ugliness-goes-nuclear/>>

Others will follow as Anthony's time and resources permit.

Lost among the trees

In what by commentator Fernandez is called a "Tree-ring Circus", two dozen Dendrochronologists are protesting the reconstruction of NH temperatures in a Michael Mann *et al* article in *Nature Geoscience* of February 2012, saying:

Our comment focuses on several factors that challenge the Mann et al. (2012) hypothesis of missing tree rings. We highlight problems in Mann et al.'s implementation of the tree ring model used, a lack of consideration for uncertainty in the amplitude and spatial pattern of volcanic forcing and associated climate responses, and a lack of any empirical evidence for misdating of tree-ring chronologies.

Interesting is that among the signatures to this letter to the Dendro Forum are those of Michael Mann's colleagues Keith Briffa and Malcolm Hughes.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/11/25/dendros-stick-it-to-the-mann/>>

Acidification Redux

A [Nature Geoscience paper by Bednarsek/Tarling et al](#) has caught the attention of The Independent as it claims, in concert with currently increased (Doha related?) alarmist publicity that **"carbonate chemistry of the surface ocean is rapidly changing with ocean acidification, a result of human activities"**. The paper describes the deterioration of some small pteropod snail shells in the Southern Ocean and concludes: *"As deep-water upwelling and CO2 absorption by surface waters is likely to increase as a result of human activities, we conclude that upper ocean regions where aragonite-shelled organisms are affected by dissolution are likely to expand."*

Apart from condemning the incorrect "acidification" label instead of calling the slight pH changes of the oceans "reduced alkalinity", [comments in WUWT](#) and on the ClimateSceptics Forum point out that "upwelling water" is generally "old" water from the deep, has not been subject to increased surface layer CO2 exposure and is colder with a naturally lower pH.

Rainwater influx has a pH of less than 7, the bulk of the oceans are 7.8 with the surface waters above 8.0 and some upwelling bottom waters being as low as 7.5.

Walter Stark: 'Speak loudly and carry a busted hockey stick'

In the minutiae of atmospheric physics and determinations of fractions of a degree of Mean Global Temperature, we tend to forget the T Rex lessons by Essex and McKittrick ten years ago (*"Taken by Storm"*). Walter Stark reminds us.

The average temperature for the Earth, or any region or even any specific place is very difficult to determine with any accuracy. At any given time surface air temperatures around the world range

over about 100°C. Even in the same place they can vary by nearly that much seasonally and as much as 30°C or more in a day. Weather stations are relatively few and located very irregularly. Well maintained stations with good records going back a century or more can be counted on one's fingers. Even then only maximum and minimum temperatures or ones at a few particular times of day are usually available. Maintenance, siting, and surrounding land use also all have influences on the temperatures recorded.

The [Full Article](#) is in *Quadrant Magazine*

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## ***ClSci # 115 2012-11-18***

### **Weighing the Ocean**

Using a single Ocean Bottom Pressure recorder (OBP), Hughes *et al* are measuring interannual changes in ocean mass in the Central Pacific, which sidesteps a previously common system of satellite gravity-based calculations. The paper is [here](#) in GRL. [Comments in WUWT](#) point to a number of pitfalls.

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### **Bicentennial TSI decrease leads to LIA**

In a paper we retrieved through Icecap, well-know Russian researcher [Habibullo Abdussamatov](#), is taking a pessimistic view on the current decline in sunspot activity. He blames the temporary imbalance of emitted long wave radiation to space versus received TSI for a coming Little Ice Age minimum of Maunder size.

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### **Quote List for Climate Change**

Grouped into Topic Categories, Steve Goreham has assembled

more than 450 quotes by scientists, activists, journalists, politicians, entertainment figures, bankers, civil servants, comedians and economists.

A veritable treasure grove for anyone who writes on Climate Science, Environment and Energy.

<<http://www.climatism.net/quotes-on-climate-change-environment-and-energy/>>

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## **The BBC and its climate alarmist bias**

In Jan 2006 the BBC held a meeting of "the best scientific experts" to decide BBC policy on climate change reporting. The BBC has been in court blocking FOI attempts to get the list of the 28 attendees, but it's just been discovered on the wayback machine

The BBC sent four representatives: Peter Rippon, Steve Mitchell, Helen Boaden, George Enwistle. All have since risen to power. Amazingly, those are also the exact four who have thus far resigned this week over the false paedophilia accusations against Lord McAlpine.

But digging by sceptic blogger Maurizio Morabito brought the whole [attendee list on the internet](#). As it turns out, just three of the 28 were current scientists (all alarmists), the rest were activists or journalists.

Says UK blogger Tallbloke: "So now the BBC has yet another big problem on its hands. It turns out it has lied to the public who pay for it about the makeup of the group which has determined its climate reporting policy. This is no small matter considering the billions of pounds involved in the Green energy industry. Additional carbon taxation has directly led to fuel poverty for hundreds of thousands. The excess cold related deaths in the UK have shot up in the last few years. We hear stories of pensioners buying secondhand books by the yard and burning them to keep warm."

See [Josh' cartoon](#) on WUWT

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## **WUWT-TV's answer to AlGore's "Dirty Weather Report"**

The responses to Al Gore's "24 hours of Climate Reality" campaign were given in presentations by more than two dozen well known climate sceptics on November 14th and 15th. We are promised that the source video clips will be posted on YouTube.

See [HERE](#) .

It will take more to get rid of nonsense like this

<<http://vimeo.com/52029145>>

from <<http://realitydrop.org/about>>

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### **[Climatedialogue.org](http://climatedialogue.org) First comments**

The Dutch attempt to start a serious sceptics <-> warmists discussion at that site is now underway. The [comments on WUWT](#) give you a third party view of what's been going on, like "why pick Arctic sea ice", the choice of debaters, critical issues first. It is a new initiative and typically a work in progress.

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### **Christmas gift of the year for your sceptic friends, i.e. the year 2013**

Josh' Calendar 2013 is available at

<<http://www.cartoonsbyjosh.com/>> for £ 9.99 plus shipping and payable by PayPal.

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### **The active Sun II**

In the previous issue we highlighted the new [PPT by DeJager](#), which describes the nature of the Solar magnetic fields and the effect that their changes have on planets in the heliosphere.

In [A recent paper by Abreu et al](#) this matter is looked at from the



point of view of planetary influences on the sun's tachocline, the zone where the battle of magnetic fields originates. There is no connection between the papers (not even in the references) but much discussion on [Tallbloke's blog](#) and on [WUWT](#)  
Are there ways in which the planets influence the solar magnetic field?

We are, I think, at the point that we see that there are connections between the sun and our climate, but we do not know exactly how the mechanism(s) work. "Chaotic" is not a concept that has been adopted by anyone.

[Paul Jose](#) published on solar motion and sunspots back in the sixties and 25 years ago [Fairbridge and Shirley](#) spelled out the detail in a paper that is still worth reading, work updated by [Charvatova](#) whose 2010 AGU presentation I circulated earlier. The IPCC pays no attention to any of it.

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CliSci # 114 2012-11-08

Fisheries, Climate Change, Politics and Science

The media report that Judge Bruce Cohen has completed his inquiry on the collapse of the Pacific Sockeye fisheries with a 1200 page report, after three years of hearings and at a cost of \$23 million. While fishery regulations, diseases, native fishing rights/poaching excesses and farmed Atlantic salmon appear to have been the main problems under consideration, there seems to be no sign that the natural causes of fluctuating fish stocks received much attention. There were no clear conclusions and recommendation emanating from the report.

Ever since the 1960's, when the Peruvian anchovy fishery was found to be connected to El Niño, there has been an intense effort to document and explain the causes of the wandering of fish schools in terms of solar cycles and oceanic oscillations. Lately there have been a number of papers by Monterey-based Gary Sharp and the Russians Klyashtorin and Lyubushin, who clearly connect the "fish cycles" to the 60 year oceanic one. Under this scenario they were predicting that the cod would return to

Newfoundland (which indeed seems to be occurring) and that salmon and capelin are similarly affected.

The latest Lyubushin/Klyashtorin paper is in E&E V.23/1; It is not for general circulation, but I could make it available to the few of you who may want to read the details of their research.

Our member Rob Scagel has been watching the hearing and was distressed by the process. It was a surprise that the requested Technical Report (#9) on Climate Change was submitted by a couple of BC Foresters. The scope of that work ends at the Strait of Georgia, except for some arm waving about water temperature and currents in the direction of the Pacific Ocean.

Rob's objections concern the Mandate, Terms of Reference and the conduct of the Inquiry, the lack of enforcement of rules of evidence and the use of the Precautionary Principle to guide the recommendations, such as they are. He calls it "simply dreadful".

I am mentioning this because it is yet another example of how science is not allowed to fulfill its function of being the basis for properly researched public decision making and formation of public policy. We are again dealing with a case where politics have displaced science. Ignorance? Stupidity? By design?

"Mann's hockey stick disappears ...

.....and CRU's (Thomas Melvin and Keith) Briffa help make the MWP live again by pointing out bias in the data."

This is the title of a rather jubilant [piece in WUWT](#) which reproduces the critical figure 5 of a new paper.

With Michael Mann surrounded by law suits, there may not have been better time for this to happen. The paper adds to those by Ljungqvist and by Esper mentioned in CliSci # 113.

Colleague Briffa and his co-authors have published in [The_Holocene](#) an article called "Potential bias in 'updating' tree-ring chronologies using regional curve standardisation: Reprocessing 1500 years of Torneträsk density and ring-width data".

It restores the warm summers of the Medieval Warm Period,

similar to those of the 20th Century.

Now, if you do not particularly like Tree Rings as a proxy, be it width or density, you can still put your trust in Craig Loehle's ^{18}O temperature series, which is even clearer (E&E V.18 Nos 7+8 [2007] p. 1049-1058).

Putting some science brackets around "Sandy"

In the aftermath of the "super-hurricane" Sandy, Tom Harris had been talking to Dr. Tim Ball and Madhav Khandekar and has written a clear assessment on the [Frontier Centre blog](#). The story ties in neatly with Tim's earlier monographs on the Mobile Polar Highs, and associated Jet Stream pattern; which has something to do with the slow progress of Sandy over the stricken area.

Readers may recall my earlier mention of the MPHs and how their outflows conspire with the slow-moving longitudinal Rossby waves to create "Blocking Highs". That's what Sandy may have run into.

Of course "Sandy" has been taken over by the US Election turmoil and some media have seen a chance to suggest a connection with human caused Global Warming, even though the IPCC itself has rejected that interpretation.

BBC: "Climate Gate Revisited"

The BBC, battered from all sides, tries to "come clean" on their handling of the Climate Gate file in a program on BBC 4. This audio file is at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/player/b01nl8gm?rpSt=CLIMATE&rpSrp=3.0>

But they seem to be more concerned about the "break in" or

"hack" than about the impact on scientific research. One aspect that has always bothered me is that - in addition to the "criminal" case - neither side has emphasised the dire economic consequences of this manufactured "consensus" in climate science that was produced by the CRU group. Financial consequences of over a Trillion dollars so far.

"Global Warming has been good to Africa"

In an [article in Forbes by James Taylor](#) the author points out that the dire stories of how climate change would be impacting the Third World by drying up its agricultural fields, Africa in particular. A previous column in the magazine had complained that "Africa is slowly becoming a desert".

It now appears that comparative studies of satellite photography indicate not only that the last 15 years show a recovery of vegetation", but that a "shift from dryer to wetter conditions throughout the Sahara Desert" has been observed. And "The improvement in African precipitation and soil moisture extends far beyond the Sahara. Even in the Namib Desert in the southwestern corner of the continent, precipitation shows long-term improvement."

h/t Hans Labohm

Climate variability over many time scales

Markonis and Koutsoyiannis use sophisticated statistical methodology (Hurst-Kolmogorov stochastic dynamics) to discover short and long term patterns of variability of the earth' climate, expanding on Milankovitch's orbital cycles, using log/log plots of standard deviations on irregular behaviour on all time scales.

If your field of knowledge does not include statistical manipulations, don't get stuck in the paper itself, which is [here](#) in pre-print format, having been rejected by *Nature* and *GRL*, probably because it is politically incorrect. However,

the *connaisseurs* are in praise of the approach, so I am bringing it to your attention. If they are right, it is an important contribution. Most of us should be satisfied by the [Abstract and discussion in WUWT](#)

A 60-year oscillation in global mean sea level?

In GRL VOL. 39, L18607, 6 PP., 2012 doi:10.1029/2012GL052885 Chambers et al examine long tide gauge records in every ocean basin and find that there is a significant oscillation with a period around 60-years in the majority of the tide gauges examined during the 20th Century, and that it appears in every ocean basin. Averaging of tide gauges over regions shows that the phase and amplitude of the fluctuations are similar in the North Atlantic, western North Pacific, and Indian Oceans, while the signal is shifted by 10 years in the western South Pacific. The only sampled region with no apparent 60-year fluctuation is the Central/Eastern North Pacific. The phase of the 60-year oscillation found in the tide gauge records is such that sea level in the North Atlantic, western North Pacific, Indian Ocean, and western South Pacific has been increasing since 1985–1990. The tide gauge data are still too limited, but the possibility of the 60-year oscillation should be considered when attempting to interpret the acceleration in the rate of global and regional mean sea level rise. (from [the Abstract](#), which contains the illustrations)

Of course, others have pointed to the 60 or 65 year AMO cycle, and [Scafetta has discussed](#) its solar connection.

The Active Sun (*a CliSci primeur for the Americas*)

Last month Professor Kees DeJager gave some presentations in Utrecht on what lies behind the Sunspots that everyone keeps counting as a measure of solar activity. His lecture is now available as a PPT presentation, translated into English by yours truly.

["The Active Sun"](#) takes you from from Sunspots to their

horseshoe magnetic fields, to the convection currents that feed them, induced by the sun's poloidal/toroidal (polar/equatorial) switching dual dynamo system, the output of which correlates with the Hale cycle. It tracks the "Grand Episodes" of warming and cooling and recognises that at present the dynamo's performance criteria indicate an "episode change".

Much of the work presented stems from studies done jointly with Dr Silvia Duhau in Buenos Aires. It will soon find a permanent home on the FoS website.

In conclusion, DeJager and Duhau predict the starting cooling phase to last till the mid-thirties.

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***CliSci # 113 2012-10-29***

## **Comparing Northern Temperatures over two millennia**

Two researchers of the Danish MET Office, [Christiansen and Ljunqvist](#) have published in [Climates of the Past](#) multi-proxy reconstructions of temperatures back to 1 CE and 1500 CE. While this sort of work has been done before, the importance of the project done by the two Danes lies in the robustness of their proxies.

The authors state "The level of warmth during the peak of the MWP (**Medieval** Warm Period) in the second half of the 10th century, equaling or slightly exceeding the mid-20th century warming, is in agreement with the results from other more recent large-scale multi-proxy temperature reconstructions." and this is well illustrated in figures 5 and 7 of their paper. Remarkably, it also seems - in comparison to fig. 6 which shows previous reconstructions by other authors - that there is a general decrease of One degree Celsius from year One to 1800, only interrupted by the MWP and followed by the current period high, almost as high as the MWP.

[Another paper on the topic](#) was just published by Jan Esper *et al.* in *Global and Planetary Change*

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## **Rapid Arctic Ocean refreeze**

[Anthony Watts summarizes](#) the rapid refreeze (after a low ice cover year that challenged 2007) of the Arctic Ocean on his blog and in more detail on his Sea Ice [reference page](#) .

## **The Earth's bipolar sea ice behaviour**

The quite normal spectacle of simultaneous maxima in Arctic ice *loss* and Antarctic ice *thickness* is being discussed in [WUWT](#)

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## **Paleo-dating**

It is well known that the dating for archeological and paleo-climate applications has depended mostly on the decay of the  $^{14}\text{C}$  isotope over time. However, this rate is not constant and calibration against more dependent annual scales is desirable. Tree rings and lake sediments have been widely used. A more accurate calibration using both has been achieved by using Suigetsu Lake sediments and trees in Japan. The results have been published by Christopher Bronk Ramsey *et al.*: "A Complete Terrestrial Radiocarbon Record for 11.2 – 52.8 kyr BP," in *Science*, 338, (6105), 370-374, 10.1126/science.1226660 - (behind pay-wall, I'm afraid.)

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## **Parallels**

The [conviction of seven scientists in Italy](#) because they failed to give the l'Aquila population adequate warning about the coming

earthquake has shaken scientists all over the world. Upon receiving the verdict Roger A. Pielke Jr revived a piece he wrote in [bridges vol. 31, October 2011 / Pielke's Perspective](#) where he discusses the understanding and communication gap that we also face so often in communicating climate science to non-scientists. See his [story in WUWT of 22 October](#) .

In the National Post (25/10 p. A 11) under the Post's title "Is there a parallel here?", a letter writer from Port Moody describes the sentence of the Italian "geological scientists" and concludes: "*Outspoken climate-change deniers should be worried by this precedent*". One wonders, those who question scientific hypotheses should be more liable than those whose hypothetic scenario simulations have been proven to be incorrect?

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## **Climates of the early Earth**

We all know of the species explosion in the Cambrian as evidenced by the Burgess shale at Fields, B.C.. But what happened before that? Three and a half billion years of nothing? A flaming ball of rock? Snowball Earth?

I am not going to discuss this, but if you are interested, I'll give you a couple of links to discover this fascinating prelude to life on earth in the billions of years preceding the Cambrian "explosion" of life species. And it was all a function of climate.

First, there is a very good summary of the earth atmosphere from the time the space-bombardment of the new planet petered out, to the first forms of eukaryotic life made possible by liberated oxygen. The [Wikipedia entry](#) gives a good account.

It is backed up by evidence supplied by the well-referenced "Rare Earth", an excellent book (2004) by geologist Peter Ward and astronomer Donald Brownlee, two Un. of Washington professors. The newest developments are given in a [post in WUWT](#) on research results by Timothy Lyons and Noah Planavsky of UCal in Riverside, CA.

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## Gravity, Magnetics and Climate

[Satellite magnetic field and gravity measurements over an eight year period \(Mandea \*et al\*\)](#) , focussed over the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, see correlations which the authors ascribe to variations in the earth core.

As magnetic fields have an influence over the amount of cosmic rays reaching the earth' surface this is of some consequence. [M.A. Vukcevic rightly observes](#) that there are connections between the geomagnetic field, the AMO, and the solar cycle, which shows that there is some work to be done here on various interactions.

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## The Ozone hole

Back in the News. Is the varying size of ozone hole due to

- \* Natural variations of UV levels acting on O2?
- \* [The use of fluorocarbons?](#) See [Tim Ball's opinion](#)
- \* [Related to Enso?](#) (after Paul Vaughan)
- \* The impending expiry of Dupont patents on CFC replacements?

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## ***off-topic: A GIANT'S EVOLUTION***

I regularly refer to the direct and indirect solar influences on climate. While reading, one gets involved in the stars in general. This one drew my attention and while it has nothing much to do with CAGW, I thought I share it with you.

Hypergiant stars are the most luminous stars known in the universe. Hypergiant HR 8752 in Cassiopeia is about 250,000 times as luminous as the sun. While the observation is that these stars slowly will be heating up during their evolution, the surface temperature range between 5,000 and 12,000 K is strangely void of hypergiants. This interval is called the "Yellow Evolutionary Void". It seems the hypergiants are unstable in this interval. As HR 8752, at about 5000 K, has been bumping its head against the Void, an international team of eight astronomers has been

following its struggle between 1985 and 2005 to pass rather quickly through the void into a more stable higher temperature state. They saw it succeed, albeit not without significant changes to its structure and an almost 50% reduction in size.

It is a fascinating story which you can follow through the website of Professor DeJager (one of the participants).

Go to his website at <<http://www.cdejager.com/hypergiant-publications/>> and click on the Expansion button of the video to read the summary news release, including, at the bottom, the URLs of some impressive photographs

The team's actual paper in Astronomy & Astrophysics can be found at

<<http://dx.doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201117166>>, where you can download the PDF version.

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CliSci # 112 2012-10-18

Millennial scale sea level projections

[Goelzer, Huybrechts et al have published a paper](#)

in *Environmental Research Letters* on projections of total sea level increases with the help of a new Earth System model. They conclude that the end of century would have seen an increase of less than 30 cm, as a worst-case scenario. By the year 3000 seas will have risen one metre, according to Professor Philippe Huybrechts, a geographer at the Brussels' VU.

I would have been very reluctant to make such straight line projections.

Their "Total Earth" approach - which supposedly includes polar ice sheets, glaciers, ice caps and oceanic expansion - seems to fit with normal current trends since the LIA. The approach is directed towards assessing the natural components of sea level rise, but it not only assumes a stabilisation of GHG and no substantial solar system-induced changes. With a nod to the politically opinion of the day they find it necessary to state:

"Mankind should limit the concentration of greenhouse gases at the lowest possible level as soon as possible. The only realistic

option is a drastic reduction of the emissions. The lower the ultimate warming will be, the less severe the ultimate consequences will be."

Comments [David Lewis in The Register](#):

"But an immediate and drastic cut in greenhouse-gas emissions, as Professor Huybrechts advocates, really would produce serious misery and hardship for billions of people - starting straight away and going on for a very long time if not forever. It is frankly bizarre advice to give, based on the results his team has produced."

(h/t Hans Labohm)

"Victims of dogmatic science exploited for a political agenda"

I would like to put in a plug for [Tim Ball's website](#), which has something worthwhile every week (Put yourself on his RSS). Those who know Tim, appreciate his wide interests, experience and encyclopedic knowledge. His recent essays include such topics as Distorted Arctic Melt Claims, the Problems of the Urban Forest, the US Democrats on climate fact checking, what the IPCC doesn't know about Niño/Niña, Polar Bears and Inuit Victims, Misconceptions about Adaptation, and his [latest one](#) about repetition of false science claims as a backlash to Uniformitarianism in the philosophy of scientific thinking.

