Scientific Taboo

Further Arguments Concerning The Relationship Between Consciousness, Memory And Information

by Dr Ken Trethewey

kentrethewey.co.uk

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Abstract

In this essay I continue to discuss the mysterious human condition of consciousness. The main topics for discussion are the nature of the spirit or soul, mechanisms of memory and the possibility that memories are stored externally in a Universal Information Cloud. I suggest that science has created taboo topics that it refuses to consider as worthy of serious discussion because of a supposed lack of data. In fact, there is actually a vast amount of data concerning human experiences with ESP, telepathy and Non-Human Intelligence.

Science Creates Taboos

The word taboo is a rarely used word that is more relevant in today's world than we care to admit. There are many things we find uncomfortable to talk about. This has always been the case in all societies, but the problem seems to be getting worse, in some ways exaggerated by the rapidly increasing amount of scientific 'knowledge'. (I often feel I should use the word 'ignorance' here.)

Science is supposed to enlighten us. The scientific method whereby measurements are made in carefully designed experiments and theories are proposed based upon those measurements is intended to increase our understanding of the universe. I wish to argue that academic science is actually holding back progress. The way current society is structured has led to a situation where some topics, despite addressing badly understood issues for which large amounts of 'unsubstantiated' evidence exist, have become taboo subjects. In the past, under the rule of the Roman Catholic Church people subscribing to taboo could be killed as heretics or witches for dealing with the devil. But under the unquestioned rule of modern science, taboos continue to exist. Fortunately I do not expect to be burned at the stake for expressing these views.

So what am I talking about? In previous articles I have written about the many things that science does not (and cannot) understand.[1] [2] Of course, science has underpinned much of modern engineering, which in turn has resulted in the many technological things that we benefit from. However, there remain a large number of natural phenomena that science cannot understand and for which, if they exist at all, the theories being presented to us as solutions are very poor.[3]

The Essence of Personhood

Before diving more deeply into my subject, I need to underline how our language complicates matters. We are often fighting against the use of language when these topics are discussed because our vocabulary has evolved in many different ways to handle the many questions of daily life. The result is that different words can be used misleadingly in certain contexts. sometimes it is appropriate to create new words or phrases that better serve a purpose. Here is one such ...

The focus of this essay is the way taboo prevents us from advancing our understanding of the Essence of Personhood. For example, we might use words like spirit, soul, consciousness, being, and others. Each might have a different definition in a dictionary; that type of book tries to cover the everyday uses of words but can often fail to embrace the wider contexts - but the essence is the same. And after all, who can claim to be perfect at English grammar?

So in this topic, which I feel is best described by the phrase, *the Essence of Personhood*, I am going to refer to what goes on inside us, what constitutes our existence, and some of you may misunderstand my arguments because of a different use of words. However, I hope the thrust of my arguments will strike home.

Brain Function

In past decades there has been a great deal of study about the way our brains work and it is undeniable that medical science has benefitted enormously with the result that advances in brain surgery have been remarkable. But there remains no clear understanding of how the brain works at a fundamental level. For example, where exactly do our memories reside? It is clear that certain parts of the brain are responsible for certain functions of our body; there are areas that control movement, language, sight, speech, creativity, etc, and there is no doubt that this newly acquired knowledge of the structure of brains represents a significant step forward in understanding how the brain is so successful at keeping us alive. But there is still no deeper understanding of exactly how those functions are achieved. It seems clear that electrical signals are in some way involved as minute currents flow down nerves to achieve specific effects.[4]

In this paper I particularly want to focus on memory and consciousness, which may be two entirely different things, but may also be related in ways I would like to discuss.

I have never been confident that the vast amount of memories I continue to store as I age, can all be accommodated in my brain. Perhaps that is the reason why, in my mid-70s, I forget so much more than I used to; my brain must be full to the brim?

It has always been argued that somehow memories are stored in tiny parts of the brain at the molecular level, but no one has ever proved it. As one example springs to mind, I cannot begin to explain how the myriad of memories of my late wife exist inside my head. She does not reside there as a single photograph, although I do have hundreds that are imprinted in my memory to the finest level of detail. So how about the thousands of motion picture memories of our lives together, all of which I can recall instantly? Anyone who presently works with video editing on a computer understands just how much computer memory is required to store video data. Are you really telling me that all of my video memories are somehow stored in my brain cells? This is just the beginning of a story that science refuses to (or is unable to) properly address.

