



With 1300 booked into the Creation Conference in Birmingham UK for this week and the exciting new Flood or Folly DVD with Aussie Scientist Dr Ron Neller now available in the UK ([CLICK](#) for free preview), John Mackay, Ray Comfort, Ken Ham, Andy Mackintosh and others are looking forward to a hectic but exciting time as you enjoy this week's Evidence News 15/14 with EDitorial COMment from the worldwide team at Creation Research.

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1. **WALKING FISH EVOLVE**, claim scientists in articles in ScienceDaily, Science (AAAS) News, 27 August 2014 and Nature, doi: 10.1038/nature13708, 26 August 2014. Scientists looking for clues as to how swimming fish evolved into walking land-dwelling 4 legged animals have experimented with a fish named *Polypterus*, commonly called bichirs, which are able to breathe air, and are known to be able to 'walk' across land from one waterhole to another. They obtained 149 young bichirs and kept 111 of them in a terrarium (without a total water environment) for eight months. The remaining fish were kept in an aquarium. They then compared how well the terrarium fish moved vs the aquarium dwellers, and looked for differences in their bones. They found the landed fish were more efficient walkers, holding their heads up and walking with fins closer to their bodies so their body weight was supported and their fins did not slip on the surface as much. These fish also had longer stronger bones in their pectoral girdle and the connection between the head and pectoral girdle was more mobile, allowing more head movement. These changes were described as due to "developmental plasticity", meaning change that occurs during growth and maturation. The research team concluded: "Our results raise the possibility that environmentally induced developmental plasticity facilitated the origin of the terrestrial traits that led to tetrapods". (Tetrapods are four-legged creatures). This claim is summarised in the title of the ScienceDaily article: "Walking fish reveal how our ancestors evolved onto land."

Link: [ScienceDaily](#), [Science](#)

ED. COM. Let's be brutally blunt. There is no evolution occurring here. The terrarium-raised fish, which could already walk and live on dry land, breathing free air, are still the same species doing something that this species of fish could already do. This experiment actually does confirm something we have always known about bones – they can grow stronger, within limits, if subjected to stronger forces. However, these forces have never turned existing bones into different bones, or produced new bones that did not exist before, which is what needs to happen to turn a fish into a four-legged creature ... and that's an experimentally verifiable fact! The clever sounding phrase "Environmentally induced developmental plasticity" is just another way of saying that the fish were already able to cope with the extra strain on their fins and pectoral girdles because they already had the genetic ability to make stronger bones and more flexible connections between head and pectoral bones. We must never lose sight of the fact that in order for environmentally induced changes to facilitate "the origin of terrestrial traits that led to tetrapods", the extra forces imposed on the fish fins would have to produce new genes that would convert fins into legs and feet and not just make them stronger. Anyone out there want to scream "Lamarck" or "pangenesism"? Better to scream "Liar Liar!", particularly when you read media headlines around the world from the 27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> August:

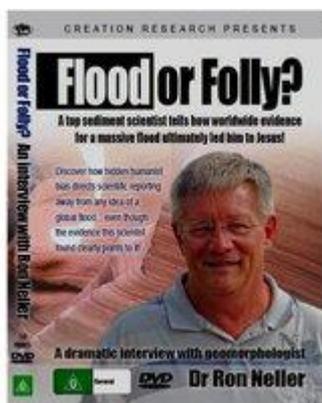
*Fish adapt to life outside water by learning to walk.* Telegraph.co.uk-27 Aug 2014;

*How fish out of water found their feet to walk on land.* The Australian-27 Aug 2014;

*'Walking fish' unveil mystery of human evolution on land.* Daily News & Analysis-28/7/14.

(Ref. locomotion, ichthyology, biomechanics)

**2. NOW AVAILABLE IN UK AND AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND: FLOOD OR FOLLY?** A 60 min DVD interview with Aussie science professor Dr Ron Neller.



He is a well published scientist who: 1) Qualified as a world expert on modern catastrophic flood deposits; 2) Discovered evidence in the rocks of a much bigger flood; then 3) found his science colleagues wouldn't admit to any global flood, regardless of the evidence. Now he's a Christian who stands with us on Genesis!

In this powerful interview, meet a man who did not want to find there was a real God, yet despite having never read the Bible, he found undeniable evidence of a catastrophic global flood. How he became a Christian is an exciting miracle and confirmation that God's Word is true from beginning to end (and also that God has a great sense of humour). The rocks truly cry out the praises of Christ as Creator Saviour, Lord and Judge. It's a DVD interview which is amazing!

Price: £11 in UK; \$20.00 Australia and New Zealand. Visit our [Webshop](#) to order or [Preview](#) here.