Solar signatures in cloud cover

The impact of cloud cover on climate is among the least understood of all climate components. In *Environmental Research Letters* [Voiculescu and Usoskin](#) report on a study of the time and space relationship of low, middle and high clouds with Cosmic Ray ionisation and UV irradiance. While stating that a consensus regarding the impact of solar variability on cloud cover is far from being reached, the authors find that for some key geographical

regions the response of clouds to UVI and CRII is persistent over the entire 1984-2009 interval, indicating a real link. In other regions, however, the relationship is not consistent, being intermittent or out of phase, suggesting that some correlations are spurious.

(from the HockeySchtick)

The Great Barrier Reef is Doomedagain

In a [recent article Glenn De'ath and colleagues](#) lament the 27 year decline of the GBR. Walter Stark and ICSC's Bob Carter (who lives next door to the reef) examine the claims and find many resting on error-prone visual inspections by inexperienced students, doubtful assumptions and AGW-type unsupported statements that *"Cyclone intensities are increasing with warming ocean temperatures...."*. In ["Reef Alarmists jump the Shark"](#) they conclude that the authors are guilty of gross exaggeration and worse.

Arctic Ice cover

Apart from an earlier [article on his own website](#), Dr. Tim Ball has a [guest post on WUWT](#) in which he looks at the data, the hype, the semantics, the influence of ocean currents, the methods of measurement and the hand of Al Gore in the "Thinning of Arctic Ice" misinformation.

UHI in Utrecht

Between 2006 and 2009 two KNMI employees made 106 nighttime and 77 daytime profiles along a 14 km transect through

the city of Utrecht by bicycle (this is in Holland, you could have guessed) to measure the Urban Heat Island effect and how it is affected by wind speed and direction, as well as humidity. The Brandsma & Wolters [manuscript has been published by the KNMI](#), the Dutch Meteorological Institute. A goal was to test models that had been constructed. The MS contains an interesting set of graphic displays of the results.

The U.S. Temperature data network

As mentioned in early August this year, [Anthony Watts and his crew](#) have effectively destroyed the credibility of the old USHCN network of stations, on basis of location control and siting, mostly because of land use changes and poor maintenance.

Now there is a new network called USCRN (US Climate Reference Network), with 114 neatly distributed high quality stations. So far they have not given a CONUS (Contiguous US) Temperature for what they claimed to be the all time on the high of last July of 77.6 F which was based on the USHCN, by using the new network. Anthony thinks he knows why they would be reluctant. He is now preparing such a CONUS on the new network himself; In a preliminary run it appears to be a full 2.1 F lower than the earlier July "peak". See also [HERE](#) (13/10).

Breaking through?

It is difficult for dissenting minority views to be heard in the mass media, unless they create a scandal, or some other event.

Surprisingly, even the Calgary Herald, our home town paper, has studiously ignored us over the past ten years, in deference to the superior knowledge of the IPCC. Or so they say.

Let's face it: journalists are "scientifically challenged".

It was a rather obnoxious column by a journalist, praising the merits of the TIDES organisation that uses US charitable millions to fund green and native causes in Canada's oil sands and pipeline debates, that resulted in the Herald accepting a "rebuttal"

from FoS' Administrative Assistant. [HERE](#) it is. And now see their reaction to IPCC criticism in our last item!

A paper for democratic Peer Review

I am giving you this one with some preliminary comment. It is from WUWT and is called "[Claim: Five climate-forcing mechanisms govern 20,000 years of climate change](#)". It covers a PDF summary and a paper-for-discussion by Joachim Seifert and Frank Lemke, two German researchers, who consider the effects of Milankovitch cycles, atmospheric CO2 concentrations, Solar Inertial Motions (SIM), the retrograde trisynodic Jupiter/Saturn cycle, and of two major mechanisms, the Earth Orbit Oscillation (EOO) and the Cosmic Impact Oscillation (CIO). It has been submitted to WUWT (and some other blog sites). Meteorologist Anthony Watts refrains from endorsing it, but - the peer review system in climatology being what it is these days - he throws it open for review, which is what the authors asked for.

My readers will know that I often emphasise extra-terrestrial causes of climate change. At initial glance at the paper I recognise some of the known elements, but find other aspects of the paper hard to swallow, in particular their emphasis on the frequency and lasting effects of substantial cosmic cratering and the rather mysterious multi-centennial Earth Orbit Oscillation Cycle. The paper received a far harsher reception from the bulk of WUWT bloggers, though many show to have little time for what happens outside the earth' atmosphere.

I do observe that, in considering basically the Holocene's 10,000 years:

1. Their emphasis on Milanovitch is puzzling as even the shortest of M's cycles is twice as long as the period under consideration.
2. Their use of SIM appears to ignore the work by Charvátová, which goes back to Jose, half a century ago, and which contains a clear cyclicity of 179 years which is absent from their consideration.
3. There is an absence of Svensmark's Cosmic Ray influence in ionisation of aerosols on cloud cover and temperature and no

mention of Shaviv who would have had something to say about cosmic ray impact frequency..

4. There is no mention of the AMO's harmony with these solar variations, nor the ENSO's influence.

Graphs galore

Graphs galore, but the one on Surface Temperatures now "quietly" published by the MET office itself on the latest [HadCRUT4 dataset](#) will show you that "the figures reveal that from the beginning of 1997 until August 2012 there was no discernible rise in aggregate global temperatures" says [David Rose of the Daily Mail](#) which shows the chart. So, 16 years is beyond the limit that NOAA set to mark a "discrepancy with the expectations".

The protagonists have started to [shift the goal posts](#).

Battle of the Cyclones

Al Gore is speaking at a closed meeting in Gibraltar this month and Lord Monckton is responding by hosting an open forum at the same location with unlimited questions [on the 22nd of this month](#).

No, sorry, it's not that. What has happened though is that two papers have been published with opposite results. In the first one, from the Copenhagen-based Neils Bohr Institute, Aslak Grinsted insists that "[Tropical cyclones are occurring more frequently than before](#)", based on a correlation between sea levels and cyclones, using coastal tidal gauges and historical records. His point is that cyclones are twice as likely in warm years than in cooler ones.

The other one is a paper by Sugi and Yoshimura "Decreasing trend of tropical cyclone frequency in 228-year high-resolution AGCM simulations" in Pay-walled GRL reaches opposite

conclusions. It is based on modelling.

The [16/10 WUWT issue](#) gives the Sugi abstract and the comments of many bloggers who do not put much trust in either paper.

Zinger of the Day

On October 17th Donna Laframboise gave her luncheon talk in Calgary's Met Centre before an almost full house. What she had to say is mostly covered by the book (*"The Delinquent Teenager who was mistaken for the World's Top Climate Expert"*), which you can buy through Amazon, or download for less than five bucks), but still must have taken a good part of the audience by surprise.

The *Calgary Herald*, which has been sitting firmly on the wrong side of the debate for years, seemed equally enlightened and the [Herald Editorial Page Editor Licia Corbella](#) let loose with a flaming column. Note in particular the conclusion in her last few paragraphs.

This is all fine and dandy. What is needed now is - as the world is slowly becoming aware of the falsehoods that propelled the IPCC - that the logical consequences of its policies are considered and realised and that the wasteful expenditure on "carbon" control should be abandoned, in spite of the anticipated protests of the thousands of monetary beneficiaries of these policies.

Fact of the matter is that the public-at-large, as well as many in the media, seem to have trouble making the connection between the manipulated science with its false global warming claims and the supposed need for the expensive "carbon" mitigating policies, let alone the connection with the wealth transfer aims of the United Nations. Windmill farms, fields of solar panels, carbon taxes, cap&trade, manipulated science research grants and armies of involved civil servants should feel the sting of a new public awareness.

The battle for truth and common sense is continuing.

CliSci # 111 2012-10-06

Modelling a Carrington Event

The 1859 "Carrington" event was one of the most massive solar outbursts of record. It was characterised by numerous sunspots, an enormous solar flare, a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) and followed, a day later, by geomagnetic storms, very bright auroras (reported as far South as Cuba and Hawaii, says National Geographic) and a disruption of communications on earth. While events of this size are estimated to occur every 500 years or so (evidence from ice cores), lesser magnitude outburst occur more frequently. They have an influence on the atmosphere, mostly because of particle flow; hi-energy protons cause massive ionisation, oxydation and ozone reduction.

Marco Calisto and three Swiss and Finnish colleagues have run models about the "*Influence of a Carrington-like event on the atmospheric chemistry, temperature and dynamics*" which appears in [Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics](#).

The authors hold that such a major event could produce atmospheric cooling of several degrees.

* See also [WUWT for a summary](#)

* For those interested in CMEs here is a [new paper in Nature Physics](#). (Abstract), paper behind pay-wall.

* Meanwhile on Mars, the [NASA Rover photographed](#) an old fluvial conglomerate layer, evidence of water in the planet's history.

That melting Arctic ice cap

John Yackel, Head of Geography at the U of Calgary is reported in the University Newsletter [U Today](#) as regarding this summer's low summer ice year as part of a pattern he has observed which could

be the beginning of a frightening trend. He says: "This is the smallest minimum ice extent we've ever had, and not just in the satellite record, but probably in the last million years".

May I observe that such a statement contains two items which throw doubt on his understanding of climate cyclicality, proxy data use and geological perspective.

Also, as Tim Ball comments: *"In the last million years." A comment that is so wrong it removes all credibility. One million years includes three previous interglacials and the last 5,000 years of the Holocene Optimum all of which were markedly warmer than today.*

Meanwhile, in the AntarcticA number of researchers have remarked on the antipodal nature of temperature behaviour in the globe's polar regions. With low ice cover in the Arctic Ocean, in the Southern winter, Antarctic sea ice is near its record high this year, says the ["sunshine hours" blog](#) that keeps track of such things down South. The same situation occurred during the Northern summer of 2007.

(I'm not sure when he started counting, but [NOAA seems to agree](#))

[Steve Goddard says](#): Antarctica has broken the record for the greatest sea ice extent ever measured at either pole.

Someone should add them together and graph the combined global ice cover changes through the years. I don't think it has been done.

Solar Cycle 24 reaches (not much of) a high point

[Leif Svalgaard discusses](#) the *New Scientist* report on Solar Cycle # 24 reaching an early maximum. The Sun's "northern" hemisphere magnetic field is currently in reversal, the southern one is expected in 2014. Such a spread is not unusual.

A good set of illustrations can be found on
<<http://www.vukcevic.talktalk.net/SSN.htm>>

"Man Made Global Warming Disproved"

Under this title Joanne Nova and Anthony Fox have produced a nine point summary of points showing why CAGW has been disproved. On her website it takes the form of an [abstract](#) with clickable chapters illuminating each of nine statements. The whole effort is backed up by 80 solid references, most of which in turn obtainable through hot links.

Many of her points are those that any intelligent layman can understand and therefore suitable for discussion with doubters. Which is not to say that there are not more reasons to disprove CAGW.

[Joanne](#), based in Perth, Australia is a molecular biologist by training who got as much upset by the abuse that IPCC was inflicting on Science as most of us. In addition, her talents as a blogger on science are widely recognised and she has lectured extensively.

Thorium reactors as alternate energy source

Using Thorium as nuclear fuel in reactors designed for it has been mentioned many times, and some experimental reactors have been built. They are reportedly safer and cheaper and it seems that CANDU reactors can burn the fuel without very much modification.

A review and extensive discussion appears in WUWT in a [guest post by David Archibald](#).

Correlation of Urban density with temperature in China

A [Chinese paper in JGR](#) by Li and Zhao presents a study on the effect of human activity on temperature in urban areas in China; it is [reviewed by Roger Pielke Sr](#) and more extensively commented on in [WUWT](#).

While this local area warming article is probably in itself not much more than a nice quantitative example of straight local population density against temperature increase (I haven't seen CO2 mentioned anywhere), it must be remembered (says "ferdberple" on the Watts blog) that Phil Jones showed in his paper that UHI did not exist in China. "BEST" showed the same thing. Mainstream climate science holds that the effects of UHI are at best minor. Thus, only CO2 can explain the increase in temperatures in their minds....

Ben Santer to advise on education

The Board of the National Center for Science Education has been enriched by the appointment of Ben Santer, who "will advise NCSE on its new climate change education [initiative](#)."

Santer, a CRU graduate, is the man who in 1996 produced a selective 1963-1987 period of the temperature record in to prove excessive global warming; Michaels and Knappenburger called him on his false argument that year by publishing the 1958-1995 record, which showed no net change at all.

He has been quoted to react: "Next time I see Pat Michaels at a scientific meeting, I'll be tempted to beat the crap out of him."

In preparing Chapter 8 of the 1996 IPCC Assessment report, he changed his committee's report on the evidence of a human signal from "we don't know" to "discernible influence on global climate". (*Singer & Avery*).

(Those who recall the Trenberth-Landsea affair will not be surprised.)

See also the [comments](#) at the time he was elected AGU Fellow (1911)

Does the NCSE need that sort of a politicised "scientist" with

those kinds of ethics to advise the nation's educators?

Donna's delinquent Teenager a.k.a. the IPCC

The book by Donna Laframboise about the inner workings of the IPCC (which may well challenge the scientific investigations which disprove its hypothesis) has put its author on the map.

Donna will address the 9th Annual Friends of Science Luncheon Meeting in Calgary on October 17th.

You can order your tickets with a credit card, by snail- or e-mail [HERE](#) .

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## **CliSci # 110 2012-09-20**

### **Manipulation of Antarctic temperature data**

This may seem to be an old story which made the cover of *Nature* in 2009, but careful reading of Jeff [Condon's history about "the Antarctic Wars"](#) reveals the possibility that a debunked hockey-stick-like piece of junk science may yet make it into the upcoming IPCC's AR5.

The professed warming of Antarctica came from a 2009 *Nature* article by Prof. Eric Steig (*Nature* 457) which preferred proxy data over thermometer measured data and smeared the result out over a much larger area. It's actually more complicated than that and involves what Jeff calls sloppy math, contamination and crappy satellite data. The [main critique by O'Donnell, Lewis, McIntyre, Condon](#) is in the April 2011 *AMS Journal of Climate* V 24/8.

But there came the revival by Professor Steig in recent letter in the *Guardian*, which he concludes by stating: *"The reality is that the Antarctic is warming up and is contributing significantly to sea level rise; and that there is strong potential for a greater*

*contribution to sea level rise from Antarctica in the future.*" What nonsense.

A further discussion can be followed on the [Comments pages of Watts](#), complete with the *Nature* 2009 front cover.

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## **A new tree ring time series**

Back in 2007 Steve McIntyre and others decided to spend some time in the Colorado Rockies to collect some tree ring data of recent vintage, if only to prove that Michael Mann's excuse not to do field work because he was too busy was rather lame.

The collected data has now become the source of a [GRL paper by Berkelhammer and Stott](#), "*Secular temperature trends for the Southern Rocky Mountains over the last five Centuries*" which has been made available by Dr. Leif Svalgaard on his website. The importance lies in the fact that the Mann hockey stick graph only represents the latter part of this period by questionably correlated non-proxy data in order to produce the "blade". The new paper avoids this apples-and-oranges display by presenting a five century isotope-based record of cellulose composition ( $\delta^{18}O_c$ ) from bristlecone pine trees.

While Figure 2 is a time series display in terms of the isotope anomaly, Figure 3 gives you a good idea on the decidedly non-hockey stick results.

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## **Sea Level Rise Redux**

Dr. [Patrick Michaels reviews in World Climate Report](#) recent findings on the behaviour of global sea levels and notes that since the time that IPCC last assessed sea level rise (2003), the rate of SL rise has decreased. He also has an [article](#) on the matter on the site of the Cato Institute. He reviews a new paper by Chambers *et al*, currently in press at GRL, which finds - based on tide gauge records - a 60-year "quasi-"oscillation cycle in all ocean basis, except for the central-eastern North Pacific.

Chambers cautions: "*Until we understand whether the multi*

*decadal variations in sea level reflect distinct inflexion points or a 60-year oscillation and whether there is a [Global Mean Sea Level, GMSL] signature, one should be cautious about computations of acceleration in sea level records unless they are longer than two cycles of the oscillation or at least account for the possibility of a 60-year oscillation in their model. This especially applies to interpretation of acceleration in GMSL using only the 20-year record of from satellite altimetry and to evaluations of short records of mean sea level from individual gauges."*

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### **'An assessment of current Alarmist Propaganda'**

Under this title Australian blogger *Pointman* gives [here](#) a thoughtful longer view of recent developments in the Propaganda War. Are the alarmists cooling down?

While there, you will also have the opportunity to vote for the "Climate Prat of the Year" Award, with candidates like Gillard, Hansen, Lewandowsky, Gleick, Flannery and Oreskes.

*"The bottom line is that it's become increasingly difficult to base propaganda events on sensational climate science papers."*

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### **CRU/IPCC: a classic example of "Groupthink"**

On his website Tim Ball discusses how "[Classic Groupthink Behavior Apparently \[was\] Exposed in Leaked CRU Emails](#)". An analysis based on the concept developed by [Irving Janis](#) and illustrated by quotes from the ClimateGate CRU e-mails.

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### **A review of progress on research into Extra-Terrestrial causes of Climate Change**

With so much of the climate change buzz these days being

devoted to ice cover, temperature data deficiencies, sea level changes, radiative transfer, not to speak of impact, mitigation and politics, your Editor thought it would be appropriate to review the progress being made towards a determination of the real causes of climate change, other than that of the minor contribution by CO2. There is an increasing body of evidence that links solar activity changes to climate cycles on earth through atmospheric and oceanic connections.

It developed into a three page essay in which I have tried to stick to the major advancements, with the details available in a series of hyperlinks. It is available [here](#) on the FoS website, where you click on "**Natural Forces of a Changing Climate**".

Webmaster Ken Gregory writes:

*"There are many studies that show a high degree of correlation between solar magnetic activity and temperatures. Albert Jacobs reviews recent research that looks for the mechanisms by which solar forces affect climate. The large planets cause gravitational tugs on the Sun resulting in solar cycles that may have caused the Little Ice Age. An experiment at the nuclear facility CERN confirms that cosmic rays, modulated by the Sun, can affect cloud cover. The earth's length of day varies with solar activity, implying the Sun changes wind patterns. It has also been suggested that it influences the pattern of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, which controls weather through the El Niño/La Niña system."*

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### **Anthony Watts on PBS**

For a damage assessment of [Anthony's interview](#) , [read "the Examiner"](#).

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### **Nature editorial warns against climate attribution for Extreme Events**

In an [Editorial](#) *Nature magazine* notices the increasing use of the ClimateChange argument (and associated finger-pointing) for



presumed "extreme" weather and other events that some outside parties are beginning to practice.

*"[L]awyers, insurers and climate negotiators are watching with interest the emerging ability, arising from improvements in climate models, to calculate how anthropogenic global warming will change, or has changed, the probability and magnitude of extreme weather and other climate-related events. But to make this emerging science of 'climate attribution' fit to inform legal and societal decisions will require enormous research effort. The mag states that "heavily model-dependent services such as event attribution and seasonal predictions are unlikely to be as reliable". "*

A small step, but a speck of light at the end of the tunnel?

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***CliSci # 109 2012-09-07***

## **Not just in Ice cores**

While the lag time between Temperature rise and CO2 increase has been known for years, three Norwegian researchers (Humlum *et al*) have found that the same happens in current interval (e.g. 1980-2011) when measuring atmospheric CO2 against several land and satellite temperature sequences. Lag time ranges from nine to twelve months depending on the nature of the surface.

Ocean outgassing during periods of increased solar radiation has been proposed for the phenomenon for years, but the [Abstract and Figures](#) do not make it clear while the lag should be greater (but clearer) in the marine boundary layer than in the GISS land data and the tropospheric satellite data.

The " Accepted manuscript" version is available [here](#) and a WUWT review is [here](#) .

The highlights of the paper are:

- ▶ The overall global temperature change sequence of events appears to be from 1) the ocean surface to 2) the land surface to

3) the lower troposphere.

- ▶ Changes in global atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are lagging about 11–12 months behind changes in global sea surface temperature.
- ▶ Changes in global atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are lagging 9.5-10 months behind changes in global air surface temperature.
- ▶ Changes in global atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are lagging about 9 months behind changes in global lower troposphere temperature.
- ▶ Changes in ocean temperatures appear to explain a substantial part of the observed changes in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> since January 1980.
- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub> released from use of fossil fuels have little influence on the observed changes in the amount of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, and changes in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are not tracking changes in human emissions.

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## **"Winning the AGW Science Debate: Here's How"**

An article by Prof. Fred Singer in [The Independent Institute](#) and [the American Thinker](#)

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## **The Boy who Cried Warming**

A number of independent filmmakers, headed by Producer/Director Pete Garcia II have made a major and effective 1½ hour movie on the CAGW myth;

<<http://www.TheBoyWhoCriedWarming.com/>> or  
<<http://vimeo.com/47182591>>

The film consists mainly of interviews with a host of scientists, among which are many well known names in the battle. Topics vary widely through history, media hype, science, politics, climategate and economics and the film would be excellent viewing for newcomers to the controversy.

Have a look and browse through it. Most of you may not want to spend an hour and a half on it.

I couldn't help thinking back almost ten years when we made our own - and probably one of the first - (2003) video [Climate Catastrophe Cancelled](#) , the second edition (2007) of which is still on our website. Interestingly, reclusive Willie Soon appears in both ours and this new one. That "old" video is as valid today as when it was made.