The criticism of science (I have many) in my last sentence arises from the fact that with all of the powerful mathematical modelling that can be brought to bear on subjects like this, no-one has produced a satisfactory calculation to show how my brain's memory can hold gigabytes (GB), terabytes (TB), petabytes (PB), exabytes (EB), zettabytes (ZB), yottabytes (YB), ronnabytes (RB) or quettabytes of data (QB). Each of those units increases data by a thousand fold, yet no-one can even tell me which of them is appropriate to my brain. We can apparently know how many stars, galaxies, black holes ... exist in the Universe, but not the number of bytes in a human brain. Neither have I ever been informed about the size of 76 years of memory of life. Hmm!

I am thinking that I should at this point do my own calculations but I confess that I have not yet tried. My instinct tells me that my life's memories cannot possibly be fitted inside my brain. So where are they?

Likewise, since Darwin published his theory of Evolution in 1858, it has been taboo to question its veracity. We now know a huge amount about the biochemistry of life. We know the size and structure of DNA and we know exactly how and the speed at which the molecules interact, but still no-one has successfully shown that a human eye could 'evolve' in the time available - thought to be 2 to 2.5 million years - simply by the process of 'survival of the fittest'. Where are all the biologists and their computer models proving to us that Darwin's Theory is accurate? These are just two of the great failures of science today.

How Big Is A Memory?

There are good parallels to be drawn from our understanding of electronics and computer memory, and I make no apology for referring to modern information technology and drawing these parallels with humans, as I hope to make clear shortly.

At the end of the 1940s, the invention of the transistor led to much of the modern technology we enjoy today. The storage of electrons in particular locations of solids called semi-conductors came to underpin an amazing technology which allows modern computers to store vast amounts of information in increasingly tiny spaces. In essence, the presence or absence of an electronic charge is represented by a one or a zero, and it is these two simple digits which combine in binary mathematics to enable the astonishing abilities and storage capacities of today's computers. It is tempting to believe that a similar situation occurs in the brain. Is it not therefore possible that the

unthinkably tiny electron, stored (or not stored) at the molecular level within a brain cell or a synapse (or whatever) could be equivalent to the binary digits and allow a human to store the vast quantities of data created during the course of a lifetime? So far there is absolutely no evidence that this is the case. It seems that electron flow in nerves constitutes the signals that keep our body functioning, but there is no consensus amongst scientists as to how memory is actually stored. We only have to think about our past lives and the incomprehensibly large amount of data that would be needed to represent our entire memories to realise at once that no human brain could possibly store so much data.

There are some humans who can remember everything they have ever done. They remember precise dates and events and every word of every book they have read. How can all this fit inside a human head? I submit that this idea is patently ridiculous, but the idea that it might exist somewhere else is a scientific taboo.

I should say here that I do not claim to be gifted in this way, but this fact crystallised in my brain one day whilst driving and listening to music on a long journey. In an instant, a signal in my brain that came from nowhere - we might call this inspiration - told me that I knew every tiny detail of a great catalogue of music - all the arrangements, all the harmonies, the musicians, all the lyrics. (I have spent a lot of time studying music, for my sins.) I could distinguish every instrument being played: every minute trivial detail is in my brain stored somehow and ready to be retrieved in an instant. Often I need only hear the first note or two of a record and the entire audio track of that music begins to play inside my head. (Sometimes it goes on for days and drives me crazy! What's that all about?) I have long been suspicious of this mad idea, but it was at this moment when I was finally convinced that my brain could never hold so much data in any possible way that conformed with conventional science.

In consideration of brain storage capacity, not only do we need to quantify the actual data but we also need to consider the relationships that exist between them. Perhaps a single memory of an event is made up of some as yet undetermined collection of infons. (The infon was suggested by Stonier[5] as the fundamental unit of information, a bit like a binary digit, but as yet we have no idea what it is.) But, now realise that we must inevitably draw links to other often quite unrelated events. Things we may feel we had long forgotten suddenly bubble up to the surface of our consciousness from nowhere. (And as I glide through my eighth decade, the events I did just a few days ago become ridiculously vague. See below.)

