

AROUND THE INTERNET

Some sad news arrived a few days ago with the announcement by Dan Porter that he was discontinuing his blog, shroudstory.com. Since 2008, Dan has posted news about the Shroud as it appeared on the internet almost daily, and sometimes even more often than that, and with the gentlest of moderation, allowed anybody who wanted to comment. Discussions have ranged over every possible aspect of the Shroud, sometimes running into hundreds of posts, the emphasis being on providing sources for the opinions expressed, and the working out of ideas in exhaustive detail. This has stimulated a huge amount of original research, artistic, historical and scientific, which has not been reported anywhere else. Every word of the STuRP team's findings, every inch of the Shroud itself, has been analysed and presented for scrutiny, in a peer-review process unparalleled by any scientific journal.

Where will all this happen now? I have been trawling the web for alternatives, but nothing comes close.

Elsewhere, Barrie Schwartz's <http://shroud.com> maintains its imperturbable, objective and authoritative pre-eminence, and Stephen E. Jones's <http://theshroudofturin.blogspot.co.uk> its increasingly extreme pro-authenticity stance, recently condemning non-authenticists to "eternal consequences". Pam Moon publishes her new ideas (including her latest paper on dyed on the radiocarbon corner) on her own website: <http://www.shroudofturinexhibition.com>, and Colin Berry pursues his investigations - now extending into the fourteenth century history of Geoffroy de Charney and the King of France as well as his practical experiments - at <https://shroudofturinwithoutallthehype.wordpress.com>. The best way to study the Shroud at close quarters is with the iPad app. Shroud 2.0, but if you don't have access to that, then Mario Latendresse's Shroud Scope, at <http://www.sindonology.org> is an invaluable resource. The site also contains a number of interesting papers on his historic researches.