**3. NEW QUESTION:** Why didn't God create us in Heaven and let us stay there with Him? Simon Turpin's answer [here](#).

**4. WORTH A TECHNICAL READ:** ASTRONOMICAL VALUE Big Bang blunder bursts asunder. Multiverse bubble trouble.

<http://www.nature.com/news/big-bang-blunder-bursts-the-multiverse-bubble-1.15346>

**5. WOOD WATER FILTER** described in articles in Annals of Botany blog 24 April 2014, OffGridQuest.com, and PLoS One doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0089934, 26 February 2014. Engineers at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have found a way to produce clean drinking water using conifer wood. Water flows through woody tissue in plants via channels called xylem. These channels have tiny pores, named pit membranes, in their sides to enable water to flow from one xylem vessel to an adjoining one. This process traps out any fine bubbles in the water and prevents airlocks from blocking up the internal plumbing. The MIT noted that the pit membranes of conifers were the right size to filter out bacteria, and therefore could be used to purify contaminated water if enough water could be made to flow through them.

To test the water purifying potential of xylem, scientists took segments of sapwood from conifers, peeled off the bark and mounted them in the ends of plastic tubes, sealing the join with epoxy glue. They then poured water containing E. coli bacteria (a common water contaminant) into the tube. The wood filtered out the bacteria leaving clean water. After measuring the flow rate of cleaned up water from the wood filter they concluded: "Approximately 3 cm<sup>3</sup> of sapwood can filter water at the rate of several litres per day, sufficient to meet the clean drinking water needs of one person.

The results demonstrate the potential of plant xylem to address the need for pathogen-free drinking water in developing countries and resource-limited settings”.

Links: [Annals of Botany](#), [OffGridQuest](#)

ED. COM. It seems no matter what we come up with, God has already done it, one better. As the Bible says, “There is nothing new under the sun”. If this method is developed into an effective means of providing clean drinking water, we hope those who design it, and those who use it, will give thanks and praise to the Creator Christ who made it possible. (Ref. gymnosperms, tracheids, filtration)

**6. PURPLE BUTTERFLIES EVOLVED BY SCIENTISTS**, according to Biology News Net 5 August 2014 and PNAS doi: 10.1073/pnas.1402770111. Scientists at Yale university have “produced the first structural colour change in an animal by influencing evolution”. Biology News Net quotes Antónia Monteiro, one of the researchers, described the experiment: “What we did was to imagine a new target colour for the wings of a butterfly, without any knowledge of whether this colour was achievable, and selected for it gradually using populations of live butterflies”. In the PNAS summary the research team described their experiment: “We used artificial selection on a laboratory model butterfly, *B. anynana*, to evolve violet scales from UV brown scales and compared the mechanism of violet colour production with that of two other *Bicyclus* species, *Bicyclus sambulos* and *Bicyclus medontias*, which have evolved violet/blue scales independently via natural selection”. The colour of these butterfly wings is produced by reflected light from the scales on their wings, rather than from pigment. The purple colour is produced by the scales reflecting light at a wavelength of 400nm. Starting with brown butterflies, the scientists chose butterflies whose scales reflected light closest to 400nm and bred them together, repeating the process for successive generations until they got butterflies with a purple stripe on their wings. The scientists examined the scales of the newly bred purple butterflies and found the purple coloured regions had thicker scales than the original brown butterflies. They also examined the scales of a closely related butterfly species that was naturally purple, and found they also had thicker scales than brown ones. The research team concluded: “This work shows that populations harbour large amounts of standing genetic variation that can lead to rapid evolution of scales’ structural colour via slight modifications to the scales’ physical dimensions”. Link: [Biology News Net](#), [PNAS](#)

ED. COM. In spite of the boastful statement quoted by Biology News Net which included the word ‘evolution’ and implying the scientists got something completely new to evolve, their conclusion in the PNAS article is an admission that they did not produce anything new. Furthermore, in spite of the claim they were able to “to evolve violet scales from UV brown scales” the process had nothing to do with evolution. What they actually did was select from the variation already present until they got what they wanted and which was a result they already knew was a possibility because closely related species of this butterfly already had purple coloured scales. This experiment is a good reminder that selection, whether artificial or natural, is a real process in biology, but it never produces the evolution of one kind of creature into another. Different coloured butterflies with different thicknesses of scales on their wings already existed before anyone did this experiment. Selection simply brought out the built-in variation that already existed within this kind of butterfly – exactly what you would expect to get if they were created as fully functioning creatures according to their kinds, just as Genesis says. Don’t forget these experiments also show nothing about how light reflecting scales came into being in the first place. (Ref. Lepidoptera, structural colour)

**7. FROM THE ARCHIVES:** [Butterfly Wing Colour](#), [Fish Legs](#), [Xylem](#).

**8. HOW YOU CAN HELP US WITH YOUR 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:

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