I have been using the discussion of memory because the subject is familiar to all of us and generally uncomplicated by the use of specific words. We may never know how many ronnabytes of data are needed in the biological computer code that allows us to create the astonishing body movements of a ballerina or a gymnast, but we surely ought to be capable of estimating how many yottabytes it takes to fill our memory? Have scientists ever measured a brain reaching full capacity? If not, why not?

Consciousness

It becomes more difficult when we discuss consciousness because there is disagreement over what the word means. Over the course of many years, I have made deep efforts to understand the current scientific knowledge of consciousness and I am confident when I say that a real understanding of this is almost non-existent.

My hero, Sir Roger Penrose,[6] has put in more years than I have of deep thinking on the subject, but, to my knowledge, has not promoted the idea of consciousness extending beyond the brain. This surprises me somewhat but Sir Roger is one deep thinker who is entirely unafraid of tackling taboo. His reputation as one of the greatest living mathematicians has attracted good support for his theories that, to my mind, are still incomplete at best.

On the other hand, Rupert Sheldrake[7] has presented ideas - under the title of Morphic Resonance - with which I have considerable sympathy and has seriously risked the accusation of 'nonsense' by colleagues in the scientific community. I share the notion that the Universe has a history and that it can be accessed by others who can benefit from it. Simply stated it suggests that, once an idea exists, other minds are shown to quickly share the same idea.[8] The benefit is an acceleration of human progress in understanding and achievement. In a physical sense it suggests, for example, how in athletics the 'four-minute mile' was for many years unachievable. Once the barrier had been broken it seemed much easier for other athletes to run faster.

I have recently come across a new young academic called Victoria Trumbull[9] who seems to be putting her academic credentials at risk by suggesting that consciousness may extend beyond the human body. But, as a member of the community of philosophers, she has been rather handcuffed by her need to remain inside the boundaries of convention and to not risk straying too close to taboo areas of thinking.

A fourth academic with a very strong reputation is Donald Hoffman[10] who has up to now probably led the way in thinking outside the box for explanations of consciousness. I wholly recommend interested readers looking at his work. As a genuine academic his work is a breath of fresh air in a taboo area.

Enrico Faggin[11] is another author who has developed his own theory of consciousness that deserves deep examination. It concerns the relationship with quantum theory, an association that has been in the minds of many for a long time but without a satisfactory theory being created.

Society is presently structured in such a way as to believe only those with strong academic credentials who subscribe loyally to the 'scientific method'. After all, without data, how can anything be believed? Anyone stepping outside the boundaries of acceptable thinking risks damage to their professional careers. In that regard, it is understandable that they need to tread carefully. Careers, reputations and livelihoods - especially the project funding that these scientists depend upon, is too precious to lose by tackling the unacceptable. On the other hand, anyone like me who dares to present ideas in taboo areas is written off as a crank. Such is life!

But all we need to do is to consider the past when there were many things that we did not understand. People easily accepted that some things were beyond comprehension. It's true that some explanations may have pushed the boundaries of credibility today, but in the fullness of time some barriers to understanding were overcome.

The past few decades have created a disgraceful arrogance within the scientific establishment that we were on the cusp of understanding everything! I have already explained in previous essays how untrue that was. It is clear today that there remain many things we entirely fail to understand, not least of which is consciousness, memory and the Essence of Personhood.

The Universal Information Cloud (UIC)

Some deep thinkers have suggested that consciousness is not contained entirely within our bodies. It seems to me perfectly logical to build a theory based upon there being a Universal Cloud of Information.[12] Again, we find a parallel with information technology where our computers and phones are in constant communication with the 'cloud'. It is achieved by means of signals transmitted by electromagnetic radiation and is not without significant health risks. As we live out our lives in an ever-increasing bath of radiation, it is taboo to suggest that there might be any kind of link to the rapidly increasing incidence of cancers.[13]

Of course, in reality, the cloud is actually a growing army of data centres, invading our lands and increasingly hated by those who must endure their presence in the neighbourhood. These leviathans are consuming unacceptable levels of natural resources - energy, water for cooling and exotic, rare material, so as to act as repositories for as much data about human activities as possible. So, the idea of there being a cloud of information in the universe is an interesting parallel. It's not a new idea and I refer back to the work of Unger and Smolin, [14] and of Stonier that I have reported in earlier essays.

