

Evidence News 01/10 -17th February 2009AD

G'DAY g'day g'day from John Mackay and the Creation Research Team worldwide. Welcome to the first Evidence News with EDitorial COMment for 2010. The year has been great already with our team inspecting a great new fossil flood log jam site for excavation in March. On top of that we have seen climate guru and now ex-head of the east Anglia Climate Centre take a public nose dive on the BBC last week at the same time that snow hits every state in the USA including the mountain tops in Hawaii. Also we encourage you to get your notifications in for the July Hands-on Down Under fossil trip, and don't miss the Great Aussie Outback tour for August 2010 (details click [HERE](#)). Dr Andy Mackintosh UK and John Mackay have been blessed already as they prepped the trip. ...

THE July 10-day HANDS-ON FOSSIL trip is for those who want to get their hands dirty by actually digging and getting involved in real time Creation research. This trip will visit Australia's East Coast in mid-July to see the fabulous polystrate pine tree fossils, as well as collecting fossils where permitted. Read more - click [HERE](#).

AND to whet your appetite for what else is coming in 2010 click [HERE](#) for highlights from around the globe. As Darwin's birthday year in 2009 took us out of Australia for much of the year we have committed 2010 February to August Down Under then over to the USA, Canada and the UK. See you when we get to your area.

WEB GIFTS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH click [HERE](#) then click your country.

Donations in USA/UK are tax deductible. See instructions online at the above link.

CANADA TAX DEDUCTIBLE SUPPORT FOR OUR COLLEAGUES click [HERE](#)

IF YOU no longer wish to receive our updates please reply with REMOVE EN in the subject. To assist us please include your name as well as e-mail address (and organisation name, if any)...

Evidence News comes to you in PDF format so you need Adobe Reader which is freely available from www.adobe.com. This week's Evidence News Index follows - to view the entire e-news please click <http://www.creationresearch.net/enews/ENEWS0110-100217.pdf> (if the link doesn't work just copy and paste it into your web browser)...

(Please Note: within the PDF file you can click on the Index Line to go directly to the news item.)

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AUSTRALIA

FEBRUARY 2010

Gold Coast

BOND UNIVERSITY OUTREACH 2pm – 6 pm Sat 20th - contact Paul Seiler (07) 5578 9479.

Sat 27th: 4.30pm – 6pm plus Tea after: Mudgeeraba Presbyterian

319 Mudgereeba Rd (opp Fwy Exit 79)

Contact **Ray Evans** (07) 5530 7003 or email mudgpresbyterian@aapt.net.au

Sun 28th: 9 am Mudgeeraba Presbyterian

Contact **Ray Evans** (as above)

6 pm Gold Coast Baptist 22 White Street Nerang

Contact **Colin Faulkner** (07) 5596 3123 or email colinal@bigpond.net.au

MARCH 2010

TOOWOOMBA

A month of Sundays on the Darling Downs plus some Saturday activities and 2 great field trips to our second fossil flood log jam site at Laidley

Contact **Dave Kiewiet** (07) 4636 5438 or djkiewiet@virginbroadband.com.au

And Christ Life Presbyterian (West Toowoomba)

Pastor **Esa Hukkinen** (07) 46334000 esa@christlife.org.au

Sat 20th - Field Trip Toowoomba contact info@creationresearch.net

Sat 27th – Field Trip Toowoomba contact info@creationresearch.net

APRIL 2010

GOLDFIELDS EASTER CONVENTION April 2-5 Castlemaine Victoria

3 days of wonderful teaching on the Creator's wonderful Love for man

For topics click [HERE](#)

Contact Bob and Jean Willmer (03) 5472 2156 or email info@creationresearch.net

CANADA

SEPTEMBER 20-24th 1 week of ministry at University of British Columbia

USA

OCTOBER USA -Two weeks of field trips on the Cumberland Plateau

KEEP WATCHING FOR DETAILS ON www.creationresearch.net click COMING EVENTS.

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1. RUDD AND ABBOTT BOTH BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION. According to a report in the West Australian January 31, 2010, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, an Anglican church attendee, has admitted he believes in evolution - and always has. Rudd was asked his view on evolution, after a challenge to quiz the PM on his beliefs from Opposition leader Tony Abbott.

PM Rudd stated "I have always believed in evolution. The reason is it's an empirical science," he told Channel Nine. "It's been established. It has been, therefore, fundamental to the great innovations in science and technology for the last two hundred years since Darwin was around. And that's my view - always has been."

Abbott wrote on his website in mid 2008 that evolution was a more plausible explanation for the origin of humans than Genesis. Abbot stated "I don't say that evolution is a complete and entirely satisfactory scientific explanation of the origin of man. Still, I think it's more plausible than treating the Adam and Eve story as literal truth (if that's what creationists say)."

