



Greetings for the new year of Evidence News from John Mackay and the Creation Research team world wide and welcome to EVIDENCE NEWS with EDITORIAL COMMENT No. 1, 8th February AD2006.

INDEX

1. DON'T MISS JOHN MACKAY'S IN YOUR AREA
2. NEW ROO SPECIES IN NEW GUINEA
3. SOIL SUPERBUGS FOUND
4. NOTABLE QUOTABLE ON VIRUSES
5. ADD BAD BUGS
6. EVOLUTION FAILS IN BRITISH OPINION POLL
7. SPRING LOADED PLANKTON INSPIRE ENGINEERS
8. ARTIFICIAL FLAGELLA MADE
9. BUTTERFLIES BEAT ENGINEERS BY 30 MILLION YEARS
10. "EVOLUTION IN ACTION" WAS "SCIENCE" BREAKTHROUGH OF YEAR
11. FOSSIL ANTLION INTRIGUE
12. ABORTION ANGUISH
13. DONATIONS

1. S.E. QUEENSLANDERS DON'T MISS JOHN MACKAY FEBRUARY/MARCH

Friday 17th February Student Seminar UQ Contact: Les Percy 3862 8606 Email: lespercy@merf.org

Sunday 19th February 6.30pm – 8pm Marburg. Trinity Lutheran Edmund St.

Topic: Rocks cry out +Q & A. Contact: Clem Grieger 5464 1000 Email: clem_g@bigpond.net.au

Tuesday 21st February 7pm Public meeting at Primary school Hall Concordia College (across road from school) Topic: 6 Days of Creation, Age of Earth, Evidence Bible is true from beginning.

Contact: John Schultz 4635 2769, Mob. 0429 444 112

Wednesday 22nd February Home School Field Trip Toowoomba. Contact: Jen Downes 4693 3130

Email: steveandjen@bigpond.com

Thursday 23rd February Home School Day Marburg Topic: Noah's Flood. Contact: Trish Grieger

5464 4122 Email: trishgrieger@dodo.com.au

Friday 24th February Home School Field Trip 1 Marburg. Contact: Trish Grieger 5464 4122 Email:

trishgrieger@dodo.com.au

Sunday 26th February 9:30am Jimboomba Baptist East St, Jimboomba. Contact: Rev. Albert Nihot

3805 6780 Email: anihot@bigpond.net.au

Sunday 26th February 6pm Grace Bible Church 10 Yuletide St Holland Park. Topic: Most asked

questions on Creation / Evolution. Contact: Dave D'Amour 3392 6467 Email:

kadosha1@optusnet.com.au

Tuesday 28th February Home School Field Trip 2 Marburg. Contact: Trish Grieger 5464 4122

Email: trishgrieger@dodo.com.au

Sunday 5th March Jandowae Contact: Jim & Judith Baskerville 4668 5369 Email:

judithbaskerville@hotmail.com

Monday 6th March Jandowae Contact: Jim & Judith Baskerville 4668 5369 Email:

judithbaskerville@hotmail.com

Saturday 11th March Public Field Trip Marburg. Contact: Clem Grieger 5464 1000 Email:

clem_g@bigpond.net.au

2. NEW ROO SPECIES IN NEW GUINEA reported The Independent Online Edition, 7 Feb 2006. A group of scientists led by Bruce Beehler of Conservation International have discovered many new species of animals, birds and plants whilst exploring the upper slopes of the Foja Mountains in

western New Guinea. The region has not been colonised by local tribes or previously explored by visiting scientists. Among the animals they found a new species of tree kangaroo, named the golden mantled tree kangaroo. They also found many animals that have almost been hunted to extinction in other parts of the island, including wallabies and the rare long beaked echidna. Amongst birds the expedition found a new species of honey eater, and living specimens of birds of paradise that were previously believed to be extinct and were only known from dead specimens and feathers. Beehler commented: "It was a close to the Garden of Eden as you're going to find on earth. We found dozens, if not hundreds of new species in what is probably the most pristine ecosystem in the whole Asia-Pacific region." The scientists were also surprised by the "lack of wariness" of the birds and animals.

