



Greetings from John Mackay and the Creation Research team world wide and welcome to EVIDENCE NEWS with EDITORIAL COMMENT No. 6, 10th May, AD2006.

INDEX -

1. AUSSIE MEDIA JOINS IN
2. BBC 2 JEREMY VINE SHOW
3. BIBLE LITERALISM CALLED 'PAGAN SUPERSTITION'
4. GENESIS GEOLOGY DVD NOW AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA
5. DARWIN'S FINCHES REVERSE EVOLUTION
6. CREATIONIST SCHOOL GETS OUTSTANDING REPORT
7. NEW DISEASE CAUSING GERM FOUND
8. CHIMPS AND HUMANS TASTE DIFFERENT
9. GRANTING APES HUMAN RIGHTS
10. BACTERIA MAKE STRONGEST SUPERGLUE
11. BAT WINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED
12. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE

1. AUSSIE MEDIA JOINS IN as The Melbourne Age reports the Crocodile Hunter of Creationism is leading the attack on Great Britain. Sydney Morning Herald followed with a full spread. The UK Guardian has now given us a much more positive page after a live interview. One reader writes "Loved this quote in the UK Guardian Educational Supplement Tuesday May 2: "Talking to Mackay is a disconcerting experience"!

2. BBC 2 JEREMY VINE SHOW featured John Mackay vs Prof Steve Jones. Jones, who did the Royal Society Lecture this year on protecting evolution, and who has a reputation as never appearing live against creationists, probably won't try it again. Dr Andy McIntosh AIG UK writes "I thought John came over exceptionally well and was constantly scoring confidently against Steve Jones. All the indications are of a gathering storm of opposition ahead."

DETAILS of MEDIA EXPOSURE see www.creationresearch.net home page.

3. BIBLE LITERALISM CALLED 'PAGAN SUPERSTITION' as Vatican astronomer denounces 6-day creationism, reports WorldNetDaily.com May 6, 2006. Vatican astronomer Guy Consolmagno says believing God created the universe in six days is a form of "pagan superstition". Consolmagno described creationism as a "kind of paganism" because it is similar to the idea of "nature gods" who pagans believed to be responsible for natural events. Consolmagno stated that the Christian God is a supernatural god. In the past, the belief in God being supernatural led the clergy to become involved in science to find natural explanations for things like thunder and lightning. Pagans often attribute thunder and lightning to vengeful gods. "Religion needs science to keep it away from superstition and keep it close to reality, to protect it from creationism, which at the end of the day is a kind of paganism -- it's turning God into a nature god," he said.

ED.COM. In Galileo's day, church authorities accepted the then authoritative pagan Ptolemaic geocentric astronomy, turned around and pronounced it Christian, then persecuted Galileo for observing it was false. The Roman Catholic church (and other churches) are obviously still doing the same thing; accepting pagan evolution, labelling it Christian and opposing those who have observed it is false! Hence the commonest question we are being asked in the current media controversy in the UK is, "But the Archbishop says..." See www.creationresearch.net home page for more details.

4. GENESIS GEOLOGY DVD NOW AVAILABLE. See www.creationresearch.net home page or phone 07 3206 4467. \$35.00 each post free. Great teaching from John Mackay on the rock solid results of God creating the world in six literal days. Get your copy now.

5. DARWIN'S FINCHES REVERSE EVOLUTION according to the Royal Society's website Science in the News - Thursday 4 May "Biologists have found that one of Darwin's Galapagos finches has begun to revert to an earlier form because of interference caused by a growing human population. The 'evolution in reverse' study is published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B." <http://www.royalsociety.org/news.asp?id=4638> (See also Independent, Online Edition, 4 May 2006).

They report " Humans are causing evolution to slip into reverse for one of the finch species that lives on the islands. Scientists have found that the finch is losing the distinguishing trait that was causing it to split into two different species." In the wild, medium ground finches have two distinct forms – large beaked and small beaked - and scientists believe the species was evolving into two different species. However, a team of scientists lead by Andrew Hendry of McGill University have studied finches around human settlements and found many ground finches have intermediate sized beaks. Hendry describes the finding as "evolution in reverse" and goes on to say, "It is an evolutionary split within a species that is being reversed as we think human activity is responsible." What he means is that human activity such as importing plants with intermediate sized seeds, or feeding the birds with rice grains, is giving the intermediate forms a selective advantage. In the wild where there are small and large seeds the small and large beaked birds have a selective advantage over the intermediate beaked birds.