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/breaking/6742772/rudd-believes-in-evolution/>

ED.COM. Since the Pope and most Anglican leaders are evolutionists, it is no surprise that church going lay Catholic and Anglican pollies are as well. It shows the importance of church leadership in taking a firm stand on the authority of what God says vs what the naturalist scientist says, as both Rudd and Abbott will make decisions on public issues such as gay rights and abortion and rising student violence murders based on their false evolutionist view of history that teaches man is an animal so why not behave that way. (Ref. Politics, Liberal, Labour, morals)

Uk and aus only?

2. BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW SEMINAR Set of 3 x 1 hr DVDs for the price of 2 – how do you share the Gospel about Jesus death for sin, with a world which thinks death is no more than a natural evolutionary biological necessity. Click [HERE](#) (AU) [HERE](#) (UK) for more.

3. CLIMATEGATES TOP SCIENTIST ADMITS NO GLOBAL WARMING SINCE 1995, according to BBC News 13 Feb 2010 and Daily Mail 14 Feb 2010. Professor Phil Jones (now ex-head of East Anglia Climate unit), is the leading scientist under investigation following the "Climategate" e-mail and data leak, admitted on a BBC News interview, there has been no significant global warming since 1995. When asked: "Do you agree that from 1995 to the present there has been no statistically-significant global warming? Jones answered: "Yes, but only just. I also calculated the trend for the period 1995 to 2009. This trend (0.12C per decade) is positive, but not significant at

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the 95% significance level.” When asked if the trend from 2002 to the present was one of cooling Jones said: “No. This period is even shorter than 1995-2009. The trend this time is negative (-0.12C per decade), but this trend is not statistically significant.”

When asked whether the rate the most recent period of warming from 1975 to 1998 was no different from previous periods of increasing temperature, i.e. 1860-1880 and 1910-1940, Jones admitted the warming rates were “similar and not statistically significantly different from each other.” This is an important admission because the earlier warming periods are considered to be from natural processes, not man-made.

Jones and an American colleague Michael Mann, had a large part in producing the now discredited “hockey stick graph” which showed no signs of the well documented Medieval Warm Period and indicated the recent warming was unprecedented over the last thousand years. This was used by the IPCC to convince politicians that current warming was a dangerous man-made phenomenon. Jones admitted the MWP occurred in the Northern Hemisphere and was as warm as the current period but said there was not enough data from the tropics and southern hemisphere to say it was a global. He admitted: “Of course, if the MWP was shown to be global in extent and as warm or warmer than today (based on an equivalent coverage over the NH and SH) then obviously the late-20th century warmth would not be unprecedented.” Jones still believes the current warming is unprecedented and is caused by man-made factors.

Jones and some of his colleagues at the University of East Anglia climate centre have been found guilty of ignoring legal Freedom of Information requests for data from the centre, and Jones has confessed to not keeping records in any usable form and that the data used to promote man-made global warming may have been lost.

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8511701.stm>

Daily Mail: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1250872/Climategate-U-turn-Astonishment-scientist-centre-global-warming-email-row-admits-data-organised.html>

ED. COM. A trend of minus 0.12 degrees C per decade equals 0.096 degrees cooling over the last eight years. That may not seem significant, but it is the opposite of the politicians' and popular media's dire warnings of unrelenting heating. No wonder Jones and colleagues didn't want the data to be released into the public domain, even if they haven't lost any of it. Jones is partly right about the Medieval Warm Period lack of data from the tropics and southern hemisphere for that period, as groups such as the aboriginals in Australia and most natives throughout the Pacific region have no written accounts of any time period. However a recent article in Science, vol. 324, p78, 3 April 2009 presented “globally distributed proxy data” for the past 947 years indicating the Medieval Warm Period and the Little Ice Age that followed were associated with changes in massive ocean currents involving both hemispheres.

In the meantime masses of money, media hype and politicians' promises are being wasted propping up a theory founded on data that has been manipulated into discredited graphs and may no longer exist. With recent revelations of mistakes by the IPCC, and regional raw data being re-analysed, the global warming facade is cracking, but don't start cheering yet. Politicians, media managers and carbon traders will not easily give up the power and money that comes with global warming alarmism. Instead, we should be humbling ourselves before our Creator, who is in charge of the climate, and getting on with the things we can do to be good stewards of the earth. (Ref. weather, politics, climate change)

4. MUST SEE CLIMATE CHANGE DVDS (see more [HERE](#))

Climate Change & Creation What was the weather like at creation? What has been its history since then? Is man causing global warming? Is it global warming, climate change, or tax revenue?