Independent Article: <http://news.independent.co.uk/environment/article343740.ece>

ED. COM. The abundance of plants, animals and birds found in this uninhabited region of New Guinea gives us a clue as to why animals such as kangaroos and echidnas are now confined to Australia and New Guinea – they have survived due to lack of predation particularly by humans. They did not evolve there. Fossils of marsupials are even more widespread, being found as far as China and South America, Canada and France.. Both living and fossil evidence of marsupials and monotremes (platypus and echidna) fits the Biblical history of world. After Noah's flood, animals from the ark migrated over the earth. During this time there were extremes of climate and sea levels varied, enabling animals to migrate across land bridges when the levels were low, but then trapping them in those regions when the sea levels rose. After the flood, some animals became predators and humans began hunting and killing animals. As a result some animals quickly became extinct, but those that found themselves in remote places like mountains of New Guinea or inland Australia have survived. The next step is obvious-as people move into this newly discovered "Garden of Eden" – WE PREDICT the current fauna and flora will start to become extinct as they can not and will not evolve to cope with the change. (Ref. migration, extinction, devolution)

2. SOIL SUPERBUGS FOUND, according to a report in news@nature 19 Jan 2006 and Science, vol 311, p374, 20 Jan 2006. Bacteria resistant to many different antibiotics, often called "superbugs," are becoming a serious problem in hospitals and other healthcare facilities. A team of researchers led by Gerard Wright of McMaster University, Ontario, Canada grew 480 strains of a bacterium named "Streptomyces," isolated from soil samples collected from numerous different urban and forest sites in Canada. They then tested the bacteria with 21 different antibiotics. Most of the bacteria were resistant to seven or eight antibiotics, but two particularly tough customers were resistant to 15. The antibiotics tested included some synthetic chemicals as well as naturally occurring substances, so many of bacteria were resistant to chemicals they could not have met before. Because bacteria are known to be able to share genes, medical scientists fear that genes from this vast pool of antibiotic resistance in the soil may move into disease causing bacteria, such as "Staphylococcus aureus" ("golden staph"). Scientists believe that Vancomycin resistance in disease causing bacteria may have come from genes passed on from soil dwelling bacteria. Wright suggest that soil dwelling bacteria need to have multiple defences because they live in an environment filled with numerous chemicals given off by other micro-organisms as well as by plants, fungi. news@nature article: <http://www.nature.com/news/2006/060116/full/060116-10.html>

ED. COM. This study confirms that the rise of bacterial antibiotic resistance in medical facilities has not been evolution. The ability of bacteria to defend themselves against chemical is a built in property to enable them to survive in the soil, and bacteria already possessed it before they found themselves in a human body (or hospital). The ability to share genes is also a built-in mechanism to enable them to survive in a changing environment. It is not evolution because no new genes are being made – pre-existing genes are just being redistributed. Thus, antibiotic resistance and gene sharing are evidence of plan and purpose, not random processes. They become a problem for human beings only when antibiotics kill off non-resistant forms leaving already resistant bacteria to flourish. (Ref. microbiology, medicine, ecology)

FOR MORE SEE www.creationresearch.net click Web books, then No. 4.

3. NOTABLE QUOTABLE ON VIRUSES "Even the Intelligent Design people don't want to claim them as being created by some extrinsic force. They are simply selected." Prof. Peter Doherty, Immunologist and Nobel Laureate Interview broadcast 16 Jan 2006, ABC (Australia) Classic FM

ED. COM. Peter Doherty's statement exposes the weakness of both the Intelligent Design Movement and evolutionary theory. The I D people can't explain viruses because they don't like the idea of a designer who would deliberately make destructive parasites. The evolutionists are no help because the claim that viruses were "simply selected" only explains what happened to them after they arrived. It does not explain where viruses came from. Viruses are not a problem for Biblical Creation, which tells us the Creator made all things good, but the world has been corrupted because of human sin and judgement, so viruses are the degenerate victims of sins curse, as much as the humans who currently host them. (Ref. quotes, microbes, diseases)

4. LEARN HOW TO HANDLE SCEPTICS WITH OUR DVD DID A GOOD GOD MAKE BAD BUGS? Darwin and Attenborough claim disease causes them to reject a Creator God. Now you can show people the real history of disease—who and what is really to blame and the only long term solution. Life didn't evolve, so find out where the really nasty bugs did come from. A great tool to witness with and easy to share. Geneticist, Dr Csaba Siffel from the Centre of Disease Control, USA, says: "It is a wonderful presentation". How do you witness to those who claim: "If there is a God of love, what about all the nasty diseases?" Did God invent AIDS, SARS, Malaria, Cholera, River blindness etc? Suitable High School +. Available from www.creationresearch.net click Web Shop.