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## **Past Global Warming signs from Antarctic ice cores**

A review of this *Nature* article, complete with data and graph, appeared [here](#) in WUWT. The reviewers innocently ask the question: "Does current Global Warming Signal reflect a Recurrent cycle?" May-be there is hope yet.

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## **Hansen still fiddling with the temperature data**

Bob Tisdale, whose specialty is research in the oceanic and atmospheric interaction part of the climate puzzle is reporting that NASA's GISS deletes all the sea surface temperature data in areas of the Arctic and the Southern Ocean with seasonal and permanent sea ice and replaces them with land surface temperature data, which naturally show warming at a much higher rate. The land temperatures are extrapolated over the oceans up to 1200 km from the surface weather stations. Land temperatures are used over oceans even in the summer where there is no sea ice. As GISS' land surface temperatures are already distorted by [improper adjustments for the UHI effect](#) and therefore show excessive warming over oceans (including the Arctic) which does not exist.

Ken Gregory has put the whole thing into perspective with a [short article and a new chart](#) which shows the divergence between satellite measured Sea Surface Temperature and the GISS' 1200 km projections from land stations. Also see the original [Tisdale](#)

[article](#) .

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## **"Who turned on the Heat?"**

A new 560 page treatise by Bob Tisdale on ENSO, its origin, development, importance in the global meteorological picture is downloadable (23 MB) for the princely sum of US\$ 8.00 (PayPal) from

<<http://transactions.digitaldeliveryapp.com/products/6574/purchase>>

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## **Meridional Overturning and Southern Ocean Upwelling**

Marshall and Speer ("[Closure of the meridional circulation through Southern Ocean upwelling](#)") are updating Broecker in a Review Article in *Nature Geoscience* (Vol 5, 3/2012) on modelling exercises to speculate on the return path of the thermohaline bottom current of the Atlantic Ocean. They claim that the return path is largely driven by winds in a rather complex arrangement and culminates in a major upwelling in the Southern Ocean. There is little mention of the Arctic Ocean, nor the Pacific's role in the world ocean circulation. cursory reading of the article (which I will share it with the odd enthusiast) did not really manage to convince me of the intricacies, and made me remember Occam's razor.

My question: What is really so different from the old models by Broeckner, Rahmstorf and Kuhlbrodt?

### **ABSTRACT:**

"The meridional overturning circulation of the ocean plays a central role in climate and climate variability by storing and transporting heat, fresh water and carbon around the globe. Historically, the focus of research has been on the North Atlantic Basin, a primary site where water sinks from the surface to depth, triggered by loss of heat, and therefore buoyancy, to the atmosphere. A key part of the overturning puzzle, however, is the return path from the interior ocean to the surface

through upwelling in the Southern Ocean. This return path is largely driven by winds. It has become clear over the past few years that the importance of Southern Ocean upwelling for our understanding of climate rivals that of North Atlantic downwelling, because it controls the rate at which ocean reservoirs of heat and carbon communicate with the surface."

(The above website link shows the illustrations.)

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## Arctic Sea Ice

I. [WUWT of September 2nd](#) has an interesting article with maps, graphs and a 1978-2009 timelapse Arctic ice cover video which examines both in text and blog comments the contributing factors to what seems to be a low ice year. Attention is being given to actual human contribution to SST as well as the exceptional wind- and electromagnetic storms of this year.

II. In an article on his website on the same day, Tim Ball deals with the [2012 Arctic Melt Claims](#), and gives such claims the label "Distorted and Inaccurate"; he agrees: "It's the Wind, Stupid". Measurements of ice cover have their limitations, even with satellites. The pre-satellite historic context is incomplete and anecdotal. But what is well known and described by recent researchers (including IPCC sources) is the peculiarities of the Polar wind patterns, both South and North on our planet.

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**Sunspot Activity as of Sept. 3rd:** Solar Cycle 24 lower than expected

<<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/sunspot.gif>> (Sunspots)

<<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/f10.gif>> (F 10.7cm  
Radio Flux)

<<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/Ap.gif>> (Ap  
Geomagnetic index)

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## **The UK gets a new minister who does not believe in energy subsidies**

Readers will know that this newsletter does not often get into the political fray, but it's worth noting that, after having catered to subsidised "green" solutions for so many years, Britain has a new Environment Secretary who calls wind farms "a massive waste of consumers money". Owen Paterson wants to encourage shale gas exploitation and close the door on subsidised energy.

At the same time, a new Energy Minister was appointed. John Hayes is a vocal opponent of wind farms.

Understandably, George Monbiot of the Guardian newspaper is bitter:

*"So that's it then. The final shred of credibility of "the greenest government ever" has been doused in petrol and ignited with a casual flick of a gold-plated lighter. The appointment of Owen Paterson as environment secretary is a declaration of war on the environment, and another sign that the right of the party – fiercely opposed to anything that prevents business from doing as it wishes – has won." --George Monbiot, [The Guardian, 5 September 2012](#)*

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**Click here -> [Donna Laframboise at the FoS Luncheon October 17th](#)**

## **ClimateGate and the Inquiries**

ClimateGate is not to be forgotten, never mind how much the IPCC tries to make you believe it was no matter of great interest. The subterfuge, manipulation, intimidation and misrepresentation by the CRU "Team" is only equalled by the deliberate non-performance by five government and academic bodies appointed to investigate the misconduct.

Whitewash is a mild condemnation of the whole mess.

Ken Gregory has constructed a summary of the main paleoclimate issues at stake, and an abstract of Dr McKittrick's report on the inquiries.

[HERE](#) is the final version which will be on our website.

The summary is good preparation for the luncheon speech of the author of the Delinquent Teenager.

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CliSci # 108 2012-08-27

Do variations in "Solar Wind" influence the Niño/Niña occurrences?

Tim Ball, who keeps steadily adding more interesting papers to [his website](#) has now written one entitled:

[What Causes El Niño / La Niña? IPCC Doesn't Know, But Builds Models and Makes Projections Anyway](#)

As connections between ENSO and solar activity variations become clearer, statements in both Wikipedia and the IPCC's reports are vague and contradictory, as Tim points out, but the main question remains: What causes the oscillation? The ocean current reversal? Well, that is usually caused by the wind, but what then initiates the reversal in pressure patterns that causes that persistent wind? WIKI eventually throws up its hands and says - rather unintelligently - "*Finally, it remains unclear how changes in the mean climate will ultimately affect ENSO predictability*" - and completes the chicken-and-egg circle.

Important work by the late [Theodor Landscheidt](#) and [Karin Labitzke](#) seems to have 'escaped the attention' of the IPCC.

Landscheidt died in 2004 and Labitzke has retired. Their work gives many keys to the sun earth connection which that organisation wishes to ignore.

In his paper, Tim provides a further piece for the jig-saw in

the solar ionised particle wind's eventual influence on the troposphere. He suggests that variations in solar wind pressure influence the Rossby wave pattern and could create a bellows effect on the troposphere, thus reversing the equatorial wind flow and triggering ENSO, which is only possible through the reduced effect of the Coriolis rotation force at low latitudes where ENSO occurs.

Developments in Carbon sequestration

A cheap methodology to absorb CO2 gas has been described by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology and is being [reported in WUWT](#). It beats the waste of money still being pursued in Alberta.

(I had a better title for this in mind, but decided against it. See for yourself.)

Steve McIntyre's London Talk

A report on Steve's 16/8 talk before the London's Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining was reported on by [Andrew Orlowski in the Register/Energy](#) . (please note: 2 pages). Until such time that a transcript becomes available, including the following discussion with AGWers present, this article is much worth reading. It also gives a good representation of Steve's ever measured and credible account of the controversies.

Roy Spencer's Cloud Hypothesis.

An article by [Eastman et al in the AMS' Journal of Climate](#) (behind paywall) reports on a 39 year survey of cloud changes worldwide. Anthony Watts points to the different coverage patterns of cumulonimbus and nimbostratus clouds over time and

speculates that it would be a key to relate these observations to the work by Svensmark and Spencer. [He reproduces some of graphs and says](#) "a cause needs to be identified as to why some clouds increase and others decrease. One of the obvious ones to examine is Svensmark's cosmic ray hypothesis, which says that as solar (magnetic) activity decreases, cosmic ray insolation intensity increases, and cloud cover increases due to more cosmic ray seeding. Aerosols and ENSO may also figure greatly in cloud formation changes."

The ~ Sixty Year cycle

In a similar vein, an article by Colorado State Professor Emeritus William Gray, a well known and respected member of the sceptics community. [In ICECAP he explains](#) the importance and regularity of the ~ 60 year period of main climate cycles, which have been recorded since the beginning of the thermometer age in the mid 19th century. He ties the changes to ocean behaviour, viz the Meridional Overturning Circulation, of which the Atlantic Thermohaline Circulation is part. He invokes this salinity-induced ATC as a mechanism for the Meridional Overturning (and for the changes in climate).

That may well be a factor. But Dr. Gray, an atmospheric physicist, fails to explain the regularity of these oceanic happenings. Why the sixty year cycle? The sixty year cycle is an observed celestial one.

It should be realised that the cycle is also detectable in the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, an ocean with a configuration different from the Atlantic and in the variations of the Length of Day and some planetary orbital effects. The LOD is used as a proxy of cyclic celestial forces.

Also absent is a consideration of Svensmark's as in the item above.

The dispersal of expertise in this multi-disciplinaire effort called 'climatology' is holding back progress. Where are the generalists? Work is progressing on the Earth - Sun relationship, but we are still at the stae of connecting the dots.

Václav Klaus in Sicily

The Czech President addressed the *International Seminar on Planetary Emergencies* which was organised in Sicily by the "World Federation of Scientists" and told the gathered science heavyweights that CAGW was not one of them.

The speech showed Klaus in top form and can be read on his website at <<http://www.klaus.cz/clanky/3165>>

Sunspots and the Dutch skating season.

Your Dutch-born Editor remembers well skating on the canals of his native country as a young man, and how important the 200 km Eleven-City Tour in Friesland was (and still is) in the national conscience. But it did not occur to any at the time that the amount of frost needed to stage this tour depended on sun spots. Frank Sirocko, a Professor in Mainz, made the connection between a reported 10 to 11 year cycle of frosty winters (and the inter-city tour) and the solar cycle by studying historical records of ice occurrence on the Rhine going back to 1780, and [publishing the results in the AGU](#) .

CO2 behaviour under the microscope

As Environmental Scientist Fred Haynie writes on Al Carlin's website, he retired from the EPA because "good science was being sidetracked by political purposes". In retirement, one thing he set out to do was to absolve CO2 from having been "falsely convicted on circumstantial evidence by a politically selected jury".

In a [very interesting slide presentation](#) (2010) he looks at the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ depletion problem in CO₂, evaluates measurement techniques, tackles the behaviour of CO₂ in the boundary layer and its relationship with sea surface temperature (where he mentions a Northern Pacific cycle of 176 years, which reminds me of Charvatova's 178 year ordered trefoil periodicity in the SIM

solar movement), to find that his "analysis is strong evidence that anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide have not measurably contributed to accumulation in the atmosphere." And there is much more.

There is some refreshing out-of-the-box thinking here and Hayne's conclusions do not particularly agree with those of his former employer.

Some other contributions by him are the anonymous [The "Greenhouse" effect](#) and [Quantifying the Anthropogenic Contribution to the Global Background Level of Atmospheric CO2](#) .

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***CliSci # 107 2012-08-17***

## **Post-Normal Science**

In a [guest post on Judy Curry's blog Steven Mosher discusses](#) how "Post Normal Science" differs from "Normal Science" by being subject to situations like:

- \* Facts are uncertain
- \* Values are in conflict
- \* Stakes are high
- \* Immediate action is required

The point is that climate science qualifies as "post-normal". This philosophical post may not be for everyone, but I still recommend it to you. We are face to face with this situation.

Interestingly, Emeritus Professor Arthur Rorsch discusses what has been called "Post-modern Science", a deviation from the strict evidence, experimenting and challenging practices of "normal science" (Kuhn and others) towards a science that responds to the moods and social circumstances of the culture of the times. Not to speak of politics. In that regard he questions the legitimacy of the IPCC's Draft report of Working Group I ("The Science") of the upcoming Fifth Assessment Report.

[An early draft of his paper appeared on the ICSC website.](#)

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## **"Oreskes, Queen of Climate Smear"**

This sobriquet was awarded by Joanne Nova to Professor Naomi Oreskes, who teaches Science History at the University of California at San Diego and who recently wrote a book with Erik Conway entitled "Merchants of Doubt", whereby she proves to Joanne's satisfaction not to understand Science, in fact "is in denial about what science is, what evidence is, about the mass movement of whistleblowing scientists storming across the web, and about the vested interests".

[Reading Joanne's blog on the subject](#) shines a light on "Oreskes' work (which) is based on logical fallacy, inept research, and incompetent reasoning".

Our own experience with the lady dates back to her 2004 survey of research papers on Climate Change, where she searched some 900 abstracts on limited key words and reportedly found no support at all for the sceptics' point of view. Her work method, which was obviously handicapped by her limited understanding of the multi-disciplinary nature of the subject, was severely criticised by many reviewers, who also stressed that outright support for the Consensus View was quite limited. Her search criteria and sources were suspiciously restricted and biased and her approach one of political advocacy.

*Friends of Science* reacted by commissioning a similar but limited [survey of critical peer-reviewed papers](#) by Dr Madhav Khandekar, which was published as an [Annotated Bibliography](#) in 2007 and updated later.

I presented Dr Oreskes with a copy, but it was not acknowledged. She remains unrepentant to this day.

In 2009 Anthony Watts published ["450 Peer-Reviewed Papers Supporting Skepticism of AGW-caused Global Warming"](#), now available in the SPPI Reprint Series, followed in 2012 by a listing of ["1100+ PeerReviewed Papers supporting Skeptic Arguments](#)

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## **The hot wave in the US vs the NOAA data**

The just-released NOAA National Climatic Data Center figures indicate that:

- \* Year to date (January - July) temperatures across the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon and Idaho) have trended downward at a rate of 0.98 degrees F per decade since 1998.
- \* Year to date (January - July) temperatures across the contiguous United States have trended downward at a rate of only 0.13 degrees F per decade since 1998.

Reasons for the contrasts between the year to date 2012 temperatures and the year to date 1998-2012 temperature trends of the Pacific Northwest and the contiguous United States are discussed by Dr. Tim Ball in an article "[Current Global Weather Patterns Normal Despite Government and Media Distortions](#)", in terms of Zonal and Meridional flow patterns of Rossby waves: "That is what is happening in North America now, but all we hear about is the warm weather across the eastern half of the continent, with little mention of the cold and wet conditions in the west."

"The dome of cold air over polar regions is expanding as the world has cooled since 1998. Rossby Waves in the Circumpolar Vortex that circles from west to east in the middle latitudes switched from Zonal to Meridional flow creating different weather patterns in the middle and high latitudes.

Rossby Waves migrate from west to east on a 4 to 6 week basis. However, when the Meridional Wave amplitude gets deep, with cold air pushing toward the Equator and warm air toward the Poles the system blocks. Now the weather pattern migration becomes 8 to 10 weeks and people become nervous. That is what is happening in North America now, but all we hear about is the warm weather across the eastern half of the continent, with little

mention of the cold and wet conditions in the west."

*(h/t to Ken Schlichte)*

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## **Ninth Annual Friends of Science Luncheon**

On October 17th 2012 FoS will hold its 9th Annual Luncheon at the Metropolitan Conference Centre in Calgary.

Investigative Journalist Donna Laframboise ("The Delinquent Teenager who was mistaken for the World's top Climate Expert") will explain how we have been taken to the carbon cleaners by our governments and political activists that masquerade as responsible scientists.

See the detailed announcement and ticket order form [here](#).

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## **Go figure ....**

Environmentalists won a moratorium in April 2010 on fracking in South Africa; the nation is building two new coal plants to help close a gap between electricity demand and supply. Virtually none of South Africa's deep shale gas is being developed, in large part due to tragically misguided environmental advocacy. With fracking stopped and gas locked underground, coal is being used to meet South Africa's energy needs. Indeed, coal power plants generate about 90% of South Africa's electricity today and may well continue to do so.

So reports [John Hanger in Fact of the Day](#).

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## **"Daylight Robbery"**

A couple of months ago Tim Ball, while revisiting IPCC AR 4 Chapter 8, was struck by the open admission of the essential shortcomings of the science on which the panel built its case. He collected 17 quotes from the 2007 Science Report that explain

by their own admission the IPCC's predictions cannot be correct. It makes one wonder about all these "95% likely" predictions. Some of the quotes are more guarded or cryptic than others, but careful reading discloses a plethora of uncertainties, lack of data, systematic errors (do they mean systemic?), discrepancies, omissions and so on. I'm sure such comments stay within the AR and will rarely be read by the people who would need to see them; they would instead be making their decisions on the basis of the political SPMs. You can read it all [here](#).

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## **V-P Candidate Paul Ryan on Climate Science**

[Pierre Gosselin writes on his blog notrickszone](#) about an article the newly fingered vice-presidential candidate wrote soon after the days of Copenhagen and ClimateGate in which he stated that Climatologists "Intentionally Misle[a]d The Public On Climate Change".

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## **On putting the cart before the horse**

This one in *Nature* is called:  
*"More extreme swings of the South Pacific convergence zone due to greenhouse warming"* and appears in *Nature* August 15th.

<[http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v488/n7411/full/nature11358.html?WT.ec\\_id=NATURE-20120816](http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v488/n7411/full/nature11358.html?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20120816)>

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## ***Nature Climate Change***

*Nature magazine* created a specialist magazine "[Nature climate change](#)" some years ago to deal with the large amount of climate related articles and letters and - reportedly - to contradict accusations of AGW bias. It looked like a hopeful experiment and

I accepted their offer of a free look/see for a year.

I have found no material so far that seriously questions the CO2 Dogma, basic to AGW, nor any research into natural causes. Its list of topics puts restrictions on paleoclimatology and misses any extra-terrestrial and solar research topics.

I have no way of telling whether any material on such more interesting topics has ever been submitted and rejected or that none have been submitted. But the words of the Editor (from the Editorial of the [Vol.2 No 8 \[August 2012\] issue](#)) do not sound particularly welcoming, if not downright condescending:

*".....Of course, there are many people who question whether human activities are having a significant effect on climate, or whether future climate change — if it occurs — will be as dangerous as many fear. Many of these doubters are simply sceptical about the existing evidence as they understand it. Others, however, seem to take a more overtly contrarian view. Either way, it is interesting to ask whether and under what circumstances people who are unconvinced that anthropogenic climate change is occurring would support pro-environmental measures, even if primarily designed to mitigate climate change....."*

Seems to me that "simply sceptical about the existing evidence as they understand it" is a rather essential aspect of a hypothesis; it may even make people "overtly contrarian", particularly when the Editor follows it with an unprincipled, irrelevant suggestion. That Magazine needs a new editorial outlook (and a new Editor) if it really wants to make a contribution to the burning issues of the causes of Climate Change.

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## **More GISS warming bias**

In a ["blog letter" to James Hansen](#), Bob Tisdale takes the GISS "LOTI" (Land-Ocean Temperature Index) apart after he spots "a recent abnormal increase in variability" involving the SH land



portion.

He concludes that the GISS LOTI now has so many biases toward warming built in that it "is more and more unsuitable for research".

A response from James Hansen is not expected.

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CliSci # 106 2012-08-06

Surface temperature battle in the US.

Dr **Richard Muller** and his daughter Elizabeth (BEST - Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature project) released a JGR-submitted paper, not yet peer-reviewed and accepted (eventually rejected, reports reviewer Ross McKittrick!) to the NYTimes, claiming faith in the veracity of the USHCN surface records, in essence proving support for CAGW. It was a political move, generally not appreciated by scientists anywhere, but convenient for the IPCC. The issue centred primarily around the siting requirements of the stations of the USHCN network, which have been found to be in violation in years past, which the Mullers considered to be trivial.

This all came to a head on the weekend of July 28th, when **Anthony Watts** and his co-workers (also pre-) released the results of a detailed five year study of the siting of the same USHCN stations, but according to more detailed WMO standards developed in France. Anthony's study indicated that half of the "warming" in the US was an artificial result, mainly induced by non-adherence to the requirements during decades of changes in suburban development around the sites. *"New discoveries explain part of the warming found in traditional surface temperature datasets. This partial warming is unrelated to the accumulation of heat due to the extra greenhouse gases, but related to human development around the thermometer stations. This means traditional surface datasets are limited as proxies for greenhouse warming."* The Watts team inspected numerous stations across the country and detailed the differences with nearby rural locations systematically. It is the value of the Watts operation that it is a quantitative and controlled survey which

makes it so much more credible. Some GISS/NASA people have labelled it "amateur".

And in a [post on August 3rd](#), Anthony reports on BEST's injudicious choice of station quality class grouping which makes the survey results less than useful.

A lot has been published and commented on during the past week and - conveniently - our Ken Gregory has summarised it all on <http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=594>, complete with links to the original publications.

CLIMATEGATE, The Questions never asked:

An administrator at University of East Anglia collated a series of possible questions for the UEA/CRU staff, in order to prepare them for the questions they could face before the Select Committee in the UK.

<http://climateaudit.org/2012/07/21/the-questions-that-were-never-asked/>>

Had these questions been asked and answered, this affair would have been over long ago. Some of the most obvious and important questions have never been asked or answered.

Dr. John Christy at the US Senate E&PW Committee

In the middle of the US heat wave and drought, John Christy addressed the Senate Committee on August 1st to assure the Senators that carbon dioxide has little to do with it. You can read his testimony [here](#); the first page contains a five point summary.

The Role of Soil Moisture

[Tim Ball has written a comment](#) on the role of soil moisture in the performance of the boundary layer, in terms of evaporation and plant transpiration.