Some readers may recall that in past centuries scientists decided that there was an aether that pervaded everything. Its existence was invented to explain how light travelled. The idea was that physical effects like light and sound required a medium through which to travel and the aether was assumed to be that medium. The idea was rendered obsolete when Einstein and others showed that light could travel in total emptiness - the vacuum of space. (Sound does actually require the presence of chemical molecules for transmission.) So amongst the many positive explanations for which Einstein was responsible, it was he who declared the non-existence of the aether. It is curious now how the principle of the possible existence of a Universal Information Cloud runs parallel to this long-discredited idea. Perhaps there is an aether after all?

If we were to proceed with the theory that the universe somehow records everything that happens within it - 'The Universe has a History', as Unger puts it - then we could consider our brains to be transmitters and receivers of data to and from this information cloud. A human

brain then becomes an engine for the body that hosts it, and not simply a data store of enormous but unknown size that magically saves records of everything that its host does. Is it not also possible that, with a suitable link to the UIC, like an internet connection, the brain draws upon the vast store of data contained therein. Perhaps occasionally there might, under the right circumstances, be a sharing of information that results in a flash of inspiration to an unsuspecting receiver brain? Perhaps it might even allow communication between two brains with appropriate links? Perhaps the inspirational thought may even have been sent by some other consciousness, rather than just being passively received?

The variation in human biology is - at present - too big to quantify and every human is different from every other human. This implies that the widely differing structures of brains inside their hosts will have widely differing degrees of control over the human. The engines in each of us will be very different depending upon our own genetic constitution and the ways in which the cells in our brains are configured. Therefore it is clear that some brains will be able to access the contents of the UIC more effectively than others. This explains easily the different mental capacities of humans: you might have a faster 'broadband' connection than me. Clearly the links between our brains and the UIC contain some kinds of filters based upon our molecular biology so that we can only access the data that is relevant to us. Just as with computers today, we need special permissions to access certain UIC accounts in the Microsoft of Heaven! It is clear that I do not have access to memories that I did not create. Or is it? I submit here that many of the instances we have attributed to strange coincidences are actually moments of unsuspecting access to the UIC.

And as for my deteriorating memory with age? Well, I suspect that we all have a small amount of precious RAM, as it is known in the computer industry. This is our immediately available store of data concerning our instantaneous and day-to-day activities. As I grow older, I expect my RAM naturally to decay along with my other body skills and functions. But my broadband link may be unaffected, allowing me to enjoy the recollections of my past life from my rocking chair.

Extra Sensory Perception (ESP)

I have already written at length about the different mental skills contained within humans. Here I shall discuss another of the biggest scientific taboos of the present day - the subject of extra sensory perception (ESP), telepathy. Standard science refuses to accept the possibility of ESP and categorizes the idea as pseudo-science. Polite people call it metaphysics; others call it ridiculous and are rude to those who promote it as being real. Surely, many of us have encountered humans with extraordinary mental abilities that to us seem ridiculous? Are they all liars and charlatans? I myself have certain acquaintances who are able, apparently, to communicate with spirits, souls perhaps, of people who are dead. I have concluded that they exhibit strong characteristics of possessing an efficient link to the UIC.

Immediately we again butt into the complications of language because using certain words carries baggage that is often undesirable. I may say today that I know people who are more 'spiritual' than me. That may create false impressions. In the past they were referred to as mediums or spiritualists. They claimed to be in touch with the dead and could make a good business from charging bereaved clients for messages from the dead. As subscribers to taboo they were generally vilified and made to look ridiculous wherever possible. There were many deliberate attempts to expose them as charlatans and frauds who were just in it for the money. Nevertheless, society has always contained a small number of gifted humans who were then, and are now, able with great sincerity to convince clients and others that they are in contact with spirits. This taboo has never gone away.

I have my own direct experience of engaging with some of these gifted people[15] and my first-hand experience tells me that this is a real effect. Certain humans do indeed have the capacity to communicate outside of their brain with entities that are hard to describe precisely, but which are probably best referred to as spirits. I cannot at this time say if I believe this is the same as having a link to the UIC. It could be the case that they are communicating with it using tools which are unique to their own brain and are better than the ones I have.