5. EVOLUTION FAILS IN BRITISH OPINION POLL according to BBC online news, 26 Jan 2006. In a recent survey of over 2,000 people in Britain just over half were sceptical of evolution. The survey asked people what best described the origin and development of life. The results were (as quoted in the BBC article):

22% chose creationism

17% opted for intelligent design

48% selected evolution theory

and the rest (13%) did not know.

The survey also gave people a choice of three descriptions for the development of life on Earth, and asked which one or ones they would like to see taught in science lessons in British schools. The results were:

44% said creationism should be included

41% intelligent design

69% wanted evolution as part of the science curriculum.

The survey was commissioned by the BBC, whilst making a documentary entitled "A War on Science" which looks at the Intelligent Design debate in US schools. The documentary has recently been broadcast as part of the "Horizon" series on BBC TV. Andrew Cohen, editor of Horizon, commented: "I think that this poll represents our first introduction to the British public's views on this issue. Most people would have expected the public to go for evolution theory, but it seems there are lots of people who appear to believe in an alternative theory for life's origins." The results surprised many scientists. Lord Martin Rees, President of the Royal Society, said: "It is surprising that many should still be sceptical of Darwinian evolution. Darwin proposed his theory nearly 150 years ago, and it is now supported by an immense weight of evidence."

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4648598.stm>

ED. COM. As one the world leading promoters of evolution, the BBC certainly would be surprised at these results. The title of their documentary is part of an increasing trend in both the professional and lay literature to make the word "evolution" mean "science," and therefore label all challenges to the theory of evolution as challenges to science. However, in spite of protestations that understanding evolution is essential for understanding life, evolution means little to most people, and deep down they know they are not just results of millions of chance random accidents and Darwin's "war of nature". As Paul wrote in Romans 1:20, For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse. (Ref. opinions, beliefs, sceptics)

6. SPRING LOADED PLANKTON INSPIRE ENGINEERS, according to a report in New Scientist, 17 Dec 2005, p12. Danielle France of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has studied the way a pond dwelling protozoan named "Vorticella convallaria" attaches itself to surfaces such as rocks and leaves by a stalk called a spasmoneme. If the cell is disturbed the spasmoneme quickly contracts into a coiled spring shape and pulls the cell close to its attachment site. The spasmoneme is made up of six proteins and is triggered when the cell releases calcium ions. France's team has identified which of the proteins responds to the calcium signal and is working on building an artificial spring by linking spasmoneme proteins to polyethylene fibres. For its size the spasmoneme is very strong and bioengineers hope that a man-made version could be used to operate miniaturised devices for delivering drugs inside the body.

ED. COM. If the MIT engineers do succeed in making a microscopic spring loaded device they need to admit they will only have made a copy of an already existing device. Creationists believe that human scientists can make devices similar to those found in living cells because we are made in the image of the Creator. We can make devices that work in a similar way to those made by the Creator because we are like, (but less than), our Creator. If the MIT engineers believe the alga built the attachment spring itself, rather than being made by a creator outside the cell, do they consistently believe that MIT engineers have needed all that Uni training to achieve the same level of intelligence as pond scum? (Ref. biotechnology, microbiology, nanotechnology)

7. ARTIFICIAL FLAGELLA MADE, as described in Nature, vol. 437, p862, 6 Oct 2005 and New Scientist. Flagella are hair-like structures that cells use to propel themselves by either rotating their flagella to produce a spiral movement along the hair, or beating them with a whip-like action which produces a series of bends that move from the base to the tip. A group of scientists led by Remi Dreyfus of Laboratoires Colloides et Materiaux Divises, Paris, have constructed an artificial flagellum consisting of a chain of tiny colloidal magnetic particles which can be activated by placing it in an oscillating magnetic field. They attached the colloidal chain to a red blood cell, induced a beating movement in the chain, which propelled the cell along. By altering the magnetic field they could control the flagellum's direction and speed.

ED. COM. The bacterial flagellum (the one that rotates) has been at the centre of the controversy over intelligent design. In the 2005 Dover court case, evolutionists insisted the flagellum arose by chance /naturalistic combination of the components that make it up. The flagellum described above is the product of creative design and engineering and is NOT the result of the activities of its components – BUT it is not as complex as the cellular flagellum either. Flagella in cells are controlled and powered from within the cell. When scientists can design and build a system that does this they will have proven that the whole cell, not only the flagellum is the product of creative design and engineering, but so is the whole cell - catch 22!!!!. (Ref. biomimicry, colloids, motility)