The IPCC admits:

Unfortunately, the total surface heat and water fluxes (see Supplementary Material, Figure S8.14) are not well observed.

This means they don't have the data, but they also admit they cannot simulate the mechanisms involved.

For models to simulate accurately the seasonally varying pattern of precipitation, they must correctly simulate a number of processes (e.g., evapotranspiration, condensation, transport) that are difficult to evaluate at a global scale.

Tree rings and the solar connection

Jan Esper, leading a group of German and Swiss paleoclimate researchers, has published an [article in Nature Climate Change](#) that investigates orbital forcing of tree-ring data, a remarkable article in the rather politically correct AGW line-up of this *Nature* publication.

The natural variation of solar insolation becomes obvious in the connection with tree ring width. 'Carbon Dioxide' does not appear in the article, but Milankovitch' name does.

How slow the progress.....

HELP !

Much as many of us are convinced that our search for natural

causes of climate change is leading us to direct and indirect solar influences, relatively little coordinated work is being done in this field. One lonely researcher is Paul Vaughan, an abandoned, unfunded promovendus who drives trucks for a living. He publishes regularly on Anthony Watts' blog, on [globalwarmingskeptics](#)

and other places, keeping us aware of his progress in linking a number of orbital, solar and lunar cycles or their derivatives, with events on earth. Paul needs support that facilitates full time work to build a formal case.

He has been narrowing his earthly connection down to ENSO, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, which is not limited to the Pacific Ocean. Other researchers would agree on the important role that ENSO plays in earthly climate changes but everyone is struggling with the solar connection. In the August 4th issue of WUWT Paul writes:

"I have robustly detected a subharmonic of the terrestrial polar motion signal in southern ocean & southeast pacific Sea Surface Temperatures. This finding came about as a side-consequence of running careful diagnostics on a 13.44 year envelope in annual timescale Length Of Day variations that beats with the solar modulation of semi-annual terrestrial hemispheric westerly winds to yield a ~62.5 year wave. Interestingly, this framework lines up perfectly with Jupiter-Earth-Venus tidal cycles, Dansgaard-Oeschger/Bond (~1470 year) Event cycles, and also gives a 205 year wave (de Vries cycle). Everything points to the coupling of evaporation & wind. I can taste the cracking of the code of ENSO itself, which is the final obstacle to decisively defeating mainstream misconception, but revelation comes on its own schedule.

I humbly request serious financial assistance from anyone capable. The end of life may clock me out before I can reach revelation if I have to keep operating on such severely constrained free time & resources. It takes a fair amount of courage to ask for help this way. I have no alternatives for circumventing absolute mainstream institutional research funding prejudices."

If you or someone you know can help Paul to continue his work according to academic standards to a certain level of completion within a reasonable amount of time, I would be happy to provide additional information, some samples of his work and direct contact with him.

Check your weather for the next week [here](#)

CLiSci # 105 2012-07-26

Gasoline from natural gas

The [Fischer-Tropsch process](#), developed in the 1920s was commercialised in Germany in 1936 and used by the Germans during the Second World War and since 1952 in South Africa.

It has always been a somewhat inefficient way to convert coal and coal gas into gasoline. A Texas company, [Synfuels International](#) now announces having made a break-through on a more efficient and commercially viable alternate way, using natural gas as feedstock. It is a four-step process, the key of which lies in liquid-phase hydrogenation of acetylene into ethylene.

Have a look at <<http://www.synfuels.com/GTL.html>> if you are interested in such things.

"IPCC Admits Its Past Reports Were Junk"

Under the above title, The Heartland Institute's [Joseph Bast reports in the American Thinker](#) how the IPCC has quietly implemented a set of recommendations from the InterAcademyCouncil (2010).

Says Bast: *"The news release means that the IAC report was right. That, in turn, means that the first four IPCC reports were, in fact, unreliable. Not just "possibly flawed" or "could have been improved," but likely to be wrong and even fraudulent. It means*

that all of the "endorsements" of the climate consensus made by the world's national academies of science -- which invariably refer to the reports of the IPCC as their scientific basis -- were based on false or unreliable data and therefore should be disregarded or revised. It means that the EPA's "endangerment finding" -- its claim that carbon dioxide is a pollutant and threat to human health -- was wrong and should be overturned."
Anybody listening?

Schellnhuber and Ruling the World

The name of physicist Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Schellnhuber is not well known to North American readers. He heads PIK, the Potsdam Institute for Climate research. His CAGW reputation in Europe is probably worse than that of James Hansen on this side of the pond. Prior to the RIO+20 meeting he gave an [interview with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung](#) which you may try to push through 'Google Translate' to get the flavour of the discussion. He argues for "limiting democracy and transferring policy-making power to a wiser, elite group of scientists". So says Pierre Gosselin in [NoTricksZone, where Peter Heller discusses](#) why Schellnhuber will fail, ranking the PIK head with Dr. Strangelove and Dr. No.

(h/t to Hans Labohm)

Homogenisation of climate time series

Steirou and Koutsoyiannis presented an important [paper at the European Geophysics Union](#) (Vienna 4/2012) in which they examine common statistical methods used in the homogenisation of temperature time series and discuss how the current procedures affect temperature trends worldwide. They conclude that corrections may introduce bigger errors than the ones they are trying to remove and discovered a definite bias towards amplifying existing positive and negative trends.

The paper is commented on by [Anthony Watts](#) and [Steve McIntyre](#), as well as in a [guest post by Koutsoyiannis himself](#). Some may recall Ross McKittrick and Chris Essex' attack on many aspects of Average Global Temperature; they dubbed it T Rex, tyrannising climate science. ("Taken by Storm", Key Porter 2002, p. 119 ff)

(h/t to [Marcel Crok](#), NL)

The myth of the Positive Feedback

A [paper by VonDerHaar et al](#) puts the theory of increasing water vapour aiding increasing CO2 to the test and finds it wanting. While some of the results are preliminary, graphs show how - with a steadily increasing CO2 - water vapour content of the atmosphere has actually been dropping over the last 12 years. The paper is discussed on [WUWT](#) and on [The Hockey Schtick](#) Says our Ken Gregory: Just look at my [graph on the FoS website!](#)

Michael Mann is a hard learner

Outspoken, combative Mark Stein, in a [National Review article named "Football and Hockey"](#), while discussing the PennState Sandusky affair, has made some particularly unfriendly assessments of Michael Mann.

Michael Mann in turn, has "formally demanded a retraction of and apology for this defamatory piece (..... and] retained counsel to pursue (his) legal rights".

Mark Stein has displayed his considerable skills before when demolishing hate speech charges in Canadian Courts.

Michael Mann on the other hand, is not doing very well with his court case against Dr Tim Ball.

How soot changes ice cover reports

[Bill McGibbin reports in WUWT](#) how the Greenland Ice Sheet Albedo curve - of higher elevations - has dropped off the bottom of the graph. He blames it on Asiatic industrial soot and says that coastal areas are not so affected.

But it poses questions about the reporting of Arctic Sea Ice cover, but even more about the nature of this one-year appearance.

How chemical sea water changes could affect ocean productivity, the carbon cycle and climate

Wortmann (UofT) and Paytan (UCSD) write in *Science Mag* (20 July 2012: 334-336. DOI: 10.1126/science.1220656) that geological processes (continental drift being one) could trigger basin-wide sulphate precipitation or dissolution which could ultimately affect a number of oceanographic biological and climatic processes.

The article is behind pay-wall, but here is the

Abstract:

Fluid inclusion data suggest that the composition of major elements in seawater changes slowly over geological time scales. This view contrasts with high-resolution isotope data that imply more rapid fluctuations of seawater chemistry. We used a non-steady-state box model of the global sulfur cycle to show that the global $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ record can be explained by variable marine sulfate concentrations triggered by basin-scale evaporite precipitation and dissolution. The record is characterized by long phases of stasis, punctuated by short intervals of rapid change. Sulfate concentrations affect several important biological processes, including carbonate mineralogy, microbially mediated organic matter remineralization, sedimentary phosphorous regeneration, nitrogen fixation, and sulfate aerosol formation. These changes are likely to affect ocean productivity, the global carbon cycle, and climate.

An interesting discussion ensues in [WUWT](#)

Start of some independent thought?

Ignoring all dire warnings from the KNMI (Dutch Met Office) and the alarmist inputs from the German PIK (Rahmstorf *et al* with 7m SL rise!) about CAGW, the Dutch "Planning Office for Living Environment" (PBL) reports that temperature averages have increased only 1.7 degrees C over the past century and sea level rise has been only 20 cm over that period. It points out that productivity in the agriculture sector has increased, as have available "recreation days", an important fact in the sometimes dreary Dutch weather. Time for some head-scratching around the cabinet table.

Meanwhile, Dutch climate sceptics are planning for another "informational discussion" with KNMI warmists, the Academy and the Government later this year.

The balmy weather of the Tertiary

An interesting guest post by [Paul MacRae in WUWT](#) recalls Paradise Lost from the Optimum in Eocene times and contrasts it with the fact that our planet is now (with its Ice Ages and Interglacials) at its coldest levels in 300 million years. This is not new science, in fact it is well covered in Donald R. Prothero's book: *Eocene-Oligocene Transition: Paradise Lost*. New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1994 .

James Hansen's claim that our world is getting too hot is ridiculous in the larger time context.

The post has an added delight for our readers in Victoria, B.C, not yet submerged by Rahmstorf's seven metres of sea level rise.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Follow the money

[Recipe for successful grant applications](#)

Lord Monckton responds to attack in AGU's EOS newsletter

Ivar Giaever and Lord Christopher Monckton were subjected to "an unprovoked and more than usually scientifically illiterate personal attack" at some length in the AGU's Eos newsletter recently.

[Monckton wrote a reply](#), which Eos are refusing to print. American bloggers object to his Latin

Jet Stream and its movement around the globe

<<http://www.eldoradocountyweather.com/canada/forecast-maps/jetstream.html>>

<<http://www.weatherimages.org/data/imag192.html>>

<http://www.stormsurfing.com/cgi/display_alt.cgi?a=glob_250> (a really fascinating one!)

(h/t to Fran Manns)

A plea for realism in Canadian politics

[Tom Harris explains](#) why the Federal Government has to come out of the closet on Climate Change for its own good.

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***CliSci # 104 2012-07-16***

### Chicken-and-Egg science and the Insurance industry

It was noted a number of years ago that insurance premiums related to "catastrophic climate events" increased in spite of the fact that no such events occurred, or at least not in comparison to historic data. I recall that some reckless journalists even pointed to graphs of premium increase rates as proof for catastrophic global warming.

[Gordon McBean](#) who was Asst. Deputy Minister (Meteo Services Cda) at the time that Canada joined the Kyoto Protocol, obviously no longer works for the government. His involvement in the 1980s Villach meetings in which the IPCC found its origin, with Bert Bolin, Kofi Annan and Maurice Strong marks him as an enthusiast for the IPCC and a key culprit in Chrétien's and Canada's eager accession to the Kyoto obligations.

He is now a Professor at U of Western Ontario, combining appointments in the Geography and Political Science departments, a combination that could allow for inflicting continuing bureaucratic damage in the Environment field. The above link tells you what he is now up to.

In a report, commissioned by the Insurance Bureau of Canada, he concludes, true to his colours, that Canada has entered an era of extreme weather, with shorter and wetter winters, hotter summers and longer spring and fall seasons, [reports Lindsay Olson in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix](#) .

The myth continues. Mr Olson is western Vice-President of the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

Our expert on Extreme weather in Canada knows McBean well enough and had a few words to say in [rebuttal a week later](#), also in the Star Phoenix. Madhav Khandekar explains that nothing particularly unusual is happening when viewed over a longer period and concludes: "Canadians from coast-to-coast should be able to live and cope with future weather extremes with adequate precaution and need not be psyched into accepting increased insurance in future, as Olson's article seems to suggest".

*(h/t to Brian Pratt)*

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## **USHCN termometer data: No net GW in past century**

On Steven Goddard's RealScience blog [a couple of US graphs tell the story](#) of why some keep lamenting ever-increasing temperatures and others profess that no warming actually took

place in the 20th Century.

He shows an average Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit with Max and Min by year and a back-and-forth flipping anomaly graph (a "blink comparator") from GISS (NASA) which shows the post-1999 tampering engaged in by the Agency.

*(h/t to Douglas Leahey)*

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### **Convection cells in a rotating earth**

Tim Ball has written [a short but instructive article](#) about the developing thoughts on Hadley cells, Ferrel cells, the jet stream and the fact of stratospheric/tropospheric mixing.

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### **The increase in Arctic shipping**

For reasons of their own, shippers, media and warmists have all latched on to the prospects - no, the reality(!) - of increases in Arctic shipping. [This article by Robert Phelan](#) blows the excitement out of the icy water. While the Russians have been using their Northern route off and on for many decades the NW passage appears as quiet as ever, with odd exceptions. Most of the traffic there may be of the submerged military type.

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### **The boundary layer at night**

[A new paper by Roger Pielke Sr](#) discusses the sensitivity of the nocturnal long wave radiation of the turbulent boundary layer over land. A summary appears on [WUWT](#).

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### **Canadians not doing so well ...**

There is a curious dichotomy in facts and poll results.

While Canada downplays mitigation and abatement measures and is the first signatory to "Kyoto" to resign from the Protocol, its population seems to be lagging in recognising the scam for what it is.

Two New Climate Change Polls: The Washington Post and Stanford University have released results of a new poll conducted in mid-June indicating that nearly three in four Americans accept recent global warming, but only 30% agree that it is primarily due to human activity. Another poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion compared responses by Americans, Canadians and Britons. A majority of Canadians agreed that climate change is a fact and caused by emissions, while two in five Americans and Britons expressed that opinion. The poll goes into further detail about the variation among different regions in all three countries.

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CliSci # 103 2012-07-05

Antarctic ice shelves not melting at all

In "the Register", [Lewis Page reports](#) on a post in Science of June 25th that twenty-year-old models which have suggested serious ice loss in the eastern Antarctic have been compared with reality for the first time - and found to be wrong, so much so that it now appears that no ice is being lost at all. Tore Hattermann of the Norwegian Polar Institute, member of a team which has obtained two years' worth of direct measurements below the massive Fimbul Ice Shelf in eastern Antarctica - the first ever to be taken, says:

"Previous ocean models ... have predicted temperatures and melt rates that are too high, suggesting a significant mass loss in this region that is actually not taking place."

The AGU has announced the new research, stating:

"It turns out that past studies, which were based on computer models without any direct data for comparison or guidance, overestimate the water temperatures and extent of melting beneath the Fimbul Ice Shelf. This has led to the misconception, Hattermann said, that the ice shelf is losing mass at a faster rate

than it is gaining mass, leading to an overall loss of mass. The team's results show that water temperatures are far lower than computer models predicted ..."

Meanwhile, [WUWT's Sea Ice page](#) give an update on the present situation in the **Arctic Ocean**.

Using Aussie natives to spread propaganda ahead of the CO2 Tax

Ken Gregory writes on the FoS website :

'A new report from the University of Adelaide shows that South Australia's Arabunna country, which includes Lake Eyre in the far north, is likely to get both drier and hotter in decades to come. The Arabunna people live in the area around Lake Eyre in Southern Australia.

"Temperatures could increase up to four degrees Celsius in Arabunna country in the next century, threatening the survival of many plants and animals," says the author of the report, Dr John Tibby from the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Geography, Environment and Population.

Willis Eschenbach wrote an article about this report [here](#).

The projections for the region come from climate models. Even the modellers say the models are useless for regional projections. Of course, the models are also useless for global projections since they attribute all natural climate change to greenhouse gas emissions.

Willis says, "University of Adelaide professors are selling their fantasies of a terrifying future to the Arabunna, the aboriginal people who live in the area."

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) presents their adjusted surface temperature data [here](#). They show increasing temperatures of 0.2 to 0.3 C/decade from 1970.

One blogger correctly writes, "The BOM is under grave suspicion over its adjustments to the measures records particularly when all the adjustments have been upwards"

BOM adjusted the data to change a temperature decline into a

temperature increase.

The Australian carbon [dioxide] tax starts July 1, 2012.'

Ken wrote a blog post on this [here](#).

Incorrect and lazy science

With an OSU researcher stating that the ocean pH had risen 30% and by NOAA's Pacific lab in Seattle printing it on its information page and not handling the gross error in misunderstanding the logarithmic nature of pH (by letting it stand uncorrected) some people have made a fool of themselves, or worse.

[Chuck Wiese explains.](#)

Return of the Norwegian Cod (?) and other fish stories.

The Russians Klyashtorin and Lyubushin have always been in the forefront of [linking fish stock movements](#) to oceanic currents, while Eddy, Landscheidt *et al* as well as Piers Corbyn have traced the forcing to solar activity, and Petterson and Hjorth combined that with Lunar Tidal Functions in the North Sea. All this is referenced on [Gary Sharp's website](#). It is again front page news as the sockeye have returned to the Fraser River in record numbers. Meanwhile governments are pre-occupied with overfishing and native fishing rights.

The Solar Dynamo: New solar forcing papers. No Maunder in sight?

Earlier this year Dr Kees deJager published his paper "[Solar Forcing of Climate](#)". He has now followed this up (with his frequent Buenos Aires-based co-author Dr Silvia Duhau) with "[Sudden Transitions and Grand Variations in the Solar Dynamo, past and future](#)". The sun's two major magnetic field components, poloidal and toroidal, interact in anti-phase. New data on their behaviour and

on the geomagnetic *aa* index allow for an improved forecast of the current Schwabe sun cycle #24.

New data also allows the conclusion that new "Grand Episode" in solar activity started in 2008 which the authors think is similar to earlier "Regular" ones. This means that the "previous expectation of a Grand (Maunder-type) Minimum of Solar activity cannot be supported". No Grand Minimum is expected to occur during the [current] millennium. [...]"

-----and:

"Regime Change"

Further to the above: Under this heading several articles and blogs have appeared recently dealing with the Solar Magnetic 'Ap index' which has dropped to historic lows. While something obviously has happened, the connection with earthly temperature behaviour is tempting. Even so, once you have read what Kees and Silvia have said about the solar dynamos, you may want to look at [Anthony Watts' review](#) of some other opinions on what happened in 2005 (a main step downward) and 2008, which reached an Ap index minimum. It develops into a discussion of definitions, relationships between the solar and the geomagnetic fields (res. Ap and *aa*), with Leif Svalgaard disagreeing with DeJager's revision of the severity of the consequences for weather and climate on earth. Dalton? Maunder? Neither? There is lots of it and more [here](#).

EPA and its science before the Supreme Court

The first part of SEPP's "The Week That Was" (#910) of June 30th www.SEPP.org deals with the EPA Endangerment Finding. It is an interesting illustration of how potentially false and incorrect science that forms the basis of the EPA claims is accepted by the Courts, with any critique being ignored, because the Supreme Court expresses its bias as follows: ... *"we give an extreme degree of deference to the agency when it is evaluating*

scientific data within its technical expertise."

Some of the rulings and conclusions given by the Supreme Court are frightening in their ignorance and bullheadedness.

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## **CliSci # 102 2012-06-24**

### **Germany slowly shifting**

At the first-ever sceptical climate conference of the German Freie Demokratische Partei some holy houses are being destroyed. [NoTricksZone reports](#) on the goings on.

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### **NP/FP's Annual Junk Science week**

In case you missed it:

The Financial Post exposes Junk Science (at least) once a year and Climate science is always fertile ground.

In the first of these [Ross McKittrick discusses](#) the fallibility of climate modelling.

In the second one [Bob Carter examines](#) what's left of the scientific practice of Peer Review.

I've heard the term "crony review" used .....

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### **James Hansen's climate forecast of 1988: a whopping 150% wrong**

From their [Die kalte Sonne website](#), Professor Fritz Vahrenholt and Dr. Sebastian Lüning put up this guest post by Prof. Jan-Erik Solheim (Oslo) on Hansen's 1988 forecast, and show that Hansen was - and is - way off the mark.

One of the most important publications on the "dangerous anthropogenic climate change" is that of James Hansen and colleagues from the year 1988, in the [Journal of Geophysical](#)

[Research](#) published. The title of the work is "Global climate change, according to the prediction of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies." In this publication, Hansen and colleagues present the GISS Model II, with which they simulate climate change as a result of concentration changes of atmospheric trace gases and particulate matter (aerosols). The scientists consider three scenarios:

*A: increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 1.5% per year*

*B: constant increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions after 2000*

*C: No increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions after 2000*

The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since 2000 to about 2.5 percent per year has increased, so that we would expect according to the Hansen paper a temperature rise, which should be stronger than in model A.

[Figure 1 shows](#) the three Hansen scenarios and the real measured global temperature curve are shown. The protruding beyond Scenario A arrow represents the temperature value that the Hansen team would have predicted on the basis of a CO<sub>2</sub> increase of 2.5%. Be increased according to the Hansen's forecast, the temperature would have compared to the same level in the 1970s by 1.5 ° C. In truth, however, the temperature has increased by only 0.6 ° C.

It is regrettable that this type of modelling is still regarded as a reliable climate prediction **by** our politicians.

### **No hockey stick before Mann**

On the *Die kalte Sonne* website Geologist Lüning and ex-Potsdam's Professor Vahrenholt have also come up with a 1995 paper by Kitagawa and Matsumoto (GRL V.22 No16, p.2155 and reported in [NoTricksZone](#) ), that investigates cedar tree rings from southern Japan over the last 2000 years, and which may give a MWP and LIA expression through  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ . This may not be the most critical proxy, as Steve McIntyre insists, but it is another indication that these climate swings were worldwide, something denied by Mann and friends.