Climate Change: The God Factor What role does God the Creator play in the weather? What is man's responsibility? Media Manipulation; the climate of politics, and more. (Senior High School +)

5. BAT AND DOLPHIN GENES CONVERGE according to *New Scientist* and ScienceNOW 25 Jan 2010, BBC News 26 Jan 2010 and ScienceDaily 27 Jan 2010. Bats and whales are both mammals, but are otherwise about as different as two kinds of animals can be. Apart from basic

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mammal features, the only thing they have in common is that some bats and some whales (dolphins and sperm whales) use echolocation (sonar) to navigate and find food. Two groups of researchers have now studied a gene for an inner ear protein named prestin in bats, whales and some other mammals. They found that the echolocating bats and dolphins had the same gene. Non-echolocating bats and non-echolocating whales had prestin genes similar to other mammals. Sperm whales, which use lower frequencies for their sonar, had a very similar, but not identical gene, to dolphins and bats. The researchers claim they have found an example of convergent evolution due to the prestin gene in bats and dolphins acquiring the same mutations needed for high frequency hearing. Convergent evolution is the explanation for a problem summarised in the *ScienceDaily* article: "if you draw a phylogenetic tree of bats, whales, and a few other mammals based on similarities in the prestin sequence alone, the echolocating bats and whales come out together rather than with their rightful evolutionary cousins." The researchers were surprised by how much the bat and dolphin gene sequences matched. Stephen Rossiter of the University of London, one of the researchers, commented: "it is generally assumed that most of these so-called convergent traits have arisen by different genes or different mutations. Our study shows that a complex trait – echolocation – has in fact evolved by identical genetic changes in bats and dolphins." He went on to say: "We were surprised by the strength of support for convergence between these two groups of mammals and, related to this, by the sheer number of convergent changes in the coding DNA that we found."

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8478566.stm>

ScienceDaily: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/01/100125123219.htm>

ED. COM. This study exposes the uselessness of evolutionary trees and of evolutionary theory in general with its flaws covered over by the amazing faith of evolutionists. It makes it so obvious that the term "Convergent evolution" is a meaningless jargon term to cover any similarity which the evolutionists can't fit into his current family tree. Note that the study does not explain where how or when the prestin gene or any of the other additional features associated with echolocation, such as the brain circuits needed to interpret the echoes, came into being. Since no-one has ever observed a non-echolocating animal evolve into one that uses echolocation, the enormous faith of the Dawkins and Darwins of this world is a cover for their ignorance disguised in pseudo science terms when they claim that echolocation evolved by naturalistic processes once, let alone twice by exactly the same genetic changes.

It is a far more reasonable faith to believe that bats and dolphins have the same gene for the same protein because the same Creator designed it to work as part of a cleverly designed system. (Ref. design, cetaceans, hearing)

6. PANDA GENOME REVEALED in a report in Nature News 13 Dec 2009 and *Nature* vol 63, p311, 21 Jan 2010. An international team of researchers has sequenced the genome of the giant panda, a large animal that looks like a carnivore but mainly eats bamboo shoots and leaves. Its genome was similar to carnivores but its *T1R1* gene, (that encodes the umami receptor protein used for tasting the savoury flavours, such as those in meat and cheese), is defunct. Wang Jun, deputy director of the Beijing Genomics Institute in Shenzhen, who led the sequencing project commented: "This may explain why the panda diet is primarily herbivorous even though it is classified as a carnivore." Although it lives on a vegetarian diet the panda does not have any genes for cellulases – enzymes that break down cellulose in plants. Wang suggested "The panda's bamboo diet may be dictated by its gut bacteria rather than by its own genetic composition." Overall the panda genome is 80% similar to dogs and 68% similar to humans.

ED.COM. Notice the panda eats what it cannot digest by itself but survives quite well. The idea that the panda was a carnivore that became a vegetarian because it lost its umami receptor has one major problem. It can only survive on plants provided it already has the right gut bacteria. The giant panda serves as a reminder that all animals were originally created vegetarian (Genesis 1:26) and most did not become carnivores until after Noah's flood when the environment degenerated and man and animals needed to eat meat to survive in many places on earth. The loss of a functioning umami gene probably made it less likely to develop a taste for meat, but the giant panda survived as a vegetarian because it has found a niche where there is enough plant food, it has no enemies

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(apart from man) and is large enough and capable of defending itself. The loss of a functioning gene is not evolution. It is degeneration, and a reminder that the world is going downhill, not evolving upwards. Wang's comment is a reminder of the fact that no life is lived alone. The importance of symbiotic relationships with bacteria in all animals is vital to life. It seems symbiosis is the norm rather than the exception. However, with the degeneration that has occurred since the Fall of Man and the Noah's Flood, some animals have lost their good relationship with bacteria . (Ref. mammals, genetics, China)