8. BUTTERFLIES BEAT ENGINEERS BY 30 MILLION YEARS, according to an article in BBC online news and news@nature 17 Nov 2005, Science, vol 310, p1151, 18 Nov 2005 n NZ Herald 22 Nov 2005. Physicists at Exeter University, UK have studied the wing scales of brightly coloured butterflies named "Priniceps nirens" to see how they produce such brilliant glowing colour. Here is the first paragraph of their paper: "In synthetic optical emitters such as light emitting diodes (LEDs), the majority of generated light is trapped internally. Recently developed high-efficiency devices, however, use two-dimensional (2D) photonic-crystal geometries to enhance the extraction efficiency of light, and the devices also use distributed Bragg reflectors (DBRs) to control emission direction. Here we detail the elaborate optical emission system on the wing scales of a small group of butterflies. Their scales comprise a pigment-infused 2D photonic crystal that provides intense directed fluorescence, which is directionally enhanced by a DBR. This biological system shares many design features with high-emission LEDs." Photonic crystals are used in high-tech light emitting diodes (LEDs) in electronic displays. They are designed to channel light of a specific wavelength in a desired direction through microscopic channels, without it spreading out and losing its intensity. The physics of photonic crystals was only discovered human optical engineers less than a decade ago, but according to the BBC, "When scientists developed an efficient device for emitting light, they hadn't realised butterflies have been using the same method for 30 million

years." Peter Vukusic, who led the study, commented to the BBC: "The way light is extracted from the butterfly's system is more than an analogy – it is all but identical in design to the LED." The NZ Herald quotes Vukusic: "It's amazing that butterflies have evolved such sophisticated design features which can so exquisitely manipulate light and colour. Nature's design and engineering is truly inspirational."

The news@nature article is entitled "Butterflies shine brighter by design".

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4443854.stm>

news@nature article: www.nature.com/news/2005/051114/full/05114-11.html

NZ Herald article: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/story.cfm?c_id=5&ObjectID=10355945

ED. COM. Did you notice the number of times the word "design" was used when referring to the photonic crystals in butterfly wings. It is clear that these scientists can recognise design when they see it, and science news services, such as Science and Nature and the BBC, are prepared to report their findings. However, all of these organisations regularly pour scorn on anyone who claims that living organisms, including butterflies, are the product of creative design. At the same time they insist on patent and copyright fees being rightly given to creators of physical or intellectual inventions such as LEDs. This is sheer hypocrisy, and serves as a reminder that God meant what He said in the Bible that the evidence of His character and work in the world is clearly seen in the creation, and all those who ignore or deny it are without excuse. (Romans 1:20) (Ref. biomimicry, biotechnology, biophysics)

9. "EVOLUTION IN ACTION" WAS "SCIENCE" BREAKTHROUGH OF 2005, according to articles in Science, vol. 310, p1878, and BBC online news, 23 Dec 2005. Every year the editorial staff of "Science" review the year's discoveries and vote for the one they consider to be the most significant scientific breakthrough. This year they voted for "evolution in action." Although they admit that Charles Darwin's theory has been around for 150 years, they claimed that "2005 stands out as a banner year for uncovering the intricacies of how evolution actually proceeds." The discoveries that led to this claim are the chimpanzee genome, the reconstruction of the 1918 flu virus and a study of European blackcap birds showing how two populations that share a common breeding ground can become two different species. The "Breakthrough of the Year" issue of Science was published around the same time as the results of the Intelligent Design court case in Dover, and comes at the end of year that had many challenges to evolutionary theory from the Intelligent Design movement, but Colin Norman, news editor of "Science" claims the choice of breakthrough had nothing to do with challenges to evolution.

ED. COM. In spite of the protestations of the "Science" news editor, we suspect there is more politics than science in claiming evolution as the "Breakthrough of the Year." Whilst the scientific studies named in the "Breakthrough" article have added to our knowledge of living things, none of them are ground breaking discoveries and none of them are evolution. The chimpanzee is not the first animal to have its genome sequenced, and the information revealed only shows us what genes a chimpanzee now has. It does not explain how the chimp genes got there. The fact that some other living things, including human beings, may have many similar genes does not prove chimpanzees have evolved from some other animal, or are evolving now. The reconstruction of the 1918 flu virus only proves that it takes clever scientists who already knew about virus genes and proteins, and had the ability to manipulate biological molecules, to make a virus that in nature cannot exist without other more complicated creatures pre-existing it. As a virus is a far simpler than the smallest, simplest independent living cell, the virus reconstruction is good evidence for creation, not evolution. The study of European blackcap birds may have revealed more details of the actual process of species splitting, but species splitting has been observed many times and is not evolution, since the blackcap turned into a blackcap. Dividing one large and varied population of birds into two smaller and less varied populations does not make a new kind of living creature. It simply reinforces the variation that was already present in the original population. As such it is good evidence that these birds were originally part of one created kind. (Ref. journalism, reporting, beliefs)

10. FOSSIL ANTLION INTRIGUE reported in New Scientist, 17 Dec 2005, p19. A beautifully preserved antlion fossil found in the Crato Formation in north-east Brazil has intrigued scientists.