The paper is behind the GRL pay wall, but you may get a glimpse from the key illustration [here](#).

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## **Polar blasts in the SH**

It seems that the regime of outbursts from the Mobile Polar High pressure areas in the Southern Hemisphere has returned. Eduardo Ferraya who lives in NW Argentina at about 30 degrees South (!) writes:

"We're having in Argentina a series of Antarctic polar waves that has people shuddering. In Ushuaia an entire neighbourhood had to be evacuated because the cold froze water pipes and blocked natural gas valves. No heating, no cooking, streets with 2.5 metres of snow. In two weeks snowed more than an entire normal winter season. And winter hasn't begun yet!"

We know them well in the NH. As I understand it, the track of these outbursts is related to the location of the Rossby Waves at the critical moment.

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## **The Economist, uninformed, erroneous and stubborn**

A June 16th article in the Economist "[The vanishing north](#)" states that;

*"Between now and early September, when the polar pack ice shrivels to its summer minimum, they will pore over the daily sea ice reports of America's National Snow and Ice Data Centre. Its satellite data will show that the ice has shrunk far below the long-term average. This is no anomaly: since the 1970s the sea ice has retreated by around 12% each decade. Last year the summer minimum was 4.33m square km (1.67m square miles)—almost half the average for the 1960s. ...."*

In Anthony Watts' [June 16th issue WUWT readers take the magazine to task](#) for its lack of knowledge on climate matter, its supply of erroneous information and its habit of slavishly promoting the CAGW line.

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## **RIO+20: ~~Global Warming~~ -> Climate Change —>> Sustainability !**

CFACT has sent its Director Craig Rucker to Rio to supply us with daily reports of the shenanigans.

The RIO+20 circus, looking for a way to ride a new horse to the finish, after the GW and CC ones have become lame, seems to have settled on the malleable and murky definitions of *sustainable development*.

Our Ian Cameron, while recalling the reasonable [Brundtland Commission](#) definition: "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs", notes that there is the BBC definition: "A set of targets on various aspects of sustainable development, such as green jobs, curbing over-consumption, looking after ocean life and food security", which the corporation expects RIO to adopt.

Equally uncomfortable is "sustainability reporting": The idea that companies should have to tally up and make public a set of "accounts" detailing the sustainability of their business - for example, on water use, carbon emissions, impact on nature, and possibly social issues too.

Welcome to World Government.

22/6: Now that RIO+20 is wrapping up: According to Greenpeace it's an "**epic fail**". WWF says it's a "colossal failure", and it's so bad, Oxfam want to start all over again, [reports Joanne Nova](#) .

[It is] "billed as the biggest UN event ever organised. This time, 15,000 soldiers and police are guarding about 130 heads of state and government, as well as ministers and diplomats from 180 countries and at least 50,000 others."

"So 50,000 people got a trip to Rio. They may want world peace, free energy, and control over your light bulbs, your car, and your wallet, but most of them still got an expenses paid ticket to the Olympics of Global Bureaucracy. In the end they may say they

are disappointed, but in reality they still scored one heck of a free lunch. And this is the point. As long as the masses are not saying that they want their money back, the show is a success. The junket *is* the point. The headlines crying "failure" are still advertising the meme. The world is still talking about hopes of environmental campaigners, not about the waste of money; Not about the **200,000 people starved by biofuel policies** (and that was just the tally for 2010)."

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### **RIO+20, Delusion and the Green Crowd.**

Dr. Stephen Murgatroyd, a psychologist and former Dean at Athabasca University, says in a column in the June 22nd (Vancouver) Province that "[Delusion is a big problem with the Green Crowd](#)" .

He enumerates:

1) PERSISTENT BELIEF THAT SOME-THING SERIOUS IS HAPPENING. This has occurred over the last five decades as we have moved through the threat of the ice age, global warming, climate change, climate disaster, man-made natural disaster (another delusion) and the threat of sea-level rise flooding coastal cities around the world.

2) DISORGANIZED SPEECH. This has occurred over the last five decades as we have moved through the threat of the ice age, global warming, climate change, climate disaster, man-made natural disaster (another delusion) and the threat of sea-level rise flooding coastal cities around the world.

Just listen to Al Gore. While eloquent, he is also disorganized, confused, will not answer questions from audience members unless the question and the audience member has been vetted beforehand and will not respond to skeptical concerns.

3) FEELING THREATENED. Warmists are threatened by evidence that their theory of CO2 causing warming is mistaken. So, to protect their delusion, they adjust the data and increasingly rely on made-up evidence, also known as computer models, to justify their delusional beliefs.

4) GRANDIOSE BELIEFS. Many in the environmental movement believe that they are the keepers of truth and wisdom - a major delusion. They can't accept that other views or evidence may suggest alternative understanding of either environmental issues or climate change. For example, the idea that the pursuit of profit is a way to end poverty and take care of the environment is something that they reject, despite evidence that this is how poverty reduction has occurred on an unprecedented scale over the last 50 years.

5) MANIPULATION OF FACTS. Global temperatures are within normal ranges and haven't risen dramatically for over a decade, yet the delusionists are persuaded that global warming is occurring. One reason for this is the manipulation (technical "adjustment") of the evidence and the other is the use of fantasy (also known as computer-model) data. When evidence is provided from actual observations of natural events, the delusionists will have an explanation.

6) THE USE OF THE BOGEYMAN. Whenever skeptical voices are raised about their delusion, delusionists will make use of the "bogey-man" - big oil, the "fossil-fuel industry" - to try and discredit their adversaries. The fact that their delusions are also supported by "big oil" never occurs to them as a problem.

7) SAFETY IN NUMBERS. There are literally thousands who believe that the moon landings were fabricated. Others are taking the view that homeopathy is based on evidence and is an effective treatment for a range of illnesses, despite repeated demonstrations of its ineffectiveness and non-scientific base. A large number of people believe that Jesus visited the Americas (it is actually a Mormon belief). So the warmist delusionists meet frequently to reinforce their beliefs. Just because hundreds of people believe something doesn't make it true.

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**After the Himalaya disaster, the IPCC like grey literature more than ever.**

[The New Scientist reports](#) that the IPCC has decided to increase the role of "grey literature" in its reports, in order to increase the

balance in favour of developing countries. See also a [report in WUWT](#)

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CliSci # 101 2013-06-13

Hansen Redux

1). Anthony Watts has unearthed a [2000 paper by Hansen](#) and the GISS team in the [PNAS](#), in which these gentlemen maintain: *"..we argue that rapid warming in recent decades has been driven mainly by non-CO2 greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as chlorofluorocarbons, CH4, and N2O, **not by the products of fossil fuel burning, CO2 and aerosols**..If sources of CH4 and O3 precursors were reduced in the future, the change in climate forcing by non-CO2 GHGs in the next 50 years could be near zero. Combined with a reduction of black carbon emissions and plausible success in slowing CO2 emissions, this reduction of non-CO2 GHGs could lead to a decline in the rate of global warming, reducing the danger of dramatic climate change."* For what happened to this not unreasonable postulate, read Anthhony's comment in the above link.

2). Anthony digs further and finds a [2009 Blog on a US Senate Committee](#) site on which John Thoen, former boss of James Hansen and then recently retired, gives his opinion about Hansen and said that Hansen embarrassed NASA and was never muzzled. Hansen was not to be criticised. It has been reported that recently that Thoen in conversation has confided that "the word was unequivocal and came down from very high".

Causes of Late Miocene warming?

A number of UCal/Santa Cruz researchers have examined the late Miocene (some 12 million years ago) warming oceans, warming

continents and an almost ice-free Northern Hemisphere during a period of CO₂ atmospheric concentrations that were lower than those of today.

Being oceanographers, in their [report in Nature 486](#) they put their faith in thermocline shoaling in the Equatorial Pacific, as well as a grab-bag of gradient reductions and cloud and water vapour feedbacks. Sorry, no CO₂.

Any other bids?

Gosh, all those research grants.

..... Meanwhile in the Late Pleistocene

In a paper entitled "Interglacial Hydroclimate in the Tropical West Pacific Through the Late Pleistocene" Meckler *et al* report - according to the following *Abstract* - that the records of atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration (P_{CO_2}) and Antarctic temperature have revealed an intriguing change in the magnitude of interglacial warmth and P_{CO_2} at around 430,000 years ago (430 ka), but the global climate repercussions of this change remain elusive. Here, we present a stalagmite-based reconstruction of tropical West Pacific hydroclimate from 570 to 210 ka. The results suggest similar regional precipitation amounts across the four interglacials contained in the record, implying that tropical hydroclimate was insensitive to interglacial differences in P_{CO_2} and high-latitude temperature. In contrast, during glacial terminations, drying in the tropical West Pacific accompanied cooling events in northern high latitudes. Therefore, the tropical convective heat engine can either stabilize or amplify global climate change, depending on the nature of the climate forcing.

The debunking of Gergis' Warming paper

The American Meteorological Society has withdrawn a paper by Gergis *et al* on proxy temperatures in Australia after Steve McIntyre (ClimateAudit) discovered mistakes and irregularities which the peer review had missed. The paper was put "on hold". While WUWT gives all [the "clickable" details](#) , Ken Gregory gives a detailed accounting for the FoS website of what Steve found and

gives a jab at what has become known as "pal" review. Here's the [link](#).

Incidentally, underneath that FoS link is one to Steve's work on Keith Briffa's tree ring proxy data on the Yamal peninsula in Siberia.

Both - of course - show convenient hockey stick results, and both are fake.

SolarCycle 24

Have a look at the sunspot number development and [prediction for the current solar cycle 24](#).

NASA says: "The current prediction for Sunspot Cycle 24 gives a smoothed sunspot number maximum of about 60 in the Spring of 2013. We are currently over three years into Cycle 24. The current predicted size makes this the smallest sunspot cycle in about 100 years."

Gleick returns to the Pacific Institute

Dr. Peter Gleick, who obtained documents from the Heartland Institute under false pretences and probably falsified one additional document himself in his attempt to damage the sceptics' cause had to leave his job as President of the Pacific Institute in disgrace.

After an apology, the Directors welcomed him back and *Richard Tol* commented:

"The Pacific Institute is a private organization, founded and led by Peter Gleick. The Board must have reckoned that the Institute will not survive without Gleick, and may survive with him."

Hans Labohm adds: "If it would have been climate sceptics who had been involved in such an affair, the world would have been too small for the outrage. But Greenhouse religionists appear to think that they can get away with it".

[FoS comments](#) on this "New Ethical Low for Global Warming Movement" on its website. The case now carries the inescapable

label "FakeGate".

New NCAR supercomputer in Wyoming to boost Atmospheric Science

The [June 10th L.A. Times reports](#) that a 1.1 peta-flop supermachine with 72,000 core processors that will be able to cut through the chaos of data that befuddle the old GCMs. Gary Young reports that it harbours 8 mW-size wind turbines, but with a a quick response gas turbine, if needed. Will it improve the art of making computer model predictions? Tim Ball has something to say about this increase of GIGO level in his website article "[Computer Incapable of Modeling Climate](#)"

Anthony Watts' Quote of the Week

Takamitsu Tanaka, a Max Planck astrophysicist, may have found a way to attract more GW research money. A preprint of Tanaka's paper in the Cornell science archive entitled "X-ray emission from high-redshift miniquasars: self-regulating the population of massive black holes through global warming" shows [the abstract](#) as saying:

"Our calculations paint a self-consistent picture of black-hole-made climate change, in which the first miniquasars – among them the ancestors of the z 6 quasar SMBHs – globally warm the IGM and suppress the formation and growth of subsequent generations of BHs".

Vahrenholt aftermath

You may recall that Professor Fritz Vahrenholt, one of the mainstays of the PIK Potsdam Institute which, under Rahmstorf's leadership, apes the Hansen doctrine for German and European benefit, turned 180 degrees around and became a sceptic earlier

this year. The warmists have not recovered from the shock as the establishment is still fighting their new-found enemy. Evidence is in the [June 11th issue of the European Energy Review](#) where Dutch KNMI researcher and chief warmist Rob van Dorland crosses swords with his former comrade-in-arms (GHGs are responsible, not the Sun), who is quick to respond. Are they preparing for a planned climate conference in Holland later this year?

The UK Met Office computers

[Met Office 3-month Outlook, 23 March 2012](#): "The forecast for average UK rainfall slightly favours drier-than-average conditions for April-May-June as a whole, and also slightly favours April being the driest of the 3 months. With this forecast, the water resources situation in southern, eastern and central England is likely to deteriorate further during the April-May-June period."

Reality:

[April](#): "It has been the wettest April in the UK for over 100 years, with some areas seeing three times their usual average, figures from the Met Office show. Some 121.8mm of rain has fallen, beating the previous record of 120.3mm which was set in 2000."

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***CliSci # 100 2012-06-03***

### **Number Games - Another day in the life of James Hansen**

As [reported by the Vancouver Observer](#): The amazing persistence of CO2 in the air has allowed billions of our small

emissions, like those from the Enola Gay, to amass into an ever growing threat to civilization. How fast is that threat growing? In a must-see [TED talk, NASA climate scientist James Hansen](#) say the current increase in global warming is "...equivalent to exploding 400,000 Hiroshima atomic bombs per day 365 days per year. That's how much extra energy Earth is gaining each day." That's 278 atomic bombs worth of energy every minute – more than four per second – non-stop. To be clear, that is just the extra energy being gained each day on top of the energy heating our planet by 0.8 degree C. It is the rate at which we are increasing global warming.

Says *Anthony Watts*:

I think we need a new unit to quantify ridiculousness. I propose the Hansen Ridiculae Scale, somewhat like the Richter scale, logarithmic in nature. [.....] If somebody wants to quantify the solar insolation received by Earth each day in "Hiroshima units", I'll add it to the main thread. That number will dwarf Hansen's claim.

To which *Willis Eschenbach* replied: Here's your numbers, Anthony.

1 ton of TNT =  $4.184 \times 10^9$  joules (J)

Hiroshima bomb = 15 kilotons of TNT =  $6.28 \times 10^{13}$  joules (ibid)

Hansen says increase in forcing is "400,000 Hiroshima atomic bombs per day", which comes to  $2.51 \times 10^{19}$  joules/day and works out to a constant additional global forcing of  $2.91 \times 10^{14}$  watts.

Normally, we look at forcings in watts per square metre (W/m<sup>2</sup>).

Total forcing (solar plus longwave) averaged around the globe 24/7 is about 500 watts per square metre.

To convert Hansen's figures to a per-square-metre value, the global surface area is  $5.11 \times 10^{14}$  square metres ... which means that Hansen's dreaded 400,000 Hiroshima bombs per day works out to **0.6 watts per square metre** ... in other words, Hansen wants us to be very afraid because of a claimed imbalance of **six tenths of a watt per square metre** in a system where the downwelling radiation is half a kilowatt per square metre ... we cannot even measure the radiation to that kind of accuracy.

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## **An assessment of Stephen Harper's strategy**

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper has successfully ridden the climate change juggernaut to its inevitable end. By not directly confronting an inherited policy that he found distasteful, he has been able to manage it to a conclusion that has alienated fewer and satisfied more Canadians. In the years to come, as the international climate change file gradually fades into obscurity, similar to many other such utopian initiatives, he can look back with satisfaction at a job well done.

*Michael Hart, Carleton University, [Ottawa Citizen, 16 May 2012](#)*

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## **On 20th century Sea Level Rise**

In a [guest post on WUWT](#) Paul Homewood dissects the myth of accelerating rise in global sea levels and finds several reasons as to why the claim is false.

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## **What is to be expected of Global Cooling?**

David Archibald has been digging into the 1970's climate change scare, the downward one, and recalls some of the predictions made at that time.

The most successful prediction of the current minimum, in terms of lead time and detail, was made by two researchers in the US later that decade. Using tree ring data from redwoods in Kings Canyon in California, in 1979 Libby and Pandolfi forecast that, "by running this function into the future we have made a prediction of the climate to be expected in King's Canyon; the prediction is that the climate will continue to deteriorate on the average, but that after our present cooling-off of more than the average decay in climate, there will be a temporary warming up followed by a greater rate of cooling-off."

How prescient!

In a Los Angeles Times interview, Libby and Pandolfi gave a more detailed forecast:

*"The forecast is for continued cool weather all over the Earth*

*through the mid-1980s, with a global warming trend setting in thereafter for the rest of the century – followed by a severe cold snap that might well last through the first half of the 21st century.”*

*“Both the isotope record and the thermometer record show neat agreement for the cold decades at the ends of the 17th and 18th centuries, when temperatures fell by 1-10th to 2-10ths of a degree.”*

*“More recently, the world has enjoyed an agricultural boom during the past 70 years or so. The Earth’s annual average temperature has risen by about 1 to 1½ degrees, about as much of an increase as the decrease during the Little Ice Ages, during this interval.*

*When she and Pandolfi project their curves into the future, they show lower average temperatures from now through the mid-1980s. “Then,” Dr. Libby added, “we see a warming trend (by about a quarter of 1 degree Fahrenheit) globally to around the year 2000. And then it will get really cold – if we believe our projections. This has to be tested.”*

*How cold? “Easily one or two degrees,” she replied, “and maybe even three or four degrees.”*

In 2003, two solar physicists, Schatten and Tobiska, published a paper which included the following prediction: “The surprising result of these long-range predictions is a rapid decline in solar activity, starting with cycle #24. If this trend continues, we may see the Sun heading towards a “Maunder” type of solar activity minimum – an extensive period of reduced levels of solar activity.”

The next prediction of the current minimum was made by Clilverd et al in 2006 using low-frequency solar oscillations.

Clilverd predicted that Solar Cycles 24 and 25 would have amplitudes similar to that of Solar Cycles 5 and 6 of the Dalton Minimum before a return to more normal levels mid-century.

In another [guest post on WUWT](#) David Archibald reviews some 1974 CIA files that examined the possible consequences of Global Cooling for Americans in terms of economy and food supply, as it was the scary story of that decade.

Then he puts these findings in the light of present day solar behaviour.

Button up up your overcoats.

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### **Brazilian Scientists try to educate their President**

For those who want to copy and paste the original Portuguese version of an Open Letter by eighteen Brazilian scientists to their country's President, Mme Dilma Rousseff, in *Google Translate*, here is a worthwhile development in South America:

<<http://www.pecuaria.com.br/info.php?ver=12388>>

You may notice that the majority of the signatories is from earth Scientists.

*(h/t Dr Glatzle)*

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### **The Yamal data**

The ClimateGate disclosures of 2009 noted the importance of the Siberian tree ring data from Yamal, as gathered and reported by CRU's Keith Briffa. After two years of digging and FOIP requests by people like Steve McIntyre, it is becoming clear that Briffa is probably guilty of cherry-picking.

Montford ("The hockey stick illusion") and Ambler [report in the National Review](#) on what is emerging from Steve's pursuit of a case of data manipulation.

All apart from the fact that tree rings are lousy proxies anyway.

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### **Heartland's 7th [International Conference on Climate Change](#)**

The headline link takes you to the main site.

In addition our ICSC friends made a splash with several appearance by Chief Science Advisor Professor Bob Carter and Executive Director Tom Harris, as shown on then [ICSC's own website](#)

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## **Phil Jones at the KNMI**

CRU head Phil Jones gave a talk at the Dutch meteo HQ, the respectable KNMI.

Marcel Crok a sceptical science writer reports in the web journal [De Staat van het Klimaat.](#)

The talk centered around the controversial topic of the CRU's data gathering and management. The two-part article is in English.

And a [Mann walks into a bar.](#)

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ClSci # 99 2012-05-15

Professor Bob Carter's presentation Ottawa, Toronto and Calgary

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Professor Carter of the Marine Geophysical Laboratory, James Cook University, Townsville QLD, Australia, specialises in paleontology, stratigraphy, and marine geology. He is a former director of Australia's Secretariat for the Ocean Drilling Program and a Co-Chief Scientist for drilling leg 181. His early work was in the area of biostratigraphy and sequence stratigraphy. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Adelaide, South Australia and an Emeritus Fellow at the Institute for Public Affairs (Melbourne).

He also serves as chief science advisor for the International Climate Science Coalition and is author of the "Climate: the Counter Consensus", a most readable book.

In his ICSC capacity he is visiting Canadian centres after his Heartland Conference attendance.

Dr Carter will give a talk entitled "Dealing with climate hazard - adaptation is surely the key" as follows:

OTTAWA: Friday May 25th, at 11:30, Carleton University, Dept of Earth Sciences, Room HP 3120

TORONTO: Monday May 28th, at 14:00, Un. of Toronto, Earth Sciences Centre, Room 2093

CALGARY: Thursday/Friday/Saturday, May 31 to June 2: Several talks at UC, MRU, private and public meetings are being arranged.

Rio+20 Talks Deadlocked Over Green Protectionism Fears

The UN Preparatory Committee of Representatives from governments negotiating the outcome document for the United Nations Sustainable Development Conference (Rio+20) has failed to reach consensus on a global plan of action, titled "The Future We Want," to be adopted by a summit meeting of world leaders mid-June in Brazil. They agreed today to add five more days of deliberations to bridge differences that have kept them from making further progress in negotiations. This will be a last ditch attempt to finalise the draft action plan. Countries have voiced concern over the theme of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty, with some developing countries asserting that a green economy approach should not lead to green protectionism or limit growth and poverty eradication.

[UN News Centre, 5 May 2012](#) and [IPS News, 7 May 2012](#)

On May 9th "the ["European Voice" reported](#) that the European Parliament cancelled plans to send a delegation to the UN's Rio+20 conference. Explained Matthias Groote, Chairman of its Environment Committee, "The huge increase in the estimated cost of attending the summit is simply not justifiable, especially at a time when many Europeans are faced with economic hardship."