7. Must see DVD - DID A GOOD GOD MAKE BAD BUGS? Geneticist, Dr Csaba Siffel from the Centre of Disease Control, USA, says: "It is a wonderful presentation". [Click HERE for more.](#)

8. MEGAFUNA DEMISE DEBATE REVIVED by a new dating method described in *Science* vol. 327 p 420 22 Jan 2010 and *Nature News* 23 Jan 2010. Australia was once populated by giants – kangaroos, wombats, birds and reptiles that were far larger than any animal currently living downunder. Researchers who study the fossils of these super-sized creatures have long argued about why they died out. One theory is that aborigines killed them off, either by hunting them or burning the forests, but others claim the megafauna had already died out due to climate change, such as ice ages and droughts before humans arrived in Australia. The human-cause theory received a boost when a sedimentary layer containing both megafauna remains and aboriginal artefacts was found at Cuddie Springs in New South Wales. The layer was dated as being between about 40,000 and 30,000 years old using radiocarbon and luminescence methods.

However the climate change theorists were not impressed and claimed the site had been disturbed, with megafauna fossils from older deposits working their way into younger deposits. They claimed that the dating methods were only indirect as they dated the sand and charcoal fragments rather than the fossils themselves. A group of researchers at the Australian National University have now used electron spin resonance (ESR) and uranium-series techniques to date the megafauna teeth directly. They dated some of the extinct megafauna teeth as about 50,000 years old. In a review of the research on the Cuddie Springs deposit Richard G. Roberts of University of Wollongong and Barry W. Brook of University of Adelaide concluded: "Given that people arrived in Australia sometime between 60 and 45 thousand years ago, human impact was likely the decisive factor. Humans may have caused the demise of the megafauna in two main ways: hunting—possibly of juveniles at rates as low as one kill per person per decade, termed 'imperceptible overkill' and habitat disturbance, most likely by burning vegetation."

ED. COM. As creationists we occasionally find ourselves on the sidelines watching two evolutionary camps argue with one another, and delight in telling them they are both wrong or both right. The debate over the demise of megafauna is one example of this. One of the reasons megafauna extinction has become a heated debate is the problem of dating the fossils, as shown in the study above. The other is that it is politically incorrect to accuse the aborigines of doing anything so ecologically unfriendly as hunting animals to extinction and ruining the environment by burning down the forest.

Let's look at the megafauna in the context of Biblical history. In the beginning God created and megafauna were created according their kinds, along with all kinds of land animals to live in a very good world that had enough lush vegetation to sustain them and no predators or hunters to kill them. God's rule was precise – all creatures were to be vegetarian – there would be no death, no struggle to survive. Sadly after the Fall of Man and Noah's Flood, the world degenerated. The environment was no longer so lush, winter appeared and man was given permission to eat meat and many animals took it up as well. Therefore, after centuries of climate change and hunting, the big beasts eventually died out. This is not a history unique to Australia. All over the world there is evidence of large animals that have died out due to the same combination of human hunting and environmental degeneration. Their remains are a reminder of how much the original created world has gone downhill and shows no sign of evolving upwards. (Ref. mammals, ecology)

A must see DVD – Darwin's Evolution- a very unnatural selection – learn where the Giants fit in and much more... click [HERE](#) for more.

9. DELTA WING DOLPHIN FINS described in a report in *Journal of Experimental Biology and ScienceDaily* 28 June 2009. A team of scientists have studied the hydrodynamic properties of the flippers of seven species of dolphin. They used computer tomography scans of the flippers to build accurate scale models of the flippers and tested these for lift and drag in a flow tunnel. The flippers varied in shape from triangular to swept pointed or swept rounded. By analysing the fluid flow around the flipper models they found that sweptback flippers generate lift like modern delta wing aircraft. The researchers summarised their findings as: “we found that cetacean flippers exhibit lift and drag curves that are similar to those of modern hydrofoil control surfaces found on engineered devices.”

ScienceDaily: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/06/090626091127.htm>

ED. COM. No-one would ride on a modern hydrofoil boat if they thought it had been left to mindless chance to make the control surfaces. People know that hydrofoils are designed by creative designers and built by clever engineers. As most hydrofoil passengers do not get to see the craft they are riding in designed and built, this belief is by faith, but it is a reasonable faith based on observations of the real world. The belief by faith that dolphin fins that work the same way were created by a smarter marine engineer is an equally reasonable faith. It is those who want naturalistic processes to do what they have never been observed to do who are unreasonable. (Ref. design, hydrodynamics, mammals, cetaceans)