Clearly this skill varies enormously. Some people have the gift in a small degree; others are especially gifted and live in constant contact with spirits they can never materialise. Those that I have met who are in this category - far from acting deceptively - often do not wish to possess the gift and view it as a burden.

Even we who do not consider ourselves gifted in this way, have experienced many occasions when we feel that we might have communicated telepathically. My wife and I were very close for more than fifty years and during that time there were many occasions when we found ourselves thinking exactly the same thoughts at exactly the same time. Readers who have developed particularly close relationships with a loved one will know what I mean.

It can be initiated by severe stress. Sometimes, in events involving extreme danger to one member of a pair, the other receives an instantaneous telepathic notion that the partner is in imminent trouble. But there are many other ordinary situations in which messages appear to be transmitted across distant space from one mental partner to another. When this happens we pass it off as just co-incidence. **I propose here that it is not**. I firmly believe that we all experience incidents involving telepathy in varying degrees of frequency. They often catch us unawares and we laugh them off, but I feel that we should cherish them as proof that ESP is real and that science is woefully lacking in this area.

The countless stories of events like these are known to all of us, but they remain somehow locked up in a dark cupboard that must not be opened. Yet, these are the very kinds of experimental data points that the scientists are looking for - data points by the million. But dogma insists that all notions that these happenings could be real and genuine must be debunked at the earliest opportunity. "Oh, you just imagined it. There's no proof that this is real."

Even if a scientist tried to take it seriously, he[16] would then carefully work out the design of an experiment and patiently execute it, only to find no effect whatsoever. The experiment would be declared a failure and the suggestion that something had finally been proved would be formally consigned to the bin reserved for crackpot ideas. The two people who came up with the story will be told it was just a coincidence. But they know **exactly** what they experienced. To them, it was real.

The subject of ESP is receiving significant attention currently, especially with certain types of children who decide not to speak. This extreme form of autism results in children who have been written off by society as severely disabled with no future. The parents are told their children are beyond help.

On the contrary, serious study has shown that their lives are probably richly filled. It seems that these children are actually in contact with other children remotely via ESP and that they simply prefer the company of their distant friends in a 'special' place and have no need to speak. Furthermore, they usually develop an especially close bond with a loved one and acquire the ability to communicate telepathically.

This remarkable new discovery has been reported by neuropsychiatrist Dr Diane Hennacy Powell in a series of podcasts called The Telepathy Tapes.[17] For a time, to many of us, it seemed that at last there was solid proof of ESP. However, in accordance with the dogma of debunking, the experiments and conclusions were later thoroughly discredited.[18]

The Fight Against Debunking

As I write, I wonder how much longer this situation can continue whereby ordinary folks are denied the truth of their own observations. When I feel optimistic I hold the opinion that we have the power of social media to report these events to the wider community in ways that never previously existed and that we can turn the tide of scientific taboos. In so doing there is a growing challenge to the authority of science.

The recent tale of the Telepathy Tapes is a good example in which the overwhelming common sense of the reports sprinkles shards of disgrace upon those who must debunk what any civilian jury of decent men and women would conclude to be true.

In the world outside science we have developed over centuries a system for deciding upon the truth or otherwise of events. It is called trial by jury. I do not wish to patronise my readers with things they know very well, but I make these points here and now for emphasis. When a murder takes place a suspect is (hopefully) brought to trial before a jury of twelve of his fellow men and women. The prosecution presents the evidence that he committed the murder and the defence argues the man's innocence. At the end of the trial the jury decides and their decision becomes the final truth of the matter. In fairness, I should say also that scientific evidence is increasingly used to assist in the determination, but it is not a fundamental part of the system to determine truth without recourse to science. The decision of a jury is *de facto* a statement of truth of an event. Our government is expected to act on the basis of that decision.

So a system **does** exist in which Society can determine truth. Unfortunately we have decided that we must place absolute faith in science and that this must always take precedence over human observations that must surely be just heresay. (Sarcasm intended.) However, where natural processes are involved, governments always fall back on science as the ultimate arbiter of truth.