ED. COM. There is nothing new in observing Galapagos Finches with intermediate beak sizes. Grange reported in New Scientist 03 July 1999, that fertile hybrids between Darwin's Finch species were common and had "beaks - intermediate in shape." So any change in relative numbers of different ground finch forms due to human pressure may be selection (natural or artificial), but it is not evolution in any direction. The claim that birds with intermediate sized beaks are an "earlier form" is a belief, not an observed fact. From Charles Darwin to the present, Galapagos finches have been observed to have had small, intermediate and large beaks. The variation in numbers of each beak size within the population is not evolution, simply because the finches have not changed. Even if the large and small beaked birds did split into two populations that did not breed with one another, it still would not be evolution – it would simply be the splitting of a larger, more varied population into two smaller, less varied populations. The birds themselves would still be finches. In fact, 150 years of observations of Galapagos Island finches show they are an excellent example of the built in variation within a created kind, enabling living creatures to cope with changes in their environment. If the change in the environment exceeds their ability to copy - they don't evolve - they become extinct!

SEE ALSO www.creationresearch.net click Site Map, click Evidence Brochures, then No 1. (Ref. birds, adaptation, diets)

6. CREATIONIST SCHOOL GETS OUTSTANDING REPORT, according to the BBC News Online, 26 April 2006. Emmanuel College in Gateshead, a school which allows students to discuss evidence for creation, is one of only 12 secondary schools in the UK to have received three consecutive top ratings from Oftsted – a British education authority. The school not only produced good academic results but was praised for the "excellent behaviour and very high levels of attendance" and that "students feel safe and secure and, while expected to conform to the college's rules and expectations, are encouraged to express freely their own views and articulate personal feelings." The college's head teacher, Jonathan Winch, commented: "Visitors to the college often ask what our secret is and inspectors pretty much put their finger on it when they wrote: 'The specific Christian ethos of the college ensures that the students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development lies at the heart of all that it does'." <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/4946222.stm>

ED. COM. Many secular schools are despairing over behaviour problems and lack of motivation to learn, especially in the sciences, yet they refuse to take notice of what schools like Emmanuel College are doing to make such a success. The difference is not just being able to discuss creation, but the benefit of teaching students man was created in God's image as part of the Christian ethos. Teaching them that they are unique creations and the world is an orderly place filled with amazing design, gives students a reason for using their minds, exploring the world and relating to other people in a respectful way. In the ordinary secular school students learn they have evolved and therefore they are just one more animal. The world around them is merely the result of chance random processes. No wonder they lose interest in learning in a disciplined way and just want to please themselves in a "survival of the fittest" world. (Ref. teaching, philosophy, sociology)

7. NEW DISEASE CAUSING GERM FOUND, according to a report in news@nature, 14 April 2006. Scientists at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) have identified a previously unknown bacterium in the lymph nodes of people suffering from a rare immune disorder called chronic granulomatous disease (CGD). So far the bug has only been shown to make people sick if they have CGD, but antibodies to the bacterium have been found in healthy people. This indicates that the bug has invaded their body but their immune system has fought it off. The new bacterium has been named "Granulobacter bethesdensis" and is similar to a family of bacteria known as Acetobacteraceae. These are found in plants and soil and are harmless to human beings. Some are used in the manufacture of vinegar. Microbiologists admit that we really only know a fraction of the microbes that inhabit the environment, because most of them cannot be grown in laboratories where they can be studied. David Greenberg, a researcher at NIAID is hoping to discover where the bacterium originally came from. He commented, "I'd love to scoop up water and dirt and find it."

ED. COM. The findings described above fit perfectly into the Biblical history of a created perfect world, followed by man's deliberate rebellion and consequent degeneration of all things. Bacteria were created to live in the soil or in symbiotic relationships with living organisms. Our bodies have millions of harmless bacteria living on our body surfaces in mutually beneficial ways and the immune system usually eliminates any that get out of their rightful place. As the world has degenerated, some people's immune systems have become unable to keep some bacteria out. Once bacteria get into the deep tissues, such as the lymph nodes, they are very difficult to get out. CREATION RESEARCH HAS MANY TIMES PREDICTED that more new diseases will be found as degeneration of human immune systems and of the world in general continues. This study has only confirmed our predictions and we believe this will not be the only fulfilment. More details - ask for PREDICTIONS ATTACHMENT from info@creationresearch.net (Ref. microbiology, pathology, infection)

8. CHIMPS AND HUMANS TASTE DIFFERENT, according to a report in Nature, vol 440, p930, 13 April 2006. Every student of biology has probably participated in an experiment to see who can taste a chemical called PTC. The ability to taste this is genetically determined, with the tasting gene being dominant and the non-tasting being recessive. In 1939 three scientists Fisher, Ford and Huxley, tested apes for the ability to taste PTC and found the same variation in the ability to taste it. This was claimed to be evidence that chimps and humans evolved from the same ancestor. Since then the actual genes that control PTC tasting in humans have been found – they are two alleles (variations) of a gene called TAS2R38. A group of scientists led by Stephen Wooding of the University of Utah, has studied the genes that control the variation in tasting ability in apes and found they were also alleles of this gene, but neither of the chimp alleles occurred in humans. Therefore, they concluded that "although Fisher et al's 1939 observations were accurate, their explanation was wrong. Humans and chimpanzees share variable taste sensitivity to bitter compounds mediated by PTC receptor variants, but (they concluded) the molecular basis of this variation has arisen twice, independently, in the two species."

