

**ICON BOOKS   PRESS RELEASE 28TH SEPTEMBER 2006  
EMBARGOED UNTIL Oct 4th 2006**

**Icon announce the acquisition of possibly the most important science book since James Lovelock's *Gaia*, on a radical new theory which will revolutionise scientific thinking on global warming.**

To be published in March 2007, Henrik Svensmark & Nigel Calder's **The Chilling Stars: A New Theory of Climate Change** is based on a new theory which turns on its head the notion that global warming is down solely to carbon dioxide emissions.

The theory says that sub-atomic particles from exploded stars play a key role in the formation of clouds, which subsequently affect the temperature of the Earth. The activity of the Sun determines how many of these particles reach us – the fewer particles there are, the fewer clouds are formed, and the warmer the Earth becomes. It has been possible to look back in time and correlate the Earth's constantly fluctuating temperature with the amount of particles reaching the planet.

As Icon Publishing Director Simon Flynn says:

"The theory is able to account for most or all of the rise in global temperatures over the last century, and for many much bigger temperature changes before then. This is not a politically-motivated book – there remain many reasons why it's critical our consumption of fossil fuels must decrease. The book is based on legitimate, and impartial, science – it is in no way a polluter's manifesto"

"It's a book with incredibly wide-ranging implications involving cutting-edge science, and it's written in a fantastically engaging way. We're proud to be involved with the book and are looking forward to adding significantly to the climate change debate on publication next year".

The research has been led by Svensmark's team in Denmark and a key paper on the discoveries will be published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* on October 4th.

As co-author Nigel Calder says:

"Because of the secrecy about the contents of this forthcoming paper, which provides the very hinge of the book, we were not able to approach Icon Books until 8th September, and even then only in the strictest confidence. Icon is justifiably proud of itself as a fast mover, and has demonstrated it in this case, with everything agreed in a fortnight. Both of us are looking forward to working closely with Icon to make the book the success we think it should be – it's a crucially important as well as fascinating theory that people will want to be aware of."

continued overleaf...

About the authors:

**Henrik Svensmark** is Director of Sun-Climate Research at the Danish National Space Center. He has published more than 40 scientific papers on theoretical and experimental physics, including six landmark papers on climate physics.

**Nigel Calder** has spent a lifetime spotting and explaining the big discoveries in all branches of science. He served his apprenticeship as a science writer on the original staff of the magazine *New Scientist*, and became its editor, 1962-66. Since then he has worked as an independent author and TV scriptwriter. He won the *UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science* for his work for the BBC in a long succession of 'science specials', with accompanying books. His most recent book is *Magic Universe* (OUP, 2003), a comprehensive guide to modern science, which was shortlisted for the *Aventis Prize for Science Books*.

Notes to editors:

- Icon hold World rights in all languages
- Icon share a stand with rights agents The Marsh Agency at Frankfurt: D913 in Hall 8
- Icon Books are an independent British publisher of popular, intelligent non-fiction with a turnover of £2.5m p.a. Website is [www.iconbooks.co.uk](http://www.iconbooks.co.uk)
- Icon are sold by Faber in the UK, by Penguin in Canada and Singapore / Malaysia, Book Promotions in South Africa and Allen & Unwin in Aus / NZ
- US rights are handled by the Carol Mann Agency

*The Chilling Stars: A New Theory of Climate Change* · Henrik Svensmark and Nigel Calder · Icon Books · March 2007 · £10.99 Demy paperback with a colour plate section in addition to numerous b/w photos and diagrams · 272pp · ISBN-10: 1-84046-815-7 · ISBN-13: 978-1840468-15-1

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