10. KILLER RABBITS GUARD CHOOKS, according to an article in the Cairns Post, 15 Sept 2009. Armando Del Manso of East Barron, Queensland, Australia has discovered that a pair of “killer rabbits” have been dispatching snakes on his property. He had found several dead snakes that showed signs of being bitten and thought his dogs had killed them. However, one night he was startled to see two wild rabbits attack a Brown Snake (a highly venomous Australian snake). He described the attack: “The snake was raised up in the air in the striking position and the two rabbits worked their way around him and killed him in two minutes.” He went on to exclaim: “These are killer rabbits, man. I’ve never ever seen or heard anything like this happening, it could be a breakthrough.” The rabbits live in a woodpile on the property and had recently had young. Paul O’Callaghan, senior wildlife manager at the Cairns Wildlife Safari, said he’d never heard of rabbits attacking snakes before but that didn’t mean it wasn’t possible. He commented: “Animals are capable of learning, and it’s not impossible that these animals have learnt to deal with snakes in this way.” Del Manso keeps bantams on his property and even though his property is “absolutely inundated with snakes” he has not lost one to snakes. It seems he has guard rabbits to protect them.

Cairns Post: http://www.cairns.com.au/article/2009/09/15/63975_local-news.html

ED. COM. As Paul O’Callaghan commented, these rabbits are evidence that aggressive behaviour towards other animals is learned, and not some kind of “killer instinct”. We suspect the rabbits probably started killing snakes to protect their own young, rather than the property owner’s chickens. Many people, including some Christian creationists, believe some animals were designed to be predators and even use their killing efficiency as evidence for intelligent design. It’s similar to claiming Grandma’s knitting needles were designed as killing when we all know the terrorists have used their pre-existing brain to come up with a new way to use knitting needles as weapons.

The Bible tells us all animals started out as vegetarians. Therefore, no animal was designed to be a killer. However, the world degenerated after the Fall of Man and by Noah’s time the world was filled with violence (Genesis 6:6-7). After the flood God gave man permission to eat meat and we had to use our pre-existing brains to find out how to do this. By Job’s day shortly after Babel, the Bible records that some animals had also become predators as the environment degenerated and life became a struggle to survive. Those animals that were preyed on fought back to preserve their own existence and protect their young, and so began the downward spiral of “kill or be killed”. This is not how God designed the original good world and there will not be animal aggression in the New Heavens and Earth – a place where the lion can lay down with the lamb, and snakes don’t bite people either. (Isaiah 11:6-9, 65:17-25) (Ref. mammals, birds, reptiles, aggression)

11. WATER WALKING LIZARDS described in BBC News 13 Oct 2009. The BBC Natural History unit have filmed two reptiles that are able to walk on water. One is a tiny gecko that is "so small it could be battered by a raindrop and risk drowning in even the smallest pool of water." Therefore, according to the BBC "it has evolved to be essentially waterproof, which in turn allows it to walk across the surface of any puddle it encounters." The geckos have a highly hydrophobic skin that repels water like a waterproof coat. Scientists have suggested that as the geckos became smaller, they needed to evolve a way to float, to avoid drowning when it rains. Simon Blakeney, a film producer who helped film the reptiles, explained: "Because they are so tiny, they are able to float on the surface of the water like a pondskater, so they don't break the surface tension. I've never seen anything like that to be honest."

The other lizard that uses water as a footpath is the basilisk lizard, a rainforest dweller that lives along the edge of rivers and ponds and runs rather than walks on water. In fact, it runs so fast that a high speed camera was needed to show how it was done. Simon Blakeney explained: "Because they run so fast they create a bubble as their feet hit the water and then they push off from this bubble before it bursts. If they were going any slower, for example, they wouldn't stay upright, they would slip into the water and would have to swim." So they have no option but to run. According to the BBC "The lizards need to bask in the sun to warm up each day, which leaves them vulnerable to being caught by predators, such as large birds of prey hunting from the air, or carnivores such as cats living on the jungle floor. So the lizards have evolved an extraordinary escape mechanism." Although Simon Blakeney observed "Around 80% of the time when they are escaping from things, they don't run, they swim. So filming them running was quite a difficult thing in itself."

BBC: http://news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth_news/newsid_8304000/8304139.stm

ED. COM. We wonder how many lizards drowned while they were waiting to evolve the right kind of skin, feet and behaviour. Simon Blakeney's difficulty in getting the lizards to run on the water for his film refutes the belief they evolved their feet along with their strange behaviour as an escape mechanism. As he observed they usually swim to avoid predators – which is surely a much safer option than running on the water where they would be more visible and easier to catch. Furthermore, if they really wanted to escape predatory cats and birds they would be better off running into the vegetation which would totally hide them. These observations show the foolishness of trying to explain the structure and function of living things, only in terms of surviving environmental hazards and predation. The fact that an animal can use features it already has to survive in a hazardous, degenerate world does not explain how those features came into being. Darwinian survival of the fittest does not explain the origin of anything. (Ref. reptiles, design, locomotion)

