



INTRO. It's a dog's breakfast quite literally to start 2013, as new research reveals interesting vegetarian characteristics in dogs, and a big welcome back from John Mackay and the Creation Research Team as we deal with flooding yet again in Australia, with first the good news that roads are open again to our Jurassic Ark Creation Museum, which received no damage this year so we will install new dinosaurs next week, as well as the bad news that the workshop preparing our fossil trailer went under along with its tools etc, so that project will be delayed somewhat as you enjoy this year's first Evidence News (01/13) with EDitorial COMment.

© Creation Research 2013

<http://www.creationresearch.net>

<http://www.askjohnmackay.com>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/askjohnmackay#p/u>

<http://evidencweb.net>

ENews is available in 2 FORMATS – for EMAIL scroll down – for PDF see below index.

## **INDEX**

- 1. NEW QUESTIONS**
- 2. TWITTER?**
- 3. FREE DVD**
- 4. DOMESTICATION A DOG'S BREAKFAST**
- 5. MAGAZINES NEEDED FOR OUR LIBRARY**
- 6. DID YOU MISS?**
- 7. GALACTIC GUIDANCE FOR DUNG BEETLES**
- 8. A TALE OF TWO DAVIDS**
- 9. FROM THE ARCHIVES**
- 10. DONATIONS**

For ENEWS as PDF – CLICK [HERE](#).

**1. NEW QUESTIONS:** TRILOBITE EYES: "I am a paleo student and was fascinated by your section on trilobite eyes in your DVD Time's up Darwin. Do you have any further argumentation that points to design in trilobites? Look forward to hearing from you." [Answer](#) by Professor Andy McIntosh.

GAY? "There's no reference to homosexuality in any Bible prior to the 1946 Revised Standard Version so why do you oppose it?" [Answer](#) by Diane Eager and John Mackay.

## Evidence News 01/13 – 6th February 2013

**2. TWITTER?** Have you twittered “I don’t want my kids taught by Homosexuals in case my children get the wrong idea about morals!” just like the hopeful Australian politician Bernard Gaynor, since dismissed by Bob Katter’s pragmatic party, seemingly in fear of the GAY vote? Do you agree with his actions?

**3. FREE DVD:** Don’t miss our documentary *The Baby Terminators* – a great production for teens and above about abortion [CLICK](#).

**4. DOMESTICATION A DOG’S BREAKFAST**, according to articles in Nature News, ScienceNOW and *Nature* doi:10.1038/nature11837, 23 January, 2013. A group of scientists led by Kerstin Lindblad-Toh, a geneticist at Uppsala University, Sweden have compared the genes of wolves and domestic dogs to see if they could find out what genetic changes occurred during domestication. According to Nature News: “Canine-domestication researchers agree that all dogs, from beagles to border collies, are the smaller, more sociable and less aggressive descendants of wolves”. The researchers studied the genomes of 12 wolves and 60 dogs from 14 different breeds. One of the significant differences they found was in genes that control the digestion of starch. Dogs have many copies of a gene named *AMY2B* which codes for an enzyme named amylase, which starts the breakdown of starch in the intestine. They also had some difference in the gene named *MGAM*, which codes for maltase, another enzyme involved in digesting starch. The variation found in dogs is a little longer than the wolf version and results in the enzyme being more efficient. This version of the gene is also found in herbivores, e.g. cattle, rabbits, and omnivores, such rodents and lemurs. These enzymes break down starch into glucose which is then absorbed from the intestine via transporter proteins. The researchers also found some differences in a gene named *SGLT1* which codes for a transporter protein.

In their report in *Nature* the scientists wrote: “In conclusion, we have presented evidence that dog domestication was accompanied by selection at three genes with key roles in starch digestion: *AMY2B*, *MGAM* and *SGLT1*. Our results show that adaptations that allowed the early ancestors of modern dogs to thrive on a diet rich in starch, relative to the carnivorous diet of wolves, constituted a crucial step in early dog domestication”. Evolutionary geneticist Erik Axelsson from Uppsala University in Sweden suggested that dog domestication occurred as wolves began to associate with humans who were beginning to settle down and farm, and these animals would have scavenged from waste dumps, which would have contained plant-based food, e.g. potatoes, grains. The researchers claim their findings “demonstrate a striking case of parallel evolution whereby the benefits of coping with an increasingly starch-rich diet during the agricultural revolution caused similar adaptive responses in dog and human”. Robert Wayne, an evolutionary biologist who studies dogs at the University of California, Los Angeles, but was not involved with this research, commented that he is often asked by dog owners if they should feed their dog a wolf-like diet of lots of meat. He said that this new study suggests dogs don’t need a wolf-like diet. He went on to say “They have coevolved with humans and their diet”.