This is a subject that I shall dwell upon briefly in the next section. The existence of scientific taboo has created the highly specialised mission of debunking which, speaking politely, is the process of expending every possible effort to deny the work of others. It is a widespread practice, usually carried out by those with strong scientific backgrounds, who use all arguments at their disposal to proclaim a 'discovery' or a 'theory' - no matter how firmly founded in common experience - as nonsense. Debunkers appear from every shabby corner of Society when anyone dares to bring up a taboo subject. After all, doesn't science and the scientific method give us undeniable proof? If arguments do not conform to the wisdom contained in science textbooks, isn't it, by definition, not true? Something to be ridiculed?

Debunkers are - like flat-earthers - a strange group of close-minded individuals to whom every unexplained object in the sky is a weather balloon. No matter how many high definition photographs or sightings from the most trustworthy members of Society, the effects are caused by weather balloons. Many reports are dismissed as unusual weather effects or drones or simply figments of the observer's imagination. Video evidence must surely have been faked? There is simply no possible way in which a sighting could be a highly advanced craft built by an intelligent species millennia in advance of us. And heaven help me if I report that I have seen a UFO.[19]

Pilots of both military and civilian aircraft observe UAP on a regular basis but generally dare not report sightings because of possible damage to their careers. Members of the military and civilian police forces, as well as many other holders of responsible positions regularly report UAP sightings but are always dismissed as mistaken. The taboo of the flying saucer is simply too great for science to accept. After all, haven't astronomers been looking to the heavens for hundreds of years and found nothing?

A particularly significant event has taken place in recent years because of the observations by Dr Beatriz Villarroel[20] and her colleagues who have documented what can only be described as UAP in years before humans launched satellites into space. She has published a series of peer-reviewed publications that present proof of advanced spacecraft, the product of alien civilizations possibly thousands of years ahead of us. Of course, she has been subjected to cruel abuse by debunkers, not least of whom was Dr Avi Loeb, senior astronomer at Harvard University and, curiously, a lead researcher in the search for Non-Human Intelligence (NHI). This absurd contradiction is despite Dr Villarroel showing that the UAP she observed in outer space were present on the same days as a collection of 'UFOs' buzzed Washington in 1952.

Thanks to social media and its freedom from the censorship of peer- review, it is clear to me that over the course of humanity we have been swamped with experiences and documented evidence of things that would make debunkers squirm. But before this dogma was accepted in modern Society, there was a general acceptance that those who experienced unusual effects and who were trusted voices within their communities were telling the truth. We need to expand our system of Trial by Jury.

Non-Human Intelligence (NHI)

The final significant and related taboo which I need to bring up at this point is the one concerning extraterrestrials, 'Little Green Men'![21] Despite overwhelming evidence that the Earth is visited (or indeed inhabited) by NHI, it remains taboo to discuss it in public. The scientific community entirely refuses to entertain the possibility of their presence, that interaction between NHI and humans exists or is even possible. However, there is incontrovertible evidence now that such intercourse **does** exist between two very different species and in almost every case communication - the exchange of ideas - between human and alien is non-verbal. Probably the foremost communicator of this topic is Chris Bledsoe, whose story appears prolifically on social media. Another less prominent but equally believable witness is Whitley Strieber, who has authored many books on his interactions with NHI.

I do not here propose to expand further on this subject, except to say that this is an immensely taboo subject that inevitably draws deep criticism and sometimes vitriol. But it falls well inside the thrust of this essay and must be highlighted in

this closing paragraph. I especially wish to draw attention to the fact that those humans who have made contact with NHI almost always refer to the exchange of thoughts and not words. So here we have a very good example that there is a vast part of our knowledge that is missing. My view is that these two elements can be brought together. Humans can indeed participate in ESP at different levels of ability. Some humans are born with great levels of skill. Others can be trained to develop the skill. This is another particularly taboo subject but is now solidly part of history and comes under the heading of 'remote viewing'. This is a subject for another essay and concerns the use by the US military to train certain individuals to use their minds in order to acquire valuable information about an enemy.

Conclusions

Scientific taboos are a barrier to our understanding of the nature of humanity. There is no current understanding of the nature of consciousness, neither is there a satisfactory analysis of the mechanisms of memory.

