



In a week when Vatican Science authorities are at it again promoting evolution and big bang, bashing anyone who believes Genesis is real history, we have had a blessed week meeting several ex atheists who shared how it was the evidence of God's Handiwork in Creation that convinced them the Bible was true and now they are Christians. UK TV viewers catch the Creation Guy John Mackay on SKY 581, FREESAT 692 and FREEVIEW HD 241 this Wednesday at 9.00pm with host Del Bearfoot, and enjoy Evidence News 17/14 with EDitorial COMment from John and the Team worldwide. And don't miss the debate 31<sup>st</sup> October [click](#).

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1. **NEW QUESTION:** Can women be pastors and preach in Christian churches, or preach in Sunday services, if they have the appropriate gifts, talents and skills? The New Testament says all people are to use their spiritual gifts. Wasn't it just the culture of previous times that has kept women out of church leadership? [ANSWER](#) by Dr. Diane Eager

2. **FOR FANTASTIC UK FLOOD FOSSIL TREE FINDS** we have made recently [click](#). Special thanks to all whose gifts make this possible. Click [donations](#) to help.

3. **YOUNG EARTH BLASPHEMY** (almost), declares Vatican astronomer, according to an article in Christian Post 15 October 2014. Brother Guy Consolmagno, an astronomer at the Vatican Observatory, claims that believing in six day creation and young earth is "almost blasphemous theology". He went on to say "It's certainly not the tradition of Catholicism and never has been and it misunderstands what the Bible is and it misunderstands what science is". Consolmagno agrees that a literal interpretation of the Bible suggests the earth is young, but claims this belief is bad theology because scientific evidence contradicts it. He went on to say that the Bible should not be used for scientific purposes. He explained: "Science goes out of date – it's supposed to. Now, if you're turning the Bible into a science

book, then you're saying you should throw it out after three years and you don't want to do that". He went on to say, "The very concept of a science book didn't exist when the Bible was written – that's the misunderstanding of theology, of the Bible". When asked how he reconciled science and religion he said "my religion tells me God made the universe and my science tells me how he did it".

Link: [Brisbane Times](#)

ED. COM. The Bible never claims to be a science book, so don't use it that way, but it never claims to be a religious book either, so Consolmagno needs to be severely reminded that it does claim to be the truth, i.e. the word of the living God who was there! Science may at best tell us how things in the universe function now, and even then its guesses or theories come and go with the academics wind, but to know how God made things we need His testimony in order to even begin investigating. And as such the book of Genesis is just the historical record that is what is needed to know how the universe began. The major problem here is that in order for human astronomers to comment on the Biblical text about how God made the universe in six days (Exodus 20:11), they need real qualifications and experience, so when they have successfully made their first universe they will be in a position to comment on just how it might have been done. Until then they are hiding their arrogance behind ignorance camouflaged with academic fairy tales.

We would also remind Guy Consolmagno and anyone else who wants to scoff at the Bible's clear record of a young earth, that Charles Lyell, the man who persuaded modern European scientists to believe in an old earth, did so in order to remove people's trust in the Bible and the church. See quote from Lyell's letters [here](#). It worked in a most spectacular fashion in one of his most devoted disciples – Charles Darwin. See our article *Descent of a Man* [here](#). (Ref. theology, geology, time, theistic evolution)

HEAR MORE on how to defeat evolution with John Mackay in the UK for 2 more weeks. NORWICH DEBATE and other venues [click](#).

**4. FLIES AND WORMS IN YOUR GENOME**, according to an article in ScienceDaily 27 August 2014, entitled "Evolution used similar molecular toolkits to shape flies, worms, and humans". The article begins: "Although separated by hundreds of millions of years of evolution, flies, worms, and humans share ancient patterns of gene expression, according to a massive analysis of genomic data". The genome study was part of the ENCODE project - a large international project involving hundreds of scientists and numerous studies, aimed at analysing how genetic information is put to use to control biological functions. One new study by scientists at Yale, Harvard and Stanford Universities looked at patterns of gene expression, (programs for turning genes on and off in a coordinated fashion) in worms, flies and humans. The researchers studied the way DNA information is transferred onto RNA – a process called "transcription". This is the first step in the process of using DNA information by cells to make proteins and control cell functions. The researchers found control of this process was so similar in all three organism that they were able to build "a quantitative model of transcription for humans and then successfully apply it without alteration to the fly and worm". One of the leading researchers, Mark Gerstein, a Professor of Biomedical Informatics at Yale University commented: "The special thing about the worm and fly is that they are very distant from humans evolutionarily, so finding something conserved across all three – human, fly and worm – tells us it is a very ancient, fundamental process". Gerstein and his colleagues are also involved in a project named the modENCODE project, which is building a catalogue of gene expression in flies and worms so these can be used as "model organisms" in genetics research. In spite of these similarities the three genomes do have significant differences. For a start, the human genome is at least 10 times larger than either the fly or the worm. What has also emerged in another study, also part of the modENCODE project, is the finding of very great differences in what have been called 'pseudogenes' in the three organisms. Pseudogenes are believed to be non functional "molecular fossils of working genes", but the research team found approximately 15% of these were being transcribed, i.e. having their DNA code transferred to RNA, in all three species. (PNAS, 10.1073/pnas.1407293111, 25 August 2014)