Link: [Nature News](#)

ED. COM. What the scientists actually found is that domestic dogs have more copies of a gene that aids plant product digestion, plus variations in other genes for starch digestion and absorption than undomesticated wolves. These differences explain why dogs can digest and absorb plant foods better than wolves. What the evolutionary scientists hypothesised, is that dogs are descended from wolves and somehow gained genes and made others more efficient for digesting plant food. So what’s a Biblical view? The Genesis record tells us all animals were originally created a) to eat plants and b) to be subject to man’s dominion and c) each belonging to separate kinds and d) that the world has degenerated since Adam sinned and especially after Noah’s Flood. Therefore, all animals, including the dog kind, would have had the appropriate plant digesting enzymes, a man friendly attitude, distinct genetics from other kinds, and have been subject to devolution or degeneration.

## Evidence News 01/13 – 6th February 2013

Genetic studies confirm that wolves and dogs are part of the same canine kind, and unrelated to other mammals, such as cats, etc. Furthermore, any observant dog owner will tell you their dog can eat watermelon, cheese, bread, grass and grain. Robert Wayne's comments about dog diets not needing to be wolf like, remind us that many commercial dog foods include cereal which is coloured red to look like meat purely for the sake of the dog owners who believe dogs evolved from wolves. All these facts are consistent with the Biblical account. However, present day observation of genes show that as time goes on, genes are either lost or they degenerate. This phenomenon would have been especially true after Noah's flood when environmental alteration was at its greatest, and many animals suffered mutations which caused loss and/or degeneration of genes. Therefore a Biblical position is most likely that some of the original dog kind would have lost genes for digesting plants, and found it easier to digest a high meat diet. It is therefore more likely that both the wolf and the domestic dog are descended from a common ancestor that gave rise to the feral ancestors of wolves, who could no longer live on plant food, and those dogs that retained the ability to digest plants, who stayed with humans and became the ancestors of today's dogs. (Ref. genetics, diets, domestication)

For more on dog and wolf genes see [Dark Wolves Came from Dogs](#)

**5. MAGAZINES NEEDED FOR OUR LIBRARY.** If you have any old copies of the Volume 1 and onwards ex-Nihilo magazine and then the Creation Magazine which John Mackay edited from the Volume 1 number 2 for many years, we would appreciate any copies for our historic library. Please send to your nearest office (see addresses below).

**6. DID YOU MISS?** If God made everything where did God come from? [CLICK](#). Why do you Christians trust a book that cannot even get pi correct? (see 1Kings 7:23) [CLICK](#).

**7. GALACTIC GUIDANCE FOR DUNG BEETLES** described in articles in BBC News, ScienceDaily, ScienceNOW, 24 January and *Current Biology* 2013; DOI: 10.1016/j.cub.2012.12.034. When dung beetles find a pile of droppings they gather some, shape it into a ball, and then quickly roll it far away 'in a straight line' to prevent others stealing it before they can bury it. Previous studies of beetles have shown they are guided by the pattern of polarised light from the sun and moon. Biologists in South Africa noticed that the beetles can maintain a straight line even on moonless nights, so they suggested beetles must get some guidance from the stars. To test this idea they placed dung beetles in a planetarium and observed their behaviour. They found the beetles orientated themselves and maintained their course when a normal starry sky or just the Milky Way was projected onto the planetarium, but had difficulty keeping on a straight course when a pattern of individual stars was projected. Dung beetles have better vision than insects such as bees, but probably cannot see individual stars. The Milky Way would appear as a band of diffuse light across the sky. The researchers concluded: "This finding represents the first convincing demonstration for the use of the starry sky for orientation in insects and provides the first documented use of the Milky Way for orientation in the animal kingdom".

Links: [BBC](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. To believe the beetle 'learned' his astronomy charts to achieve this would be regarded as ridiculous by all, but to claim it evolved this ability by chance random naturalistic process is even more absurd. It is the same as believing a GPS navigation device built and programmed itself, rather than being designed and built by high IQ engineers with the guidance information programmed into it by equally smart software designers. The ability to use the sun, moon and Milky Way requires information to pre-exist in the beetle's brain. It must be able to compare the starlight data it is receiving against a known reference library, then act to align its motion against the incoming data and then move a preconceived distance in a straight line across the earth's irregular surface, constantly comparing its position from its starting point via the star light/inbuilt data base. This is no problem for a creative designer who also created the beetle's brain. Genesis tells us the sun moon and stars were created to