12. WOLVES OR COYOTES? asks an article in ScienceNOW 23 Sep 2009. Coyotes are widespread throughout North America but they vary in size, shape and behaviour, with the northeastern coyotes being larger than the western ones. Roland Kay, a wildlife biologist with the New York State Museum, and colleagues have photographed coyotes from various places and studied mitochondrial DNA from 680 individuals and measured 196 skulls. They found that the northeastern coyotes had some wolf DNA in their mitochondrial DNA. These animals had some wolf-like features, e.g. wider mouths, with more surface area on the skull where chewing muscles attach, giving them a stronger bite for killing bigger prey. They also "eat more deer and are comfortable in forests, much like wolves". Matthew Gompper, a wildlife biologist at the University of Missouri, Columbia commented: "in many ways they are acting like a small wolf, but they look like coyotes." The researchers concluded that wolves and coyotes had interbred, but they were surprised that this hybridisation produced more robust animals. According to Gompper animal hybrids "do less well," but "in this case, the hybrids appear to have greater fitness. It shows the importance of hybridization in providing the meat for adaptation." The ScienceNOW article ends with this question and comment: "So what exactly are the wild canids in Northeastern America – coyotes or wolves? That puzzler will give evolutionary biologists a bone to gnaw on for a while."

ED. COM. The answer to this question does not lie in evolution. This study shows that wolves and coyotes are all members of dog kind, and therefore, quite capable of interbreeding, given the

opportunity. Therefore coyotes with wolf genes are not true hybrids, so there should be no surprise that they are healthy fit animals that can reproduce. The fact that wolves and coyotes are considered to be separate species is an artefact of the classification system, not real world biology. Wolves, coyotes and other canines, including domestic dogs are simply subgroups of the original created kind. (Ref. canids, mammals, genetics)

13. SURVIVAL OF THE WHITEST, according to an article in BBC News 6 Nov 2009. The American black bear *Ursus americanus* has a uniformly black coat and lives mainly in forested areas of USA and Canada. However, on two islands off Western Canada 20 to 30 percent of black bears have white coats. These bears are known as Kermode bears or “spirit bears” and the white fur is the result of a recessive gene. White bears occasionally occur in the mainland populations, but are rare. This is assumed to be because white bears are not able to camouflage themselves in the shadowy forests as black coated bears can, so they get killed off by grizzlies and wolves. Island bears are not exposed to these predators, but this alone would not explain the high number of white bears. Being white should confer some advantage in order to maintain the high rate of white genes.

Dan Klinka and Thomas Reimchen from Department of Biology, University of Victoria, British Columbia studied the feeding habits of island bears. During the autumn the bears hunt salmon that swim up the rivers on the islands. Salmon provide a rich source of protein and other nutrients for the bears, and a salmon-rich diet enables the bears to survive the winter and raise more young. Klinka and Reimchen found that black and white bears were equally efficient at catching salmon when it was dark, but the white bears caught more salmon during the day. The researchers suggested that white bears were less visible to the salmon in the sunlight. They tested this theory by dressing themselves in white and black clothing and found that salmon were more likely to avoid them when they were dressed in black. Thomas Reimchen commented: “We hadn't expected such a clear result as we got with our experimental work. The salmon were twice as likely to return to the area with the white costume than the dark costume.”

BBC: http://news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth_news/newsid_8344000/8344367.stm

ED. COM. This is an example of natural selection, and the preservation of a favoured race in the struggle for life (to paraphrase Darwin's book title), but not of evolution. Natural selection is an ecological process that works on already existing living things. The white gene is either a defective gene or a lost gene in the biochemical pathway needed to make the normal black pigment in the bears' fur. It works in the white bears' favour only on islands where there are no predators, and the main source of protein is salmon. These white bears are variation in kind, brought about by genetic degeneration that gives them a survival advantage in a particular ecological niche. The biological processes that Darwin described in his book – selection, struggle and survival, are all real, but none of them explain the origin of any species. (Ref. ecology, diet, mammals)

14. CRABS DO TRIGONOMETRY according to an article in *Journal of Experimental Biology* 2 Oct 2009. Michael Walls and John Layne of the University of Cincinnati, Ohio have studied the ability of fiddler crabs to find their way back to their burrows and they are able to cope with terrain changes that occur between the time they left and when they need to return. Walls and Layne used a buried balloon to create an instant artificial hill in the sand after the crabs had left their burrows. They then startled the crabs and observed whether they took into account the extra distance created by the hill as they headed for their burrows. The crabs passed the test and ran to the same place over the hill as they had done when the terrain was left flat. How they did it has yet to be determined but the researchers suggest they are able to monitor the tilt of their bodies as they move uphill and downhill and calculate where they are in relation to the horizontal. Layne commented: “They're effectively doing high school trigonometry. Not bad for a crustacean.”