(which may or may not be the actual reason - afj)

Solar climate change is real and now" say Piers Corbyn and Stephen Wide

A post on the [Climate Realists](#) Forum refers to a study in [Nature Geoscience](#) which reports on German research on the climate change that occurred at the beginning of the pre-Roman Iron Age and demonstrates that especially the so-called Grand Minima of solar activity can affect climate conditions in western Europe through changes in regional atmospheric circulation pattern. Around 2800 years ago, one of these Grand Solar Minima, the Homeric Minimum, caused a distinct climatic change in less than a decade in Western Europe.

"Large changes in solar ultraviolet radiation can indirectly affect climate¹ by inducing atmospheric changes. Specifically, it has been suggested that centennial-scale climate variability during the Holocene epoch was controlled by the Sun^{2, 3}. However, the amplitude of solar forcing is small when compared with the climatic effects and, without reliable data sets, it is unclear which feedback mechanisms could have amplified the forcing. Here we analyse annually laminated sediments of Lake Meerfelder Maar, Germany, to derive variations in wind strength and the rate of ¹⁰Be accumulation, a proxy for solar activity, from 3,300 to 2,000 years before present. We find a sharp increase in windiness and cosmogenic ¹⁰Be deposition $2,759 \pm 39$ varve years before present and a reduction in both entities 199 ± 9 annual layers later. We infer that the atmospheric circulation reacted abruptly and in phase with the solar minimum. A shift in atmospheric circulation in response to changes in solar activity is broadly consistent with atmospheric circulation patterns in long-term climate model simulations, and in reanalysis data that assimilate observations from recent solar minima into a climate model. We conclude that changes in atmospheric circulation amplified the solar signal and caused abrupt climate change about 2,800 years ago, coincident with a grand solar minimum."

In the comments posted by Piers, he insists that the descent into a solar minimum and the circulation patterns observed today show all the similarity he needs to justify the headline's news.

Mesozoic Climate Change by farting Sauropods

Scientists believe that, just as in cows, methane-producing bacteria aided the digestion of sauropods by fermenting their plant food. Three UK scientists have found another way to tap some climate change grants, using mathematical models of assumed Sauriers' biomass (kilograms) per area (km^2) between 186,000 and 672,000, producing two litres/kg/day/animal over a land area of $75 \times 10^6 \text{ km}^2$, resulting in 520 million tonnes of methane.

"A simple mathematical model suggests that the microbes living in sauropod dinosaurs may have produced enough methane to have an important effect on the Mesozoic climate," said study leader Dr Dave Wilkinson, from Liverpool John Moores University.

[.....] "Indeed, our calculations suggest that these dinosaurs could have produced more methane than all modern sources – both natural and man-made – put together."

(Current Biology Today, Vol.22, No 9, R 292)

Methane rises into the higher atmosphere where it either escapes or gets oxidised by ozone.

New research brings satellite measurements and global climate models closer (or not?)

From the University of Washington comes [this press release](#):

"One popular climate record that shows a slower atmospheric warming trend than other studies contains a data calibration problem, and when the problem is corrected the results fall in line with other records and climate models, according to a new University of Washington study.

The finding is important because it helps confirm that models that simulate global warming agree with observations, said [Stephen Po-Chedley](#), a UW graduate student in atmospheric sciences who wrote the paper with [Qiang Fu](#), a UW professor of atmospheric sciences.

They identified a problem with the satellite temperature record put together by the [University of Alabama in Huntsville](#).

Researchers there were the first to release such a record, in 1989, and it has often been cited by climate change skeptics to cast doubt on models that show the impact of greenhouse gases on global warming.

In their paper, appearing this month in the American Meteorological Society's [Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology](#), Po-Chedley and Fu examined the record from the researchers in Alabama along with satellite temperature records that were subsequently developed by the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) and [Remote Sensing Systems](#)."

A [spirited defence by John Christy and Roy Spencer](#) was not long in coming, stating in summary that

- 1) the authors' methodology is qualitative and irreproducible.
- 2) the author's are uninformed on the complexity of the UAH satellite merging algorithm.
- 3) the authors use the RSS (Remotes Sensing Systems) satellite dataset as "verification" for their proposed UAH NOAA-9 calibration target adjustment for TMT, but barely mention that their TLT (lower tropospheric) results are insignificant and that trends are essentially identical between UAH and RSS without any adjustment in the NOAA-9 calibration coefficient.
- 4) the authors neglected the main TMT differences among the datasets – and instead try to explain the UAH v. RSS trend difference by only two years of NOAA-9 data, while missing all of the publications which document other issues such as RSS problems with applying the diurnal correction. (*What else is new....*).

CO2 not an efficient "control knob" for Greenhouse Gases effect

A [paper by Timothy Curtin](#) examines the H2O feedback aspect of the GH effect and concludes that water vapour is the primary forcing agent that accounts for "much more than 50% of the total GHG effect".

Further implications of Svensmark's paper

In Svensmark's new paper (see CliSci# 97) a concise theory, that cosmic rays from exploding supernovae cool the world by increasing the cloud cover, leads to amazing explanations, not least for why evolution sometimes was rampant and sometimes faltered. In both senses of the word, this is a stellar revision of the story of life.

Here are the main results:

- * The long-term diversity of life in the sea depends on the sea-level set by plate tectonics and the local supernova rate set by the astrophysics, and on virtually nothing else.
- * The long-term primary productivity of life in the sea " the net growth of photosynthetic microbes " „ depends on the supernova rate, and on virtually nothing else.
- * Exceptionally close supernovae account for short-lived falls in sea-level during the past 500 million years, long-known to geophysicists but never convincingly explained.
- * As the geological and astronomical records converge, the match between climate and supernova rates gets better and better, with high rates bringing icy times.

Presented with due caution as well as with consideration for the feelings of experts in several fields of research, a story unfolds in which everything meshes like well-made clockwork. Anyone who wishes to pooh-pooh any piece of it by saying "correlation is not necessarily causality" should offer some other mega-theory that says why several mutually supportive coincidences arise between events in our galactic neighbourhood and living conditions on the Earth. (*Not my words- Ed.*)

Solar Forcing of Climate

A [new article](#) has appeared from the hand of Professor Kees DeJager which looks at the current solar minimum in terms of the solar dynamo and its correlation with terrestrial temperature.

ABSTRACT:

Solar activity is evident both in the equatorial activity centres and in the polar magnetic field variations. The total solar irradiance variation is due to the former component.

During the extraordinarily long minimum of activity between sunspot cycles 23 and 24, the variations related to the equatorial field components reached their minimum values in the first half of 2008, while those related to the polar field variations had their extreme values rather at the end of 2009 and the first half of 2010. The explanation of this delay is another challenge for dynamo theories. The role of the open solar flux has so far been grossly underestimated in discussions of Sun-climate relations. The gradual increase in the average terrestrial ground temperature since 1610 is related both to the equatorial and polar field variations. The main component (0.077 K/century) is due to the variation of the total solar irradiance. The second component (0.040 K/century) waits for an explanation.

The smoothed residual increase, presumably antropogenic, obtained after subtraction of the known components from the total increase was 0.31 K in 1999.

The actual reference is C. de Jager, 2012, Solar Forcing of Climate, Surveys in Geophysics, DOI.10.1007/s10712-012-9193/z

Bob Tisdale answers James Hansen

[The piece in the NYTimes by James Hansen](#) has had its reactions in the sceptics' blogs. In a particularly teasing, yet civilised way, Bob Tisdale, an observer of oceanic influences on climate, in particular the ENSO system, has written a response piece as an "[unsent memo to James Hansen](#)" which is worth reading.

In further response Richard Courtney (see the blog entry at 9:57 a.m. May 12th on that site) takes issue with Tisdale's ascribing temperature change to ENSO, saying that it in turn may well be the effect of slight solar solar changes (as Veizer observes). The Unsent Memo has

captured the [Top Post at WordPress](#) for the day.

Some of us have our own reaction which is summarised as shown [here](#) .

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## ***CliSci # 98 2012-05-05***

### **Talking Points**

Our ever busy Ken Gregory has assembled a number of "Talking Points", topics which may come up in conversation with a friend or neighbour, but definitely also suitable for a "believing" warmist.

Especially with an eye on the latter kind, he has included references to bolster the various statements.

It's a work-in-progress (send us your suggestions). You will find a link to the current version [here](#).

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### **Land-based Hadcrut versus UAH's satellite temps.**

An up to date 30-year chart is available from ["Wood for Trees"](#) that compares the CRU's newest global Land and Sea Surface temperature record with the UAH satellite readings of the Lower Troposphere. Allan MacRae judges there is still a 0.2 degrees warming bias in HadCRUt.

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### **Sorry lessons of green power subsidies**

The Globe and Mail newspaper seems to realise that green power programs are mostly uneconomical and go bankrupt when the subsidies stop.

Most of us know that already, but to see it [here](#) in the non-AGW-sceptical G&M is a pleasant surprise.

What's more, the comments show that many of its readers agree. Of course, one should be less surprised, when one sees that the author is no other than Gwyn Morgan, former President of Encana.

(h/t Marc Duchamp)

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## **How to produce methane hydrates**

A US supported set of field trials in the Kuparuk area of the Alaska North Slope was carried out by the *Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation* and Conoco-Philips, whereby CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> were injected into *in situ* hydrates of the permafrost. Their [News Release](#) says they carried out "a successful test [.....] that was able to safely extract a steady flow of natural gas from methane hydrates."

Hydrates have been the sworn enemy of drillers on the North Slope, the Beaufort Delta and deep continental slope wells in the Atlantic area and along the Pacific coast. Many blowouts have occurred on the Arctic Coast when the drill bit disturbed the gas encased in the lattice of the ice crystals.

The US Department of Energy plans to increase its hydrate extraction research and [New Energy and Fuel](#) insists that the gas potential of US hydrate deposits alone will supply that country with 1000 years of fuel.

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## **Current prediction for solar cycle 24**

Three years into the new solar cycle, it is the time for a more reliable predictions of the sunspot numbers of cycle 24 from a variety of measurements. The latest, as reported by WUWT from the [NASA solar science website](#), has # 24 at a predicted smoothed maximum of 60 sunspots in the spring of 2013, which is only half that of the preceding cycle. This would make it the smallest cycle in a hundred years.



The NASA site gives a good explanation of the various techniques currently employed in these forecasts.

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### **Michael Mann's FOIA court case**

We usually read about Mann's court case to defend his refusal of access to his e-mails in short news reports. [Here](#), for those interested, are transcripts from the court room. It makes for interesting reading.

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### **Treasure grove of Arctic Sea Ice map discovered**

Arctic Ice data 1893-1961 in map format have been discovered in Iceland. [Take a look!](#)

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### **Bob Carter in Ottawa, Toronto and Calgary**

Professor Carter (James Cook U., Australia), Chief Science Advisor for the ICSC and author of "Climate: the Counter Consensus" will visit Canada after the Heartland Conference and will lecture in Ottawa at Carleton University on May 25th 11:30 and in Toronto and Calgary afterwards. The Calgary date is 30 or 31/5. I will keep you up to date as the date approach. e-Mail <[tom.harris@climatescienceinternational.net](mailto:tom.harris@climatescienceinternational.net)> for further details.

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### **Ten years of FoS and the Warmists take notice**

One afternoon this spring, those of us who have been involved in the Friends of Science Society, founders, board members, contributors and donors, came together to celebrate, reminisce and take stock of ten years of work to bring unbiased climate

science to the public, media and politicians. The participants were pleased that measurable successes have been achieved, while the cessation of warming during the past decade and the ever increasing convincing evidence of solar control of global climate have assisted in proving us to be correct in our work. We also concluded that there was much more work left to be done before substantial change in governments' obsession with carbon trade, sequestration and taxation would be effectuated. It is estimated that a trillion dollars globally have been wasted on CO2 control projects during the past ten years.

It is interesting to note that during the past days an [article by Rasmus](#) in Real Climate, the Warmists' blog, strikes a more exasperated tone about the non-effect of RC's efforts to continue preaching the alarmist scenario.

He writes: *"However, if the notion that information makes little impact is correct, one may wonder what the point would be in having a debate about climate change, and why certain organisations would put so much efforts into denial, as described in books such as [Heat is on](#), [Climate Cover-up](#), [Republican war on science](#), [Merchants of doubt](#), and [The Hockeystick and Climate Wars](#).*

*Why then, would there be such things as 'the Heartland Institute', 'NIPCC', climateaudit, WUWT, climatedepot, and FoS, if they had no effect? And indeed, the [IPCC](#) reports and the reports from the [National Academy of Sciences](#)?*

***One could even ask whether the effort that we have put into RealClimate has been in vain.***" (bold mine - A.)

If FoS has contributed to RC's discomfort, we do not apologise.

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CliSci # 97 2012-04-27

The influence of planetary attractions on the solar tachocline

In a new paper in the Jrnl of Atmosph.& Solar-Terr.Physics, D.K. Callebaut *et al.*: "The influence of planetary attractions on the solar tachocline", Journal of Atmospheric and Solar-Terrestrial Physics 80 (2012) 73–78, the authors judge the gravitational aspect to be too small to be of importance, but leave the window open for some small effects on the solar dynamo.

ABSTRACT:

"We present a physical analysis of the occasionally forwarded hypothesis that solar variability, as shown in the various photospheric and outer solar layer activities, might be due to the Newtonian attraction by the planets. We calculate the planetary forces exerted on the tachocline and thereby not only include the immediate forces but we also take into account that these planetary or dynamo actions occur during some time, which demands integration. As an improvement to earlier research on this topic we reconsider the internal convective velocities and we examine several other effects, in particular those due to magnetic buoyancy and to the Coriolis force.

The main conclusion is that in its essence:

Planetary influences are too small to be more than a small modulation of the solar cycle. We do not exclude the possibility that the long term combined action of the planets may induce small internal motions in the sun, which may have indirectly an effect on the solar dynamo after a long time."

The full paper is available [here](#), from co-author Professor C. de Jager's website.

An ancient geologic trigger to "climate" (s.l.) change

An interesting [article in Nature](#) describes evidence for the "Great Unconformity" being the trigger for the following Cambrian explosion of life in great diversity. Based on analysis of early Cambrian marine sediments of some 540 million years ago, it is recognised that the great upheavals at the close of the Proterozoic Era resulted in much erosion of the old crystalline rocks and the creation of shallow seas and an increase of alkalinity of the oceans.

The paper is behind the usual *Nature* paywall, but the abstract states that the Unconformity's "*palaeogeomorphic surface represents a unique physical environmental boundary condition that affected seawater chemistry during a time of profound expansion of shallow marine habitats. Thus, the formation of the Great Unconformity may have been an environmental trigger for the evolution of biomineralization and the 'Cambrian explosion' of ecologic and taxonomic diversity following the Neoproterozoic emergence of animals.*"

The Shakun debate revisited

Further to the Shakun item included in CliSci # 96, FoS' Ken Gregory has written a summary of his objections [here](#) on the FoS website.

Also, [here](#) are parts 1 and 2 of a substantial critique by Don Easterbrook. Part 3 to follow in due time.

NASA at the Heartland Conference, Chicago, 2012

Two Apollo-era astronauts and two prominent former NASA scientists will speak at The Heartland Institute's Seventh International Conference on Climate Change ([ICCC-7](#)), taking place in Chicago on May 21–23. The four men were among 49 signatories to a [March 28 letter to NASA and the Goddard Institute for Space Studies](#) (GISS) urging the agencies to cease their "unbridled advocacy" of anthropogenic global warming. Dr. Harrison Schmitt, the first scientist and last man to walk on the moon in the Apollo 17 mission, and Apollo 7 lunar module pilot Walter Cunningham will talk about how NASA's "unproven

and unsupported remarks" on global warming damage the agency's reputation.

Green Europe

As kids we learned in school how dirty the Germans' "Braunkohle" was and how lucky we were that we had anthracite in our subsoil. Now, guess what? GWPF reports:

It's a real paradox: As a result of Germany's green energy transition, nuclear power is on its way out, but coal, Germany's dirtiest resource, has become the most important energy source again. Brown coal (lignite) is experiencing a renaissance in Germany. Last year, about a quarter of the electricity generated used this most environmentally adverse resource. Its consumption grew by 3.3 percent. This has made lignite the number one energy supplier. The Government's planned energy transition was supposed to, among other things, produce environmentally friendly electricity. It turns out, however, that the power gap, which was created by the shutdown of eight nuclear power stations, will be largely filled by brown coal.

It may yet make the Germans stop complaining about the dirty oil from the banks of the Athabasca River.

Meanwhile in the UK, [the Financial Times reports](#) that the only remaining company aspiring to build new nuclear power stations has let it be known that it can not further consider such projects if the politicians keeps changing their mind about long term price guarantees.

Supernovae affecting life on earth

Henrik Svensmark has taken the Cosmic Ray story to the next level, beyond his earlier work and Shaviv's 2002 paper. His new paper in the Royal Astronomical Society's Monthly Notices can be retrieved [here](#); and the RAS issued a [Press Release](#), to make sure everybody got the importance of the findings. Non-physicists should probably stick with the extensive Press Release or with Nigel Calder's story in GWP/CCNet of 24/3, item 2 which summarises the main points as:

The long-term diversity of life in the sea depends on the sea-level set by plate tectonics and the local supernova rate set by the astrophysics, and on virtually nothing else. •

The long-term primary productivity of life in the sea – the net growth of photosynthetic microbes – depends on the supernova rate, and on virtually nothing else. •

Exceptionally close supernovae account for short-lived falls in sea-level during the past 500 million years, long-known to geophysicists but never convincingly explained. •

As the geological and astronomical records converge, the match between climate and supernova rates gets better and better, with high rates bringing icy times.

This is obviously a contentious issue about which much discussion is to follow. The story continues [here](#).

Polar amplification

By WIKI definition," Polar amplification is the greater temperature increase in the [Arctic](#) compared to the earth as a whole as a result of the effect of feedbacks and other processes[1] It is not

observed in the [Antarctic](#), largely because the [Southern Ocean](#) acts as a heat sink and the lack of seasonal snow cover.[2] It is common to see it stated that "[Climate models](#) generally predict amplified warming in polar regions", e.g. Doran et al.[3]. However, climate models predict amplified warming for the Arctic but only modest warming for Antarctica.[2]".

This is not a new concept, but it is interesting to investigate to what extent it has affected the IPCC's modelling, which is what [Bob Tisdale did in a post on WUWT](#)

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## ***CliSci # 96 2012-04-14***

### **Eye-balling the coming AR5 projections.**

Bob Tisdale has posted on WUWT a preview of the input of [coupled model simulations](#) for AR5 that will result in the IPCC's breathlessly awaited predictions for the Global Temperatures for the rest of this century.

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### **Solar Flare Out**

[The Wall Street Journal reviews](#) the series of collapses of solar power industries in Europe and the U.S. and the consequences for the investors and the believers in the Green Economy. These consequences are now keenly felt in Europe which is "ahead" of the US in abandoning these uneconomic projects. Says the WSJ: " Even after the \$535 million Solyndra debacle, cheerleaders in Washington still insist these projects are the key to America's economic and energy future. As with so much else

these days, Europe is showing what that unhappy future looks like."

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## **Shakun: Trying to disprove the 800 year Temp/CO2 Deglaciation gap**

The excellent IPCC PR network lost no time in promoting its newest piece of artillery through the world's media. I have waited for some critical reaction to emerge before bringing it to your attention. It was not long in coming.

The April 5th [paper in Nature by Shakun et al](#) is trying to destroy the evidence of the 800 year gap between warming and CO2 rise, which has been one of the main points of criticism of the IPCC's hypothesis which holds that increasing CO2 levels cause rising temperatures.

Shakun uses an increased number of data points and the issue is important enough to make one seriously consider his arguments. That has now been done by a number of reputable researchers and on several different grounds.

Critics generally hold that solar influences start warming the oceanic surface layers, which then will begin releasing dissolved CO2. The effect is first recognised around the Antarctic area, which is an orbital feature.

Shakun's main summery graph is [here](#). He says that it is clear proof that CO2 triggers the rise in temperature. But it shows that the SH (Antarctic data points) warming occurs before the global CO2 rise. And the NH temperatures react later; Arctic and Antarctica are known to be out of phase on climate matters by thousands of years. In my opinion the graph actually disproves what he is proposing.

**Piers Corbyn** was quick off the mark with [his explanation](#) which is based on his frank opinion that the work is a "Dishonest and absurd selection and lumping together of data for different hemispheres which behave differently using the natural delays in



the North to HIDE the rises in the South which preceded and drove CO2 out of the sea."

He points out that Antarctica is where temperature changes are first seen (it has 91% of the earth's glacial mass) and that the Arctic follows the Antarctic but with a lag of several thousand years. Changes that began in the Antarctic take a long while to percolate through to the Arctic. So the emphasis given by the "Nature" authors to the Arctic is misplaced and they are in fact missing the main game. *(says John Ray, Bloggernews)*.

**Willis Eschenbach** has dug deeply into the data used in the paper and shredded the conclusions in it [here](#) and [here](#) for different reasons.

**Don Easterbrook** published a well-considered article [in WUWT](#). He questions the validity and accuracy of the ice core data (as has been done many times before by others).

**FoS' Ken Gregory** has written a summary of criticisms [here](#) .

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## **NASA criticised by its own scientific staff**

In a letter to the agency's Administrator 49 professionals request NASA "to refrain from making unsubstantiated claims that human produced CO2 is having a catastrophic impact on climate change." The letter says "As former NASA employees, we feel that NASA's advocacy of an extreme position, prior to a thorough study of the possible overwhelming impact of natural climate drivers is inappropriate" and ask the NASA administration to look at empirical evidence rather than climate models.