ED. COM. For years evolutionists have claimed that chimps and humans are 98% related. However, when detailed gene studies like these are done, such relationships turn out to be 100% unrelated. The recognition that "Fisher et al's observations were accurate, but their explanation was wrong", reveals a common issue in the creation evolution debate. Many evolutionists'

observations of biological phenomena are accurate, but their explanation as evidence for evolution is not. Natural selection, mutations and adaptation are real processes that explain what happens to living organisms. However, such processes cannot explain how non living molecules turned into live scientists who study chimp and human genes. Creation Research predicts that as more detailed studies are made of how genes are controlled, and how they interact with one another, more such differences will be revealed. (Ref. apes, genetics, predictions)

9. GRANTING APES HUMAN RIGHTS see <http://www.spainherald.com/3438.html> which reports: "The Spanish Socialist Party will introduce a bill in the Congress of Deputies calling for "the immediate inclusion of (simians) in the category of persons, and that they be given the moral and legal protection that currently are only enjoyed by human beings." The PSOE's justification is that humans share 98.4% of our genes with chimpanzees, 97.7% with gorillas, and 96.4% with orangutans.

ED.COM. WARNING! Note that while this is only in Spain now, they are looking to taking it to the UN. (Ref. politics, animal rights, United Nations)

10. BACTERIA MAKE STRONGEST SUPERGLUE, according to reports in news@nature 10 April 2006. A banana shaped bacterium named "Caulobacter crescentus" has been found to make the strongest adhesive ever found in the natural or man-made world. The bacterium is extremely common – it rapidly colonises any wet surface, from boat hulls to medical catheters. Once attached it is extremely difficult to shift, even by high pressure water jets. A team of physicists studied the strength of the glue used to attach itself, by working out how much force was required to detach the bacterium from its mooring - about 70 newtons per square millimetre of force. Most commercial superglues can be disrupted by 25 newtons per square millimetre. Because the bacterial glue works well on wet surfaces, scientists are hoping to develop it into a surgical adhesive. They are not sure whether this is best done by culturing the bacteria or studying the biochemistry of the glue.

ED. COM. Manufacturing and using this glue will take intelligent scientists and chemical engineers, who understand chemistry. Leaving it to chance random processes will not produce anything useful. This is good evidence the bacterium has better and stronger glue only because it was designed and made by an intelligent Creator, who knows more about chemistry than any earthbound human chemist. In fact, He made the glue without having to copy it. (Ref. biomimicry, bio-engineering, microbiology)

11. BAT WINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED, according to a report in ScienceNOW 17 April 2006. A team of biologists led by Karen Sears and Lee Niswander of the University of Colorado are researching the origin of bat flight. Bats' wings are made of a membrane supported by three long forelimb digits, like very elongated fingers. The researchers studied the wings of four fossil bats including "the earliest known fossil bat, a 50 million-year-old specimen", along with 10 living species, and concluded that "the length of the three digits relative to body size, has not changed in the course of evolution. This suggests that the bat wing evolved suddenly and very quickly." They then compared the development of bat embryos with mice embryos to see how their fingers grew. They found the digits on mice and bats were initially similar, but bat fingers rapidly elongated due to stimulation from a bone growth promoting protein named Bmp2. They found more Bmp2 in bats than in mice and concluded that "an upregulation of Bmp2 might have powered elongation of the three digits in an ancestor to the bat 50 million or more years ago, helping to make winged flight possible."

ED. COM. Note the difference between the actual observations and the explanations of the observations. The facts are that all known fossil bats and living bats have the same wing structure, and this editor has seen the oldest known fossil bat and agrees with Sears observations totally. The fossil and living bats are good evidence that bats have reproduced after their kind, just as Genesis says they were created to do. This is regardless of how long ago you think bats first got fossilised. There are no known exceptions to this, thus such a conclusion is related to the actual evidence that exists. The claim that bats evolved rapidly from an unknown ancestor that has left no evidence in the fossil record, is an evolutionist belief held in spite of the evidence, not because of

Evidence News 06/06 –10th May 2006

it. The embryological study simply confirms that it takes more Bmp2 bone growth protein to make long fingers than short ones, and bat embryos are programmed to produce more. It does not explain where the programming came from, or even where the Bmp2 gene came from. It makes more sense to believe that mice and bats have the right amount of Bmp2 protein for their needs because a creative designer programmed the gene controls appropriately for each animal. (Ref. embryology, development, mammals)

12. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE can be sent to the following addresses or use our secure Web site: www.creationresearch.net and click DONATIONS.

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

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

CANADA: P.O. Box 31034, 15 Westney Road North, Ajax, ON L1T 3V2

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

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