The wings of the insect are almost perfectly preserved, with the colour and pattern on them clearly visible. Preservation of colour in fossils is rare and scientists are not sure how it happens, but suggest that rapid burial and oxygen free conditions are involved. The other intriguing question about the fossil antlion is what it ate. Living antlions have this name because their larvae eat ants. The Crato formation fossil is dated a 112 to 125 million years old but, according to New Scientist, "since ants evolved some 10 million years after this antlion died, the hungry young insect must have feasted on something else."

ED. COM. Rapid burial in an oxygen free medium will prevent chemical breakdown and enable fine details to be preserved. To prevent breakdown by oxygen, or by micro-organisms that need oxygen, the insect had to be buried deeply as well as rapidly and had to stay buried until the fossil hunters found it. This fits well into Biblical history of a young earth that has undergone rapid catastrophic upheavals commencing at Noahs Flood. The antlion diet is not a problem for Biblical creation either. Genesis states that all animals (which would have included antlions) originally ate plants. Only after the world degenerated due to the Fall of Man and God's judgement and the later loss of food sources after the Noahs Flood, did carnivorous habits develop and antlion larvae took to eating ants. (Ref. insects, ages, fossilisation)

11. ABORTION ANGUISH reported in BBC online news, 12 Dec 2005. Researchers at the University of Oslo surveyed 40 women who had suffered a miscarriage and 80 women who chose to have an abortion and compared the amount of mental stress suffered by each group. The results were (as quoted from the BBC article): "The Oslo team found that, after 10 days, 47.5% of women who had miscarried suffered from some degree of mental distress compared with 30% of the abortion group. The proportion of women who had a miscarriage suffering distress decreased during the study period, to 22.5% at six months and to just 2.6% at two years and five years. But among the abortion group 25.7% were still experiencing distress after six months, and 20% at five years." The researchers concluded that the responses to a miscarriage were similar those that occur after other traumas, but the response to an abortion was much more complex. The women who had abortions also had to make a greater effort not to think about the experience. Richard Warren, from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, said: "It has always been considered, and this study also shows, that the decision to terminate may bring with it long-standing feelings of anxiety and guilt. While most women are able to manage and cope with these feelings, when necessary, the need for ongoing support and counselling should be recognised and appropriate help given." Pro-abortion groups were not impressed. A spokeswoman for the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, UK's leading abortion providers, claimed: "We don't see many women for post-abortion counselling" and the Family Planning association claimed: "There was no evidence to suggest that abortion directly causes psychological trauma." However, Anna Pringle, from the anti-abortion charity Life, said: "This confirms years of experience with women who come to us for counselling after abortion. The emotional suffering can be massive."

ED. COM. The Family Planning and other pro-abortion organisations are deluding themselves if they think that women who have come to the conclusion they have done something wrong by having an abortion would go back to them for help. The study described above confirms longstanding evidence from many counselling services that minister to women who have had abortions. The emotional anguish occurs because they realise that by having an abortion they have chosen to deliberately destroy a human life, i.e. they have murdered a person. This is a terrible burden for anyone to bear, and the only real solution is to admit it was wrong, then seek forgiveness from the Creator of life, the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross to take away our burden of wrongdoings, and rose again to give us new life. Then turn away from abortion and counsel other women not to have one, because it is wrong. (Ref. surveys, death, repentance)

13. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE can be sent to the following addresses or use our secure Web site: www.creationresearch.net and click GIFTS.
USA: P.O. Box 281 Hartsville TN 37074 (Donations in USA are tax deductible. Make checks to Creation Education Society)

Evidence News 01/06 –8th February 2006

UK: P.O. Box 1 Ashton under Lyne Lancs. OL6 9WW (Donations in UK payable to Creation Research Trust are tax deductible - a Gift Aid Declaration is required - available from <http://www.amen.org.uk/cr/trust/giftaid.pdf>)

AUSTRALIA: P.O. Box 260 Capalaba Qld 4157

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