This letter by NASA's scientists, engineers and astronauts has been widely noted in the press. In case you have not read it, [here](#) it is. Much criticism is directed at its Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) and people like Hansen and Schmidt, closely associated with it.

The defense has been as expected: These guys don't work on climate issues; they don't know what they're talking about.

Tom Harris created a [page on the ICSC website](#) on the matter, with links to the originals.

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### **About the "acidising Ocean" and the dying baby oysters**

The Seattle Times reports on a paper in the Jrnl of Limnology and Oceanography on studies done by "top scientists" that provide "uncontroversial evidence" that acidisation of the Pacific Ocean has been killing baby oysters "by the billions". The story goes that the dropping of the pH is due to all the CO<sub>2</sub> that the ocean absorbs in addition to the already colder and more CO<sub>2</sub> laden waters that well up from the deep. "More deep upwelling from 'climate change " they say.

A curious conclusion. Quite apart from the fact that ocean is decidedly alkaline.

If the oceans were warming they would give up CO<sub>2</sub>, rather than becoming more acidic. As it is, says Ferdinand Engelbeen, the change has been 0.05 pH units in 25 years and - according to a California oceanographer - is related to PDO upwelling.

Says another CS Forum writer: "This whole report doesn't pass the stupid test. The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is in microscopic amounts compared to the mass of the oceans. It is unlikely that CO<sub>2</sub> from man-made sources has added even one part per trillion to the ocean, let alone sufficiently to change pH. How can people get crap like this published?"

Says another California oceanographer: "The oceans are a buffered solution [...]. In short, the Oceans cannot ever become less than a PH of 7; or even approach it."

The solution to this problem? What are the baby oysters teaching us?

That some research subjects and some 'researchers' have too easy access to public grant money.

(h/t Ken S.)

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## ***CliSci # 95 2012-04-04***

### **The news from Queensland's Election 2012**

Queensland Premier Campbell Newman says reports that Anna Bligh's husband (a senior public servant, Greg Withers) had been asked to clear out his desk were false.

Mr. Newman on Tuesday said Mr. Withers, head of Queensland's Office of Climate Change, would be asked to oversee the removal of carbon reduction schemes he himself had helped create, and which the LNP has promised to axe.

But Mr. Newman admitted he had not yet conveyed that to Mr. Withers because he was too busy focusing on changes at the top level of the public service. Mr. Withers has been reported to be packing his bags.

Mr. Newman said Mr. Withers, who recently renewed his contract in December and would be owed a payout close to \$600,000 if sacked, would be offered another position once that job was done.

"I'm telling you that he will get a job if he wants one," Mr. Newman said.

From the [Courier Mail](#)

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### **Piers Corbyn at EIKE, November 2011**

<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbGWLgpylKc&feature=youtu.be>>

Piers gave a half hour talk at the Munich European Climate and Energy Conference, which can be seen and heard on the above shown YouTube site.

He runs the commercial enterprise "[WeatherAction](#)" which sells medium to longer term weather forecasts to subscribers which beat those of the UK Met Office by a country mile. He claims 85% accuracy in his projections which are not based on the usual

meteorologist's bag of tools.

Piers is an astrophysicist who uses certain solar magnetic, solar-lunar gravitational cycles and oceanic oscillations as recognisable combinations that coincide with known weather patterns. Or so we think. How he does it is his trade secret, and climate scientists are forever asking him to explain his method "in the interest of science".

In this A/V record of his EIKE speech he lifts the tip of the veil of secrecy just a little more.

Although his work is mostly empirical, Piers is thought by many to be getting closer to a "Cause of Climate Change" unravelling than many researchers who remain merely "earthbound".

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## **UHI in CRU's Temperature data**

Dr Roy Spencer has taken a fresh look at the [CRUTemp3 dataset](#) which is taken by the IPCC as its official surface temperature record. Many researchers have long suspected that the problem of the distortions introduced by the UHI effect has still not been satisfactorily resolved and that unresolved variations still exist.

In the [March 30th WUWT he writes](#):

*"Here I will show based upon unadjusted International Surface Hourly (ISH) [data archived at NCDC](#) that the warming trend over the Northern Hemisphere, where virtually all of the thermometer data exist, is a function of population density at the thermometer site.*

*Depending upon how low in population density one extends the results, the level of spurious warming in the CRUTem3 dataset ranges from 14% to 30% when 3 population density classes are considered, and even 60% with 5 population classes."*

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## **Paleo Temperature Proxies by $\delta O18$**

In a [WUWT post](#) Pat Frank discusses "Proxy Science and Proxy Pseudo-Science" with respect to paleo temperatures, a subject plagued by the statistical wonders exposed by McKittrick & Essex' T Rex, tree rings, stomata etc. Frank explains the superior aspects of Stable Isotope Thermometry in an excellent paper, a PDF version of which is [here](#).

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## **No global warming for 15 years**

In a [GWPF Press Release of April 2nd](#), David Whitehouse produces an updated and rather level-looking Surface Global Temperature graph (Based on the new HadCRUT4 data) which reminds one of Phil Jones' internal CRU communication of mid 2009:

" Bottom line - the no upward trend has to continue for a total of 15 years before we get worried. We're really counting this from about 2004/5 and not 1998. 1998 was warm due to the El Nino."

Still going strong, Phil, but why start in 2004/2005? And what exactly would you be getting worried about?

And when I say "rather level" it is because you can call it different things, depending on whether you start in 1997, 1998 or 1999. Did the "adjustments" of the surface data not pan out? Oh, those creative statistics.

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## **Where does CO2 hide during the Ice Age?**

A number of European researchers have examined the travels of CO2 from the atmosphere to the oceans and vice versa with the help of C13 levels over the last 24,000 years. That CO2 hides in the oceans is not new, but the researchers' methodology is. Jeanne Nova gives a short [comment on her blog](#) or you can read the original article [here](#)

*(h/t John Wasson)*



other than Dr David Keith, now back at Harvard, who likely found the oil field based "Carbon Capture & Storage" project he promoted in Alberta at U of Calgary's ISEEE running into disfavour after having convinced the Provincial Government to invest two billion of our tax dollars to try it out. But the new flight of fancy of sucking the 0.04% CO2 trace gas out of the atmosphere, while using plenty of energy to do it, seems to be the greatest fool's errand yet.

However, some individuals at *The Economist* appear to become more circumspect. On page 42 of the same issue columnist "Lexington" writes about President Obama and oil prices and starts out with "..... given that, in spite of overwhelming scientific evidence, most [Republican politicians] still question and many deny that man plays a role in global warming."

Blimey! A lawyer could have written that, though Lexington still seems to think that computer simulation models constitute scientific evidence. It must be their roots in Economics that makes them do it.

But note: no mention of CO2, emissions or GHGs. Most of us do not deny that man "plays a role in global warming", if only because of Urban Heat Island effect (you should look at a UHI anomaly map of the eastern US!), land use and other albedo changes and deforestation, caused by human, industrial development.

Man plays a role; yes, few sceptics would deny that actually. Is the paper covering its backside?

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## **Planetary tidal sequences and the solar dynamo.**

Either or both?

A [new paper by Nicola Scafetta](#), (article in press) titled "Multi-scale harmonic model for solar and climate cyclical variation....." may well represent some good progress in sorting out the driving forces of climate. It is also being discussed in [WUWT of March 21st](#).

Scafetta surveys the various cycles that have been associated



with solar variations, both the ones that have been associated with barymetric influences by Jupiter and Saturn, and those that are internal to the sun itself, associated with sunspots and the solar dynamo.

There is enough evidence for signs that both influences are playing a role and Scafetta concludes that the two phenomema may be interacting. In the *Conclusion* he writes:

*High resolution power spectrum analysis of the sunspot number record since 1749 reveals that the Schwabe frequency band can be split into three major cycles. The periods of the measured cycles are about 9.98, 10.9 and 11.86 years. The result suggests that the Schwabe solar cycle may be the result of solar dynamo mechanisms constrained by and synchronized to the two major Jupiter and Saturn's tidal frequencies at 9.93-year and 11.86-year. The central cycle is about the average between the two, which also suggests that the Schwabe solar cycle may be produced by collective synchronization of the solar dynamics to the beat average tidal period.*

There is some criticism in the WUWT discussion, and there also are a number of unresolved issues, which could indicate that not all cards are yet on the table. But I think we are slowly getting closer.

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### **Richard Lindzen at the UK House of Commons**

MIT's Richard [Lindzen addressed the House of Commons](#) on AGW, in what seems to be a trend of an increasing number of sceptics' presence in various legislative bodies.

This one was reported by a journalist from *The Independent* and appeared in the 23/3 newsletter from the Frontier Centre of Public Policy.

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## Hydrated CaCO<sub>3</sub> form proves the LIA and MWP to be worldwide

Behind an Elsevier pay-wall, the article by Zunli Lu *et al* "[An ikaite record of late Holocene climate at the Antarctic Peninsula](#)" is providing yet another argument in favour of the worldwide aspect of the Little Ice Age and the Medieval Warm Period. Some AGW supporters still believe that they are only Northern Hemisphere events, in spite of arguments by Baliunas, Soon, the Idso's and Legates ten years ago (E&E V.14 #2&3).

Here is Lu's abstract:

*Calcium carbonate can crystallize in a hydrated form as ikaite at low temperatures. The hydration water in ikaite grown in laboratory experiments records the  $\delta^{18}O$  of ambient water, a feature potentially useful for reconstructing  $\delta^{18}O$  of local seawater. We report the first downcore  $\delta^{18}O$  record of natural ikaite hydration waters and crystals collected from the Antarctic Peninsula (AP), a region sensitive to climate fluctuations. We are able to establish the zone of ikaite formation within shallow sediments, based on porewater chemical and isotopic data. Having constrained the depth of ikaite formation and  $\delta^{18}O$  of ikaite crystals and hydration waters, we are able to infer local changes in fjord  $\delta^{18}O$  versus time during the late Holocene. This ikaite record qualitatively supports that both the Medieval Warm Period and Little Ice Age extended to the Antarctic Peninsula.*

afj ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**CliSci # 93 2012-03-18**

## **Dr Tim Ball on the Jet Stream and Rossby Waves**

Tim has written a post for his website on how "[Jet Stream Wave Patterns Further Distort the Official Global Temperatures](#)". It is not particularly new, but it presents the sort of basic meteorology we all need to understand.

And while you're there, take a look at some of the many other worthwhile articles on his website.

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## **Nancy Greene-Raine's 13/3 speech in the Senate**

Last Tuesday Senator Nancy Greene-Raine gave a [speech in the Senate](#) that carried the flag for the independent scientists that do not support the politically correct dogma. She urges a re-examination of the programs that are pursued to ward off a unlikely CO2-caused catastrophe.

She advocates instead to support vulnerable people and communities to adapt to inevitable natural changes in climate.

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## **Rainforest destruction contribute half of Global Warming**

In a paper in the *International Review of Physics* (Vol 5/#5, p.260), Jyrki Kauppinen and his two Finnish co-authors conclude that "the destruction of rainforest can warm the climate even more than the doubling of CO2 concentration can do".

The Abstract continues:

"The temperature close to the surface of the earth can change due to the change of the feedback or the amount of water in the atmosphere, without any forcing or change in the concentration of CO2 as well as other greenhouse gases. This paper derives physically the sensitivity and the response time of the climate due to radiative forcing and a change in feedback. During the last

century the temperature increase consisted of change in solar activity (0.47°C), destruction of rainforests (about 0.3°C), increase of the concentrations of the greenhouse gases (about 0.1°C) and increase of aerosols (about -0.06°C). About one half of the temperature increase was anthropogenic."

Adds Boris Winterhalter: "Note that he ascribes about half of the observed temperature rise to human doings, but of this only 0.1 C is due to greenhouse gases. 0.3 C is ascribed to destruction of rain forests".

Others point out that this may be just a local phenomenon, not to be translated into global scale.

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## **Australian labour government considering limiting freedom of speech**

The Finkelstein Report, a "Media Inquiry" commissioned by the Australian government proposes a News Media Council which will set limits on published and broadcast speech in Australia.

The Media Inquiry makes perfectly clear which views are to be corrected: global warming [skepticism](#) and [criticism](#) of the Labour government. "*While the setting of standards should be left to the News Media Council*", it make clear what this is about, by stating that "*It is not recommended that one of them be the promotion of free speech.*"

The media council will sit in judgement of whatever rules they want. "1984" returns.

Read [the whole dreary story](#) in WUWT. Quo vadis, Australia?

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## Solar update

For David Archibald's solar updates March 2012 see [here](#).

David is an expert on solar influences on the climate.

The [lectures \(The four Horsemen of the Apocalypse\)](#) he gave last month at the Institute of World Politics (Washington) fit all of the world's essential challenges of survival into the context of Climate. You can follow the gist of his lectures on the basis of two PDF files of his slides which can be retrieved from the web:

Part I <[http://www.iwp.edu/docLib/20120312\\_FourHorsemenPart1.pdf](http://www.iwp.edu/docLib/20120312_FourHorsemenPart1.pdf)>

Part II <[http://www.iwp.edu/docLib/20120312\\_FourHorsemenPart2.pdf](http://www.iwp.edu/docLib/20120312_FourHorsemenPart2.pdf)>

*(h/t to Vincent Gray)*

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## Climate Sceptics on radio

Tom Harris, who is Executive Director of the ICSC <<http://www.climatescienceinternational.org/>> has embarked on a series of radio interviews and Q&A sessions, mostly on Ontario and Montreal stations. On some, he brings along some interesting guests. Here are two occasions in which you can participate by calling in if you wish, or e-mail question beforehand, one on Monday morning, the other on Tuesday evening.

Note that the times given are all EDT. Here is Tom's release:

1 – **Monday, March 19, 11 am** EST (Montreal) – Listen to a well-known surprise guest on CJAD Radio in Montreal – see <http://www.cjad.com/Channels/TommySchnurmacherComingUp/Story.aspx?ID=1671454>.

You'll love her. Listen here on the

Web: <http://cjad.player.amri.ca/> ; Call-ins are usually after the guest has finished

(I expect the interview will be about 10 minutes). You can call in



in current theoretical models, possibly an ion-induced formation of sulphuric acid in small clusters."

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### **"NASA sees the light?"**

In the comments to a WUWT story (2012-03-06) about the expected Coronal Mass Ejection (March 8th, 9th) a reader quotes NASA <http://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/2011/> :

*"... because the combined effect of all forcings is less than that of greenhouse gases alone, and much of the greenhouse gas forcing has been "used up" in causing the warming of the past century [it] is apparent that the solar forcing is not negligible in comparison with the net climate forcing....."*

So, what are "all forcings"? If they are serious about this, they have now admitted that the solar forcing is "not negligible" (i.e. only TSI) and that the GHG influence has been logarithmically declining.

This remarkable GISS piece is lead-authored by James Hansen and its sophistic, back-side covering, double-talk escape-clause riddled rationale is worth reading, if only to illustrate the confusion that must reign in some NASA circles.

The above quote is just above figure 9.

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## **Geologic Period boundaries, Extinctions and Changes in Climate**

A particularly interesting [guest post in WUWT by Mark Hladik](#) discusses the Permo-Triassic extinction and its connection to climate changes, their origin in events like the Siberian Traps volcanism and the timing and nature of other such events in the geologic past.

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## **Climate Science claims in a Court of Law**

On his website Dr Roy Spencer discusses the [requirements on admissible evidence](#) that Climate Claims would have to meet, as related to the so called Daubert Standard of admissibility of expert witnesses' testimony in the US federally, and in part of the States' Courts.

In his opinion, climate models would fail two of the five admissibility tests under Daubert and he foresees CO2 litigation in various states in the coming years.

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## **Ammunition for your next discussion-over-the-fence with your neighbour**

In the face of continuing governments reports, "warmist" chatter and ignorant newspaper stories Dr Craig Loehle has written a



summary, entitled "[Climate Change Impacts in the USA are already \(NOT\) happening](#)" which bundles up some counter arguments for you to use. His essay is well supplied with peer-reviewed references - in case anyone would ask.

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## **Earthquakes and extra-terrestrial triggers**

A number of non-conventional climate researchers, astrophysicist Piers Corbyn <[weatheraction.com](http://weatheraction.com)> first among them, have been pointing for some time to the relationship of major earthquakes and volcanism on earth with major solar disturbances. In one of Piers' references, at the occasion of the current Coronal Mass Ejections, he provides a link to the [USGS Earthquake Hazards Program](#), which lists all earthquakes greater than Magnitude 5 worldwide. It appears there is an average of five substantial quakes every day. The amount surprised me - a geologist - so I thought you may not know it either. As to the presumed connections, let me just say that there are a number of theories, involving the sun, the planets and the moon.

It is not far-fetched. I have compared the earth crust with the skin of a rotten apple before and we are still speculating about what goes on inside it and how it reacts to forces from the outside.

It is not a popular subject from a granting point of view, but if anyone has a few \$K to spare, I can put him in touch with a rather impoverished lonely researcher.



missions ARTEMIS and LADEE, which are to test simulations of solar wind variations on the planets, both those with and without atmospheres of various sorts.

We would say, it's about time, but there is not a word about climate .....

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## **The wind-driven Arctic Ocean Beaufort Gyre**

Giles, Laxon *et al* examine the fresh water budget of the Western Arctic; cold fresh water exists above warmer saline water.

They speculate how wind changes may affect the Western Arctic.

<<http://www.nature.com/ngeo/journal/v5/n3/full/ngeo1379.html>

>.

As we know that Arctic Ocean ice melts mainly from the bottom, the behaviour of the oscillation- and wind-propelled in- and out-flow of that ocean is of prime importance. Those that rely entirely on the February 29th [NASA/Goddard Press Release](#) should probably keep that in mind.

Here's the Giles, Laxon abstract; the rest is behind the pay-wall.

The Arctic Ocean's freshwater budget comprises contributions from river runoff, precipitation, evaporation, sea-ice and exchanges with the North Pacific and Atlantic<sup>1</sup>. More than 70,000 km<sup>3</sup> of freshwater<sup>2</sup> are stored in the upper layer of the Arctic Ocean, leading to low salinities in upper-layer Arctic sea water, separated by a strong halocline from warm, saline water beneath. Spatially and temporally limited observations show that the Arctic Ocean's freshwater content has increased over the past few decades, predominantly in the west<sup>3</sup> 4<sup>5</sup>. Models suggest that wind-driven convergence drives freshwater accumulation<sup>6</sup>. Here we use continuous satellite measurements between 1995 and 2010 to show that the dome in sea surface height associated with the western Arctic Beaufort Gyre has been steepening, indicating spin-up of the gyre. We find that the trend in wind field

curl—a measure of spatial gradients in the wind that lead to water convergence or divergence—exhibits a corresponding spatial pattern, suggesting that wind-driven convergence controls freshwater variability. We estimate an increase in freshwater storage of  $8,000 \pm 2,000 \text{ km}^3$  in the western Arctic Ocean, in line with hydrographic observations<sup>4, 5</sup>, and conclude that a reversal in the wind field could lead to a spin-down of the Beaufort Gyre, and release of this freshwater to the Arctic Ocean.

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### **Tim Ball: "IPCC Climate Science Failure Requires Someone to Blame"**

In these post-Gleick days, one is tempted to look back to see where Climate Science got off the rails after CRU founder Lamb had given it a proper direction.

In a [recent essay](#), Tim retraces some of the history, with a picture of the Gang at Villach, 1985.

In his autobiography, Hubert Lamb explained why he established the CRU:

*...the first and greatest need was to establish the facts of the past record of the natural climate in times before any side effects of human activities could well be important.*

He recognized what was happening by 1978.

*Since my retirement from the directorship of the CRU there have been changes there and in the direction of my own efforts. Professor Tom Wigley was chiefly interested in the prospect of world climates being changed as a result of*

*human activities, primarily through the burning of wood, coal, oil and gas...*

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## **Hydroclimate in NE US found to be highly sensitive to solar forcing**

A new article in GRL by Nichols and Huang shows how small solar variations are amplified by Arctic and North Atlantic oceanic oscillations. It is with interest that we note that the authors are with the NASA GISS/Columbia University and Brown U. group, now conceding such a forcing mechanism.

### *Abstract:*

*Dramatic hydrological fluctuations strongly impact human society, but the driving mechanisms for these changes are unclear. One suggested driver is solar variability, but supporting paleoclimate evidence is lacking. Therefore, long, continuous, high-resolution records from strategic locations are crucial for resolving the scientific debate regarding sensitivity of climate to solar forcing. We present a 6800–year, decadal–resolved biomarker and multidecadally–resolved hydrogen isotope record of hydroclimate from a coastal Maine peatland, The Great Heath (TGH). Regional moisture balance responds strongly and consistently to solar forcing at centennial to millennial timescales, with solar minima concurrent with wet conditions. We propose that the Arctic/North Atlantic Oscillation (AO/NAO) can amplify small solar fluctuations, producing the reconstructed hydrological variations. The Sun may be entering a weak phase, analogous to the Maunder minimum, which could lead to more frequent flooding in the northeastern US at this multidecadal timescale.*

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## **"Models are untestable within one scientific career"**

In other words: "*après moi le déluge*"

An interesting response to a comment on Clive Best's on [his blog](#) wherein he compares several IPCC scenarios from the 2007 AR4 with the reality of the past five years. He states that "the

data show with >90% confidence level that the models have over-exaggerated global warming".

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### **The light side**

With all the dreadful goings-on around you, here is [Josh](#) to put a smile on your face.

afj~-----

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## ***CLiSci # 90 2012-02-26***

### **A tool to predict a temperature decrease of the next Solar Cycle**

Norwegians Solheim, Stordahl and Humlum have published in the Jrnl. of Atm. & Sol-Terr. Physics a solid article in which the length and temperature of two succeeding sunspot cycles are compared. "No significant trend is found between the length of a cycle and the average temperature in the same cycle, but a significant negative trend is found between the length of a cycle and the temperature in the next cycle."