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. This research certainly does indicate that basic cellular functions, such as transcription, are needed for any living cell to work, therefore, it is only to be expected such processes will work in much the same way, but that would be more true because a common designer solved a common problem with a common solution, than if a common ancestor whose genes have been through millions of years of mutations randomly managed to keep a useful feature. Transcription is a complex process involving many proteins and other substances, and therefore has many genes

controlling it. Millions of years of random evolution would almost certainly lead to loss or degradation of these, and ruin the whole process, and therefore stop evolution in its tracks. We would remind whoever wrote the headline about evolution using molecular toolkits that such language is creationist, and ascribes some plan and purpose to a chance random process that supposedly happens without a designer. In this research we have a good example of the difference between what was actually found by scientific observation, and how it is interpreted by already held beliefs about the past. As such it is a good reminder that the creation/evolution debate is not about science versus religion. It is about how scientific discoveries are interpreted by different world views, e.g. evolution from same ancestor or design by the same Creator. With this in mind we advise you to watch out for the word “conserved” in comparative genome studies when they find the same gene in different organisms. By using the word “conserved” they are imposing the belief that the gene evolved in the creature closest to the bottom of the evolutionary tree, and has been kept intact by all the creatures that evolved from it. The findings about “pseudogenes” are also interesting. Although these have been written off as the useless wreckage of evolution, we would remind scientists that many useful body structures which were also written off as useless “vestigial organs” have now been found to have real functions. We have also learnt that same lesson about “junk DNA”, so just because we can’t see an obvious function for pseudogenes, that does not mean they are useless leftovers. Writing off things we don’t understand is not a scientific approach to them. When you find something whose function you don’t see straight away, the proper scientific approach is to do more research and find out. The new observation that some pseudogenes are being transcribed indicates they may have a function. Furthermore, if some pseudogenes do turn out to be defunct genes which no longer function, that is evidence that genomes are going downhill, and is evidence that the Biblical history of the world is correct, i.e. all genomes were created fully functional, but have been degenerating since man’s sin and God’s judgement have caused all living things to go downhill. (Ref. genetics, evolution, genomics)

For more on vestigial organs download our PDF article from [here](#).

**5. CAMPFIRE CULTURAL EVOLUTION** reported in ScienceDaily and ScienceShots 22 September 2014, ABC News in Science 23 September, and PNAS, September 2014 doi: 10.1073/pnas.1404212111. The control of fire is considered a major turning point in human evolution, and much has been written about how the ability to use fire enabled evolving humans to cook food and fend off predators, and therefore contributed to our physical evolution. Polly Wiessner, an anthropologist at Utah University suggests that fire also enabled human culture to evolve as campfire conversations stimulated the imagination, and developed a broad sense of community with distant people and with the spirit world. Wiessner has researched the conversations of Kalahari Bushmen in Africa as they sat around their evening campfires, and compared these conversations with their daytime communications. According to Wiessner “these people live from hunting and gathering. For 99 percent of our evolution, this is how our ancestors lived. What transpires during the firelit night hours by hunter-gatherers? It helps answer the question of what firelit space contributes to human life”. Her analysis revealed that daytime conversation mostly dealt with practical economic issues and gossip whilst evenings spent around the camp fire involved storytelling, chat about distant or dead acquaintances and religious ceremonies, along with singing and dancing. Wiessner suggests the control of fire, and fireside conversation, stimulated “cognitive capacities to form these imagined communities, whether it’s our social networks, all of our relatives on Earth or communities that link us to the spirit world”. Wiessner also commented that “non-human primates” don’t maintain mutually supportive ties outside their group and said “we are really unique. We create far-flung ties outside our groups”.