ED. COM. Anyone who has struggled to learn trigonometry at school will know that it does not get into one's brain without deliberate learning, or into an electronic calculator without programming. Rather than praising the crustacean these researchers should be praising the Creator who designed them and programmed their brains to enable them to find their way around in a landscape which changes with every tide. (Ref. shellfish, arthropods, navigation, design)

15. SHRIMP EYES MAKE BETTER DVD PLAYERS according to an article in ABC News in Science, 26 Oct 2009. Researchers studying the eyes of an Australian crustacean have found that its eyes process light in a more complex way than any man-made DVD or CD player. The shrimps' eyes are able to convert linear polarised light into circular polarised light, which is detected by special photo-receptors (light sensitive cells) known as R8 cells and converted to signals that are sent to the animal's brain. The shrimps have a carapace that reflects circularly polarised light and it is thought that they use it to signal to one another. Marine biologist Professor Justin Marshall of the University of Queensland, one of the researchers, commented: "They're talking to each other with a secret light channel."

Marshall explained that the shrimp eyes work like a quarter wave retarder in the DVD player. However, the shrimp eyes can do this across the spectrum of colours, whereas man-made devices can only do it for one colour. Nicholas Roberts of the University of Bristol in the UK, lead researcher in the study, said that studying the shrimp's R8 cells "could help us make better optical devices in the future using liquid crystals that have been chemically engineered to mimic the properties of the cells in the shrimp's eye."

ABC: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2009/10/26/2723939.htm>

ED. COM. How can we not say it again - if this discovery does help chemical engineers to make better optical devices it will be because a lot of creative intelligence was involved. No-one believes DVD players could produce and interpret circularly polarised light by chance random processes. It is just as absurd to believe that the eyes and brain developed this ability. The fact that the shrimps use circularly polarised light for signalling also reminds us that nothing in the living world works in isolation. BUT for such light to be an effective communication medium, shrimps must first possess a reflective carapace, as well as the eyes to see it plus a brain with an inbuilt data recognition program to interpret it. Until all these are in place there can be no inter-shrimp communication. The evolutionists not only have to explain how each of these components came into being without plan and purpose, but also how they came into being together, since the components on their own are no use and have no survival value. (Ref. design, crustaceans, engineering)

A must see DVD – design in nature is real – see the evidence on Darwin's Evolution – a fabulous documentary. Click [HERE](#) for more.

16. HOW TOADS CONQUERED THE WORLD, according to articles in *Science* vol 327, p633 & 679, 5 Feb 2009. Toads are believed to have evolved in South America but are now found all over the world. An article entitled "Evolution: 'Toadness' a Key Feature for Global Spread of These Amphibians" describes how an international group of scientists has carried out a study of toads from all around the world to determine what characteristics enabled them to become so widespread. Ines Van Bocxlaer and Franky Bossuyt of the Free University of Brussels and colleagues used DNA to construct an evolutionary tree of 86 toads species. Systematic biologists have assumed the features of the *Bufo* genus (the "true toads" with short legs and thick warty skin) would be on the same branch, but as Bossuyt explained, "they didn't fall together." The study indicated "this quintessential 'toad' form has emerged multiple times on multiple evolutionary branches. Moreover, when the researchers looked at where toads with this characteristic look were distributed across the globe and when these amphibians first appeared in a particular place, based on fossil and other evidence, they saw that this kind of toad tended to be the first toad to arrive, and thrive, in a new continent or region."

The researchers then considered whether the typical *Bufo* form "represented a suite of traits that equipped those toads for global exploration." They came up with a list of characteristics, including the ability to survive away from water, large body size with internal fat stores, poison glands and large egg clutch sizes. They then added another 142 species to their family tree and collated information on their ranges. The research team concluded: "Our results indicate that lineage-specific range-shifting abilities increased through an accumulation of adaptive traits that culminated in such a phenotype. This initiated the episode of global colonization and triggered the major radiation of toads. Evolution toward a range-expansion phenotype might be crucial to understanding both ancient widespread radiations and the evolutionary background of contemporary invasive species such as the cane toad." Jennifer Pramuk, a herpetologist at the

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Bronx Zoo in New York City commented: "This study elegantly analyzes specific morphological traits and correlates them with successful range expansion". Ben Phillips, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Sydney in Australia commented that the study could be useful for "how we might predict which taxa (living things) are likely to become invasive."