There is a great body of evidence to support the view that consciousness can exist outside of the human body. A natural extension to this idea is that memory is also stored elsewhere and that we have a built-in tool for storage and retrieval with an efficiency that is variable depending upon our DNA.

There is a great body of evidence to support the view that ESP - telepathy - is a natural phenomenon. The gift of telepathy can be present at birth and may or may not be developed thereafter depending upon environmental circumstances.

Author's Declaration

I, Dr Ken Trethewey, wish to declare that **no AI was used in the creation of this document**, except for the rapid searching for some references using Google.

Notes

1 New Physics For Old. Our understanding of the Universe and our place in it has remained stagnant for around 70 years. Suddenly, a burst of new ideas has presented us with the real possibility of answers to the biggest questions of humankind. https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/newphysics.html

2 From Time Zero: Science is at a crossroads yet is unable to choose the right path. We humans must now move beyond what is a worked-out seam of understanding of our Universe. This article sets out the main principles for the way forward that builds upon current understanding and expands it. Having set out the foundations, I consider the areas where uncertainly remains. https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/fromtimezero.html

3 Although the basic idea was excellent, I consider The Theory of Evolution as proposed by Darwin to be very poor in terms of its predictability. It is long overdue for update, but it is taboo to question its validity.

4 I have previously written extensively about the damaging effects of electric fields on our bodies in my paper The Effects of Non-Ionizing Radiation on Biological Systems and the Role of Hemoglobin. https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/NIEMF.pdf

5 Stonier, Tom: Information and the Internal Structure of the Universe. Springer-Verlag (1990). ISBN 3-540-19599-8.

6 What is Consciousness? In this essay about the mysterious human condition of consciousness I explore the possibility that it is a new kind of field, as yet undefined by conventional physics. For reasons that will become apparent it seems that a new field is the most appropriate place to begin for an understanding of consciousness, although it is quite possible that consciousness is not a field at all, in which case we must look elsewhere! https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/consciousness.pdf

7 Rupert Sheldrake has published many papers and videos but continues to be regarded with disdain because of his association with taboo science. http:/sheldrake.org

8 I wish to claim here how I myself was one day in 1999 in receipt of the idea of generating web pages from databases, at about the same time that it was being done elsewhere. I was inspired in an instant in complete isolation and ignorance of what was happening elsewhere in the world. The technologists amongst you will know that this is now the way most websites are created. It's a private observation that I can never prove, but I know for certain that it happened.

9 Victoria Trumbull: https://www.victoriatrumbull.com

10 Donald Hoffman: Consciousness, Mysteries Beyond Spacetime, and Waking up from the Dream of Life. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqOVu263OSk

11 The Quantum Theory of Consciousness Explained, Federico Faggin https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZvswwFsgxU&list=WL&index=21&t=8s

12 Once again, Tom Stonier's work comes to mind.

13 https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/fields.html

14 Unger, Roberto Mangabeira, Lee Smolin: The Singular Universe and the Reality of Time: A Proposal in Natural Philosophy, Cambridge University Press (2014). ISBN: 978-1107074064.

15 The Reading: This essay continues the work already started in earlier works. It highlights the obvious deficiencies of mainstream science and discusses aspects of life on Earth that are hidden in plain sight. https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/thereading.pdf

16 These 'debunkers' are generally men.

17 The Telepathy Tapes. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ql1uYi2P6Bs&t=405s

18 Rethinking communication and consciousness: Lessons from the telepathy tapes podcast. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1550830725001624

19 The abbreviation UFO is now considered inappropriate. The preferred term in UAP which stands for Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena.

20 Why we should search for alien artifacts. Beatriz Villarroel: TEDxZurich https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9p-r2OiHVg

21 The Greatest Lie: Any reasonable-minded, curious person has become aware of the large amount of credible conspiracy theories in circulation, emanating from a time after the Second World War and the dawn of the nuclear era down to the present day. Part of the reason for the growth of these theories is the flagrant amount of secrecy attached to and denials resulting from so many obvious and verifiable events that have led to a hardened sense of distrust by citizens for our systems of government. This paper addresses an issue that is, arguably, the most important event in the entire history of humanity - our contact with intelligent civilizations far more advanced than ourselves. https://soapbox.kentrethewey.co.uk/thegreatestlie2.pdf