Penrose Conference
Plume IV:
Beyond the Plume Hypothesis

Testing the plume paradigm and alternatives

The Website Handbook

Hveragerdi, Iceland

http://www.mantleplumes.org/
While the Penrose conference *Plume IV: Beyond the Plume Hypothesis* was in the early stages of planning, it emerged that there was almost nothing on the Web about alternative mechanisms for hotspot volcanism. Thus, [www.mantleplumes.org](http://www.mantleplumes.org) was born 5th March 2003. Since then over 30 scientists have contributed, and a similar number of web pages on specific topics have been placed online. The growing site resides on a server at University of Durham, UK, and is maintained by Gillian R. Foulger in consultation with the wide group of colleagues who have contributed pages.

The objective of the website is to foster debate about the origin of “anomalous” intraplate and plate-boundary volcanism, and “hotspots”, and to make readily available information, ideas and theories that bear on this problem. Debate concerning whether plumes underlie particular areas, or exist at all, is also included.

Suggestions are welcomed for additional material that would be of use to scientists interested in this field. Additional contributed webpages on specific topics or field areas are also welcomed. Email notification of new contributions is sent out approximately once per month, and we will be happy to add you to the mailing list if you wish.

We hope you will consider contributing.

Gillian R. Foulger
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What causes “hotspots”?
Are they hot?
Are they underlain by plumes?

This website discusses the ongoing controversy about the origin of “hotspots”, with emphasis on shallow processes.