ED. COM. This is a classic example of evolutionist circular reasoning. The article title says it all: toads are good at surviving because they have "toadness", i.e. a collection of structures and functions that help them survive at being toads. However, it was not "toadness" that enabled them to expand their range to Australia. They were deliberately brought here by scientists to eat cane beetles in the sugar cane – something they have rarely done to the cane farmer's chagrin. This was nothing to do with toad evolution, and it does not explain how they became toads. However, Ben Phillips final comment is correct – this is a useful study for ecologists trying to work out the consequences of "fit" animals moving (or being moved) into a new 'fit friendly' environment. Therefore, it is ecology, not evolution. Over the last few years there has been a determined effort to label all biological processes as evolution. Therefore, it is important that we are discerning whenever we see claims of evidence for evolution. (Ref. herpetology, amphibians)

17. WARM BLAST FROM THE PAST. A supporter recently sent us an ageing and brief newspaper clipping from the *Courier Mail* claiming evidence of a warm period around 2,000 years ago that showed earth's climate "can warm up suddenly without any connection to human activity." The report was dated 14 August 1998. We tracked down the source of the article in *Science* vol. 281, p280, 14 Aug 1998 which described a study of oxygen isotopes in biogenic silica in a high altitude lake in Kenya. The amount and type of Oxygen isotopes are a useful indicator of water temperature. The study indicated there was a warm period some 2,300 to 1,500 years before the present, i.e 300BC to 500 AD. The authors also noted there is evidence for a warm period at this time from other places in Africa and locations as far apart of Yukon Alaska and Swedish Lapland.

ED. COM. It is interesting that the mainstream media at 1998, before global warming alarmists took over the media, reported a study that says global warming is not man made. Human activity may not have warmed up the world, but it is interesting to consider what humans were doing at this time. The Roman Empire rose and fell during this time, and so we know from other historical records that this was a warm period. Warm periods in Europe and Britain are times of wealth and plenty, and the warm conditions undoubtedly made it easier for the Romans to expand through Europe and Britain and establish their road system and other infrastructure.

But there is one surprising consequence of this Roman Warming Era. At the height of this warm period the Lord Jesus Christ lived, died, rose from the dead and commissioned his disciples to take the gospel to all nations. There is no doubt the warm climate and Roman infrastructure made the movement of early Christians relatively easy throughout the Roman Empire, and as a result the gospel reached as far as Britain during Roman times. Just an interesting reminder that the earth's climate is under the control of the Creator who uses it to fulfil his purposes. To claim that man can defy God's climate control is as futile as the efforts of the Roman Empire to stop the spread of the Gospel. (Ref. weather, evangelism, history)

18. COOLING RESPONSE TO GLOBAL WARMING, according an article in BBC News 7 Feb 2010. On 3rd and 4th February a British survey organisation named Populus carried out a survey of opinions on global warming. This was compared with a similar survey from November 2009. They found there has been a rapid DECREASE in the number of people who believe in man-made global warming – from 41 percent to 26 percent. The number of climate sceptics is on the rise. Those who believed that climate change was happening, but has not been proven to be caused by man, increased from 32 percent to 38 percent; and those who believed "climate change is happening, but it is environmentalist propaganda that it is man-made" increased from 8 to 10 percent. There was even an increase in people who believe that climate change is not happening: from 15 to 25 percent.

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The survey also showed that one third of the people who agreed that climate change was happening believed “the potential consequences of living in a warming world had been exaggerated”. This was an increase from one in five in Nov 2009.

For full survey results see: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8500443.stm>

Michael Simmonds, managing director of Populus, commented to BBC News: “It is very unusual indeed to see such a dramatic shift in opinion in such a short period.” He went on to say: “The British public are sceptical about man's contribution to climate change - and becoming more so. More people are now doubters than firm believers.” Professor Bob Watson, chief scientific adviser to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said the results were “very disappointing”. He told BBC news: “The fact that there has been a very significant drop in the number of people that believe that we humans are changing the Earth's climate is serious. Action is urgently needed.” He went on to warn: “We need the public to understand that climate change is serious so they will change their habits and help us move towards a low carbon economy.”

In between the two surveys there have been numerous stories of flawed climate science, but these did not appear to be the main reason for the change. Only 57 percent of people were aware of the bad science stories and 73% of these said the bad science stories had not changed their views about the risks of climate change. Michael Simmonds said that it was very unusual for single events to have a dramatic impact on public opinion. He commented: “People tend to make judgements over time based on a whole range of different sources.”

ED. COM. Although only 57 percent of people said they knew of the flawed science stories full survey results show 83 percent said they heard stories about the record cold UK winter but the survey did not ask if these stories made people change their minds. People may not know what makes for good science, but they do know if they are cold, and it is unlikely they will want politicians to pass laws that increase the cost of keeping warm. Whatever has made people change their opinion, it seems the more strident the govt climate warnings, the more people think science and Govt claims are exaggerated. The climategate e-mails and the false claims made by the IPCC indicate there are more stories of flawed science to come. The really worrying thing is that people may lose their respect for real science and lose interest in doing the things that can be done about environment. (Ref. weather, politics, public opinion)

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