THE COMPLETE WORKS of Charles Darwin are being put online.

Web wranglers at Cambridge University have rounded up everything the famous bird-watcher ever wrote and have begun to publish it all on a searchable site.

They should be finished by 2009, the year the scientist would have had his 200th birthday.

Works appearing online for the first time include various editions of the revolutionary Origin Of Species, The Descent Of Man, and a field notebook from his voyage to the Galapagos Islands on the good ship Beagle.

This has been transcribed from a microfilm since the original was stolen in the 1980s.

Randal Keynes, the great-great-grandson of Charles Darwin told the BBC that his family had always wanted Darwin's papers and manuscripts available to anyone who wants to read them. "That everyone around the world can now see them on the web is simply fantastic," he said. µ

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http://darwin-online.org.uk