Specifically, "The long sunspot cycle 23 predicts a significant temperature decrease in cycle 24", which is the actual title of their [well-documented paper](#)

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### **Expert Review for AR 5: Omitted variable fraud**

In an [extensive guest post](#) in WUWT, Economist and AR5 Expert Reviewer Alec Rawls discusses his officially submitted critique on the Draft, where he writes:

*<My training is in economics where we are very familiar with what statisticians call "the omitted variable problem" (or when it is intentional, "omitted variable fraud"). Whenever an explanatory variable is omitted from a statistical analysis, its explanatory power gets misattributed to any correlated variables that are included. This problem is manifest at the very highest level of AR5, and is built into each step of its analysis. >*

which he characterises as "systematic fraud".

The "omitted variable" in this case is explained as the solar/cosmic/magnetic correlations with climate variations, the effect of which in terms of "causes" of Climate Change he documents with many references to non-AGW researchers.

As an aside: Ex-Wikipedia's William Connolley who for years polluted the Wiki pages on climate change with AGW propaganda takes part in the ensuing blog discussion, apparently still wanting to confuse matters by talking about the collection of extra-terrestrial forces as if their expression is covered by TSI alone, the old IPCC ploy.

He gets slapped down by "Smokey" posting on Febr 22,4:46 am. After which the exchange deteriorates badly.....

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## **FakeGate** (James Delingpole's designation)

The possibly criminal misdeeds of Dr Gleick, President of the Pacific Institute and Chairman of the AGU's Task Force on Scientific Ethics (sic!), in trying to undermine the reputation of the Heartland Institute, have been all over the blogosphere. Ken Gregory has summarised events on the Friends of Science website at

<http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=564> >





for such volcanism are the local Juan de Fuca plate (near Vancouver Island) and the Caribbean plate of the Central American coast, neither of which are actively volcanic by themselves. Volcanism is associated with the associated subduction zones, but those volcanoes are not under water. This is all in its infancy. There are numerous deep sea vents in the Pacific, not necessarily where he wants them to be. One is apt to pose some questions about quantitative aspects of the amount of water involved.

AJ Strata is also revolutionary in placing the source of El Niño's warm water in the Eastern, rather than the Western Pacific as shown [here](#) on an animated display.

I am mentioning this work because 'coincidences' between the solar variation, the oceanic oscillations, and the tectonic features and activity on earth have been reported by several investigators. We geologists are scratching our heads; but think of the earth crust being the skin of an old apple, subject not only internal forces, but also by an extra-terrestrial gravity push-pull.

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## **FakeGate**

DeSmogBlog allegations about the Heartland Institute and the evil designs of its industrial supporters and beneficiaries are contained in numerous blogosphere postings and articles. Anthony Watts explains his role in the comedy, Josh draws a cartoon and Joanne labels a DSB document to be "fake" and makes some comparisons with the Green lobbyists. For those who want to be entertained by this backfiring missile, read some of the following sites:

[<http://www.desmogblog.com/heartland-institute-exposed-internal-documents-unmask-heart-climate-denial-machine/>](http://www.desmogblog.com/heartland-institute-exposed-internal-documents-unmask-heart-climate-denial-machine/)

[<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/not-quite-friday-funny-fakegate/>](http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/not-quite-friday-funny-fakegate/)

[<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/quote-of-the-week-andrew-bolt-nails-fakegate/>](http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/quote-of-the-week-andrew-bolt-nails-fakegate/)

[<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/not-quite-friday-funny-fakegate/>](http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/not-quite-friday-funny-fakegate/)

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/16/not-quite-friday-funny-fakegate/>>

<http://joannenova.com.au/2012/02/update-heartland-documents-stolen-and-key-one-is-fake-no-insider-leak/>>

<http://joannenova.com.au/2012/02/logic-gate-the-smog-blog-exposes-irrational-rage-innumeracy-and-heartlands-efficient-success/>>

To me it is an interesting reaction by DeSmogBlog, an organisation founded by Advertising PR man Hoggan, which may well be supported by funds from the same foreign sources as the David Suzuki Foundation, of which he is now the Chairman. See the writings of investigator Vivian Krause for the details at [www.fair-questions.com](http://www.fair-questions.com) . in any case the \$ 66,000 that Anthony Watts received for his work for the Heartland Institute on the siting standards of surface meteo stations in the US, pales in comparison to the \$300 m the US charitable foundations reportedly spent on their campaign to influence environmental decision in Canada.

**The sequel:** *"The DeSmoggers are crashing and burning"* from WUWT Febr. 17th:

"There's a scathing second writeup at *The Atlantic* by Megan McArdle (as if [the first](#) wasn't enough) that takes the DeSmoggers to task. Note to Hoggan and crew – when you can't even get a left leaning news outlet to back you up, even in the slightest, you've lost the battle." *This is a must*

read: [Heartland Memo Looking Faker By the Minute](#)

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## Arctic and North Atlantic Oscillations determining NH weather

Joseph d'Aleo has posted a [review](#) in ICECAP of the current cold and warm anomalous situations in the Northern Hemisphere, in relation to the positive and negative phase pattern of the Arctic and North Atlantic Oscillations, which would influence the location



power of absorbed solar radiation causes a permanent imbalance. This will result in temperature drop by 2014. The decreasing TSI will act as a positive feedback, reinforcing the negative balance, also helped by increasing albedo. The cumulative effect will surpass the TSI influence.

The abstract states that the onset of the deep bicentennial minimum of TSI is expected in  $2042 \pm 11$ , that of the 19<sup>th</sup> Little Ice Age in the past 7500 years – in  $2055 \pm 11$ .

There seems to be no direct reference to the 7500 years, which - by the way - is not 19 times 200, but the TSI Temperature relationship (fig. 4) is clear enough for the period from 1600 onwards. This is nothing new, but has always been trivialised by the IPCC. Here at least, is an explanation.

<[http://icecap.us/images/uploads/abduss\\_APR.pdf](http://icecap.us/images/uploads/abduss_APR.pdf)>

or <<http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/apr.v4n1p178>>

NOTE: The paper carries the footnote reference of having been "*Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education*" an organisation founded in 2006 <<http://ccsenet.org/web/>> with which I was not familiar. More power to them.

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## **Germany: A classic Kyoto horror tale**

EIKE (European Institute for Climate and Energy) is the German organisation that has battled AGW and its consequences for years. In a Press Release late last month they reported on the studies by Dr Günter Keil of the history of Germany's trial and error in alternate energy schemes with the net result of the loss of billions of Euros, a shortage of transmission lines, unsustainable feed-in tariffs, no shut down of traditional back-up fossil fuel generation, but loss of eight nuclear power plants. Not something one would have expected from the industrial leader nation of Europe and its savvy science-educated Chancellor Merkel.

<<http://www.eike-klima-energie.eu/energie-anzeige/germanys-green-energy-supply-transformation-has-already-failed/>>

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## "Germany's George Monbiot" turns Climate Sceptic

*"Donnerwetter! Da geht der Vahrenholt!"* someone at PIK in Potsdam must have exclaimed.

Contributing to the discomfort of German Warmists, Professor Fritz Vahrenholt, ex-Green activist and former Environment Minister has become a climate sceptic after delving somewhat deeper into the IPCC reports and methods.

Then he wrote a book ("The Cold Sun") with geologist Lüning which was serialised in the 4 million circulation "Bild" and German headlines screamed *"Der Krieg ist verloren"*.

Read what James Delingpole writes about it.

<<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100135592/germanys-george-monbiot-turns-climate-sceptic/>>

and

<<http://www.energytribune.com/articles.cfm/9784/Germanys-Godfather-of-Green-Turns-Skeptic>>

Also in Benny Peiser's GWPF/CCNet of February 7th *"Solar shift rocks Germany"*

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## Miskolczi revisited

In a [posting on WUWT](#) the saturated GH effect is re-examined through a [link](#) to the Abstract of a paper by Isaac and Van Wijngaarden in the "Hockey Schtick" blog. Reference is further made to Friends of Science's [Ken Gregory's 2008 paper](#) on this topic. The conclusion remains: Water vapour is a negative feedback to the effectiveness of CO2 as a warming culprit.

Meanwhile Ken has added some pertinent graphs to the water vapour section of his [Climate Science Essay](#), the updated version of which you can find [here](#).



order of 2 mm/year.

But [here](#) comes a Japanese source showing a different picture. Willis Eschenbach gathered up its data and records from other Japanese sites and integrated it all into a SL anomaly graph that shows a number of agreeing patterns, different from the usual ones, but reminiscent of the famed ~ 60 year cycle of the oscillation shifts in Atlantic and Pacific and of the land temperatures with their turning points of 1910, 1950, 1975, 2005. The low general long term 2 mm/yr seems to be unaffected, in spite of what Willis says.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/01/31/a-japanese-puzzle/>>

Why is this only being recorded in Japan and not by the satellites? What has it to do with the tectonically active Japanese islands? Is the match with global temperature behaviour a fluke? Is there something to the hypothesized connection between tectonic/volcanic activity, solar-induced cycles and earthly climate? Read the comments on the WUWT site.

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**Press Release from Penn State** .... about being exceptionally "original"

"Michael Mann and David Pollard, both scientists in Penn State's College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, have been elected as Fellows of the American Geophysical Union for exceptional contributions in original research in climate change."

"Election as an AGU Fellow is one of the highest honors for scientists in Earth and space sciences. No more than 0.1 percent of AGU's 60,000-plus members is elected annually as Fellows. Only 61 scientists will receive the honor this year."

[.....]

*no comment.*

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## **Will Alexander destroying the unverified hypothesis**

This Pretoria, South Africa, researcher has since long been making correlations between solar and earthly events and is a well-known participant in the AGW fight.

Here he presents a multi-part summary of his work on solar events and water management in South Africa and the observations of a lifetime, with links to online Chapters

<[http://www.tech-know.eu/uploads/Climate\\_Change\\_Email\\_02.12.pdf](http://www.tech-know.eu/uploads/Climate_Change_Email_02.12.pdf)>

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## **And David Archibald correlates Sea Level Rise with Solar Activity**

Not only do water level changes in Lake Victoria mirror sunspot numbers, but so do Sea Levels correspond to solar activity. However, David stops short of providing an answer to the question of causation.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2012/02/03/quantifying-sea-level-fall/>>

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## **Astrophysicist Piers Corbyn's [Weatheraction.com](http://www.weatheraction.com) gives forecasters the greebies.**

If you are not regularly exposed to the mid to long term forecasts Piers constructs with his closely guarded system of geomagnetic, sunspots and historical cycles, here is a good example of why the MET people in the UK do not appreciate him.

Piers claims that his success ratio is 85 % and he often puts traditional 5 day forecasters to shame.

<<http://www.weatheraction.com/docs/WANews12No6.pdf>>

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## **Dr Roy Spencer updates the charts**

Dr Spencer brings his UAH Global temperature chart up to date for January

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2012/02/uah-global-temperature-update-for-january-2012-0-09-deg-c/>

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## **Dr Tim Ball's legal battles**

I have had requests from several sides for updates on the (slow) process of the two court cases brought against Tim by Dr Andrew Weaver, Computer modeller at the U. of Victoria, and Dr Michael Mann of Penn State U., manufacturer of hockey sticks. Tim has written the following summary, which I am reproducing in full.

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"There are two cases, the first filed by Andrew Weaver, professor of computer modelling at the University of Victoria and lead author for three IPCC Reports. Nine days later a second suit was filed by Michael Mann of Penn State University, lead author for the IPCC and responsible for the research that produced the so-called "hockey stick". Both lawsuits were filed by the same lawyer, Roger McConchie. He had threatened me with previous lawsuits and had brought lawsuits against Fred Singer, among others. I had opted not to fight previous charges because of the costs. When the latest two came my wife and I decided to defend.

It is important for Canadians to know we do not have free speech. Rather, if you are accused of defamation you have two choices, claim what you said was fair comment. In that case you cannot have discovery, that is a request for documents and records from the other party. However, if you lose the penalty is relatively small. The other option is to claim what you said was the truth. That is much more difficult to prove but does allow discovery,

which is essential in a case that involves documents and scientific research. However, if you lose the penalties can be crippling. We decided to fight because it is essential in a case of science that has global implications that all the evidence be exposed. It is a trivial explanation, but it is like the classic school math test that required you to "show your work".

I am very pleased with the learning curve shown by my lawyer Michael Scherr and his junior because even though they are not scientists, logic is critical to the law regardless of the subject and science must be logical.

I have opted for trial by jury and the lawsuits are proceeding in the order in which they were filed.

So far I have experienced 5 hours of a possible 7 hours of discovery. We don't know if they will avail themselves of the remaining 2 hours.

The next event in a couple of weeks is the discovery for Andrew Weaver - we are in preparation for that now. There is discussion about the amount of court time required. There is big difference as we want the entire climate science discussed.

It was a big gamble to argue the truth but my wife and I were overwhelmed by the moral, intellectual and especially financial support we have received. We also firmly believe that a full and open debate has not occurred about climate science.

I hope that brings everyone up to date. It also gives me the opportunity to thank all those who have stood behind me in every way.

I will continue to update everyone through Albert as we proceed.

Tim Ball"

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et al for the bitter cold conditions close to the late Weichselian ice sheet, they did not remark about the much more favorable conditions to the east, mentioned elsewhere in that study. With less snowfall and comparable or arguably higher summer temperatures than today there is no use to enforce a dust-melting-snow hypothesis to harmonize the lack of the Siberian ice sheet with the perceived Last Glacial Maximum temperatures on Greenland.

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William Kininmonth comments:

I have recently read *The Last Giant of Beringa: The Mystery of the Bering Land Bridge* by Dan O'Neill, which I found very informative. It largely recounts the archaeological investigations, mainly from Alaska, seeking answers to the migration of humans to The Americas. Very good descriptions of the landscape at the time of the LGM, including the extent of the plain linking Asia with North America when sea levels were 130m lower. Unfortunately much of this evidence is now submerged!

and André contributes [this polar map](#) as an illustration of the importance of precipitation during glaciations (and glacier behaviour, I may add).

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## **Just the Facts**

Under this heading Anthony Watts has supplied a [source compendium of possible climate variables](#) for those who sometimes get bewildered by the complexities of our multi-disciplinary topic.

And that includes most of us, except the AGW-ers who think they've got it all figured out.

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## **Villach 1985**

The two UNEP conferences in the 1980s in the Austrian town of Villach set the stage for the UNFCCC (->the Conference of Parties or COP) and the formation of the IPCC.

William Kininmonth argues in CS that the 1985 conference established the primacy of computer modelling over actual data

as he quotes the Villach Statement to claim *that one cannot rely on past data to plan for the future; future planning should be based on computer simulations that point to human contributions to atmospheric CO2 causing concentrations to double before the end of the 21st century and global temperatures rising dangerously, accompanied by rising sea levels, during the first half of the 21st century.*

The [Villach Statement](#) has a [Section 5](#) that details the rationale for abandoning time-tested scientific methods for computer models. An important piece of history.

----- ..... and the following seems to connect to this very well. The practice is taking hold:

### **Professor Arthur Rörsch criticises modern science methodology - a preview.**

*This preview is a first draft. I will supply the final when it becomes available.*

As part of his work as Expert Reviewer for the WG1 section of the Fifth Assessment Report has written the [first draft of an essay](#) that decries the use of the principles of "Post-modern Science" which ignore the "traditional Scientific Method" by taking its cue from cultural relevance instead of tested hypotheses. Which is - of course - what the IPCC is engaged in.

The dreadful principles of this post-modern Science movement are clearly summarised at

<<http://www.xenos.org/classes/papers/pomosci.htm>>

and I believe every scientist should be taking note of what is happening.

<[http://climatescienceinternational.org/images/pdf/post\\_modern\\_science\\_ipcc.pdf](http://climatescienceinternational.org/images/pdf/post_modern_science_ipcc.pdf)>

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### **Ap Index, Neutrons and Climate**

David Archibald tries to make sense out of the behaviour of the geomagnetic index, the neutron count and temperature, with dire



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## **CBC shows "Real Science"**

Imagine our surprise that Suzuki's flagship "The Nature of Things" showed a 45-minute video titled "When North Goes South". Not that I think that Suzuki had much to do with its making; he just introduces it. It deals with earth magnetism, polar 'wandering', polar reversal, the influence on the earth's protective shield, paleo-magnetism, cosmic rays, Svensmark's cloud seeding, CERN and climate change. And Svensmark shows a delightful teaching tool.

After a slow start, it is quite good and you will enjoy it.

<<http://www.cbc.ca/documentaries/natureofthings/video.html?ID=1678474875>>

This video is not available to internet addresses outside Canada; CBC is trying to sell it abroad.

*(Thanks to reader Conrad Porth for bringing this to our attention)*

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## **The behind the scenes bumbling of the hockey stick**

Under this title WUWT gives a "[behind-the-scenes](#)" look at the doubts, recriminations and fixes at CRU and its friends, that the reliance on the tree ring data brought to the construction of the infamous "hockey stick.

Keith Briffa admits that humidity sensitivity is greater than temperature and Michael Mann says it's all Big Oil's fault.

Products out of the ClimateGate mine continue to come to the surface

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## **Consensus Science**

In a parallel with the "consensus" view of the cause of global warming (AGW versus natural forces), a new study on the disastrous decline of the East Coast cod stocks rejects a

consensus view ("over-fishing", for which the government closed down the fishery) for evidence that the explosion of grey seals, natural predators of cod, is directly related to the cod's decline. A pay-walled [article in Fisheries Research](#) is discussed in an [article](#) starting on the front page of the National Post of 17/1. Ironically, green pressures for policy to ban normal harvests of those cute seals, may have had a unintended consequences. The fishermen feel vindicated.

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## Researching the obvious

Those of us that are fishing the web for new research are increasingly amazed at the amount of support that seems to be available to research the obvious. And get it published. Like [this one](#) in *Nature*.

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## The Weather today

Science activity seems to be frozen in with the weather this week. So here are a few throw-away items:

You may be as irritated as I am about the lack of substantial weather information in the media. I remember the days that an isobar map was daily on the menu. These maps are hard to find, but this NavCanada map does the job. Put this one in your bookmarks and you'll always up to date as to what is happening and why:

< <http://www.flightplanning.navcanada.ca/Latest/anglais/Latest-analsfc-e.html> >

On [ICECAP.US](#), Joe d'Aleo gives an interesting rundown of our current weather and how the polar vortex and the Atlantic and Arctic Oscillations pump snow into Washington DC

< <http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog> >

Following that, Steve Goddard agrees with Jim Hansen's older data, but classifies his new work as "nonsense" and "bogus".





## **Where astrophysicists, mineralogists and petrographers meet.**

In this PNAS paper "Evidence for the extraterrestrial origin of a natural quasicrystal" Luca Bindi and six co-authors examine a meteorite from Russia's Koryak Mountains that contains a curious assemblage of pseudo metallic minerals, such as a quasi-crystalline phase of icosahedral  $Al_{63}Cu_{24}Fe_{13}$ , likely formed in the early solar system 4½ Billion years ago, the age of many chondrites. There are indications that pressures over 10 GigaPascal were involved in its formation.

The study throws up more questions than answers, but these and prior studies put a solid foundation under the theories that indicate the existence of heavy elements in the early solar system and possibly in the sun itself.

For a look at the paper see [here](#) .

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## **Geomagnetic index plummets to November 2009 solar minimum level.**

While NOAA reports that sunspots are down, the more important measurement of the month is that the (NH) Ap geomagnetic index has decreased to levels not seen since the November 2009 solar cycle minimum. Read the [posting and comments](#) on WUWT.

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## **A rational Donna Laframboise takes a look at collective stupidity.**

On her website "[No Frakking Consensus](#)" Donna (she of the "Delinquent Teenager") takes a look at parallels between the mass psychosis in climate science and that in the world of sovereign financial irresponsibility.

*" We now know that entire countries can – and do – fall under a spell. We know that entire societies tell themselves fairy stories*

*that aren't remotely true. We know that entire populations are capable of exercising monstrously bad judgment. "*

May we add to that the sudden Nazi explosion in post World War I Germany under the banner "Millions can't be wrong"?

*"In other words, the behaviour I've spent the past three years writing about isn't unique to climate science. The same pattern is horrifyingly evident elsewhere. It's as though our IQs have all dropped sharply in recent years. It's as though we have no standards anymore."*

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## **New Scafetta paper tests astronomical harmonics against IPCC models.**

Nicola Scafetta has a paper in press (Jrnl.Atmosph.&Sol-Terr.Physics [2011]) in which his model of astronomical harmonics (solar-lunar and planetary) is compared to IPCC models of the 2007 AR4. In records going back to 1850, he finds that "the 9.1-year cycle is shown to be likely related to a decadal Soli/Lunar tidal oscillation, while the 10–10.5, 20–21 and 60–62 year cycles are synchronous to solar and heliospheric planetary oscillations", whereby he points primarily to Jupiter and Saturn.

The paper ("corrected proof") can be downloaded from Scafetta's website at

<[http://www.fel.duke.edu/~scafetta/pdf/Scafetta\\_models\\_comparison\\_ATP.pdf](http://www.fel.duke.edu/~scafetta/pdf/Scafetta_models_comparison_ATP.pdf)> ,

or purchased from the Elsevier Journal through

<<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364682611003385>>

Scafetta reviews his own paper [here](#) in today's issue of WUWT

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## **ClimateGate 2 e-mails getting sorted**

Tom Nelson is supplying a [list of 250+ ClimateGate 2 postings](#) of 5000 e-mail reviews, by title in case you can't leave it alone.