## Evidence News 01/13 – 6th February 2013

serve mankind for signs, timekeeping and seasons. As God is the creator of all living things it seems He also gave animals the ability to use them as well, in order to carry out their functions in the environment. (Ref. insects, ecology, astronomy)

**8. A TALE OF TWO DAVIDS** – Bellamy and Attenborough, from the *Independent* 13 January 2013 and *Telegraph* 22 January 2013. The *Independent* article begins: “They share a name – David – and a passion for nature. For a while they also shared a place in the vanguard of nature documentary-making, broadcasting from every corner of the globe to the homes of millions. But while one, Attenborough, basks in the glow of national treasure status, the other claims he is now a pariah”. Bellamy explained that he was rejected by the BBC and by environmentalist groups, many of which he started, after he criticised the theory that man made carbon dioxide was causing global warming. In an interview with the *Independent*, he said: “All of the work dried up after that. I was due to start another series with the BBC but that didn't go anywhere, and the other side (ITV) didn't want to know. I was shunned. They didn't want to hear the other side”. Bellamy, a botanist, reminds people that the increase in carbon dioxide is good for plants. He commented: “Someone even emailed me to say I was the worst paedophile in the world, basically saying I was killing children by denying global warming, but in the last 30 years crops have got greener and grow quicker. ... and that is good news but we don't get it”. Bellamy also commented that David Attenborough “was on our side at first but then he had a change of heart”. As well being a promoter of man-made global warming David Attenborough is a patron of the Optimum Population Trust, and believes the only way to save the planet from famine and species extinction is to limit human population growth. Attenborough commented: “We are a plague on the Earth. It's coming home to roost over the next 50 years or so. It's not just climate change; it's sheer space, places to grow food for this enormous horde. Either we limit our population growth or the natural world will do it for us, and the natural world is doing it for us right now”. He went on to say: “We keep putting on programmes about famine in Ethiopia; that's what's happening. Too many people there. They can't support themselves — and it's not an inhuman thing to say. It's the case. Until humanity manages to sort itself out and get a coordinated view about the planet it's going to get worse and worse”. However, David Bellamy says there are others reasons for famine in Africa. He tells of a visit to Sierra Leone: “I met a local boy called Bodcco. He was nine and could point out more of the local plants than I. He was fantastic. One day he didn't turn up. When I asked why, they told me he had died from malnutrition. He died because we (humans) had gone in there and dug up the diamonds and chopped down the habitat”.  
Links: [Independent](#), [Telegraph](#)

ED. COM. David Bellamy is close to the whole environmental truth as to why many people are starving. Human greed, and poor stewardship of the resources God has provided, are the real problem – not climate or because there are too many of us. By calling the human race a “plague on the earth” David Attenborough is not only denigrating mankind, but is also insulting God who created man in His image, and sent Jesus to die and rise again to save us from our sinful behaviour to one another and to the earth.

At age 86 it may not be long before Attenborough is called to account by the Creator. In preparing his wildlife films Attenborough has had more opportunity than anyone else of his generation to see the wondrous works of God, but has so far not heeded the warning that men are “without excuse” for ignoring the evidence of God's divine nature and eternal power that is revealed in the creation. (Romans 1:20) (Ref. climate, politics, discrimination, environment)

**9. FROM THE ARCHIVES:** Each week we publish links to previous items related to this issue's topics: [Dung Beetles](#), [David Bellamy](#), [David Attenborough](#), [Dogs and Wolves](#).

**Evidence News 01/13 – 6th February 2013**

**10. DONATIONS:** Get involved in sharing the cost and the blessings of the research and teaching by becoming part of the worldwide support team today via our secure [Web Site](#), or send gifts to the following addresses:

Donations in USA/UK are tax deductible. See instructions online.

AUSTRALIA: P.O. Box 260 Capalaba Qld 4157

CANADA: C/- Martin Legemaate 12919 Warden Ave Stouffville ON L4A 7X5

TAX DEDUCTIBLE SUPPORT FOR OUR COLLEAGUES

<http://www.creationtruthministries.org/donatepayments.html>.

NEW ZEALAND: P.O. Box 40480 Glenfield 0747, Auckland

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/>

USA: P.O. Box 281 Hartsville TN 37074 (Donations in USA are tax deductible. Make checks to Creation Education Society)

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).

[www.askjohnmackay.com](http://www.askjohnmackay.com)

[www.evidencweb.net](http://www.evidencweb.net)

**[www.creationresearch.net](http://www.creationresearch.net)**