Links: [ABC](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [ScienceShots](#)

ED. COM. It is of interest to note that the Bible indicates that humans have always been able to control fire. When Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden and had to make their living by farming God refers to eating bread. Bread has to be cooked. Furthermore, a descendent of Cain, Tubal-Cain, is described as one who forged metal tools. This involves very sophisticated use of fire. The author of the paper is right in describing man as unique, but once again the evolutionists have gotten the history backwards. Having control of fire has certainly enabled us to have a time and place where we can develop community cohesion, share historically and socially important stories and teaching, and make use of our imagination. But it was not control of fire that sparked our creative imagination, but rather the reverse. Because we are made in the image of the Creator God, we were made creative to be like Him, and for that we needed imagination. We know about God not because we have used our campfire imagination to invent socially binding beliefs such as God/religion, etc., but because He has revealed this to us in His Word, the Bible, which also tells us human beings have not spent 99% of their history as hunter gatherers slowly progressing socially upwards. Man was created and appointed to be a settled gardener, and then after Adam sinned, settled farmers. The

first nomad was Adam's son Cain, who was punished by God for murdering his brother, by being unable to any longer grow plants successfully, so he moved to either trading or hunting. (Genesis 4:11-12) The first stone-age hunter gatherers only appeared on the planet after man had been scattered by God's judgment at the Tower of Babel, and had to survive off the land using whatever resources were available. These people already knew about God and the spirit world, but because they were in rebellion against God they used their imaginations as they sat around fires to invent false gods and false religion. (Ref. culture, worship, communication, technology)

**6. RAT'S GUIDE TO PARENTING** "can benefit generations to come", according to articles in ScienceDaily and *Science* doi: 10.1126/science.1252723, 15 August 2014. Larry Young and James Rillings of Emory University have carried out a review of research into "biological mechanisms governing a shift in mammals' parental motivation that begins with aversion and transforms into irresistible attraction after giving birth". Recent studies have shown that the hormones that stimulate physiological processes involved in preparing the uterus for pregnancy, and stimulating the process of birth and milk production also interact with brain chemicals to activate brain activity involved in nurturing, protecting and bonding with infants. According to Young and Rillings, "Parenting in turn shapes the neural development of the infant social brain. Recent work suggests that many of the principles governing parental behaviour and its effect on infant development are conserved from rodent to humans".

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. There is no doubt that hormones do affect brain function, and these effects need to be studied and understood. Studying animal brain cells and circuits under the influence of these hormones can certainly help us do that, provided we remember human beings are not related to rats, or monkeys, or any animals. Therefore, the limitation of such studies will be that behaviour, especially our family life, will never be determined by animal studies. Human beings were made in the image of God and consist of body, soul and spirit. The factor that all these animal studies ignore is that man is not only more than an animal, but was made in the Image of the Creator God who has given us clear guidelines and a conscience which is offended if we break His rules. It would seem He also made our brains and hormones to work best for us if we follow the Maker's instructions, and to work against us if we don't. One of the interesting things we are learning about brain circuits is they are influenced by our choices to behave in certain ways, as well as by our hormones. We are able to make and break brain circuits throughout our lives, and therefore we can reinforce behaviour that fits the Creator's instructions, and suppress behaviour that is not. This is not always easy, but with the Creator's help it can be done. (Ref. biochemistry, neurology, reproduction)

**7. CREATIONIST QUACKS** benefit from scientific misconduct, according to the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) Bulletin September 2014. In an article about the rising problem of scientific fraud and misconduct Tim Birkhead and Bob Montgomerie comment: "We should care about scientific misconduct because it damages society's confidence in science, despite the fact that science is the basis for so much medical progress, technological innovation and economic prosperity. Such damage gives traction to climate change deniers, creationists, homeopaths and many other quacks, as well as weakening the financial support for science from the public purse".

ED. COM. It is little wonder that scientists succumb to the temptation of dishonesty since wherever evolution is promoted people eventually conclude everything has evolved and still is: truth included! So why not help it along when necessary. Sadly science is no different to any other human activity. It is conducted by fallible, sinful human beings, whose nature and behaviour will reflect the God-denying society they live in. And never forget two things: there has been a long line of creationist quacks in science starting with people like Sir Isaac Newton and, whenever the God deniers call us quacks, remember that the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the Creator God's sight. (1 Corinthians 3:19) (Ref. behaviour, sin, sceptics, truth)

**8. FROM THE ARCHIVES:** [Germs in Your Genes](#), [Humans Predisposed to God](#), [Stone Age Pyrotechnology](#), [Scientific Misconduct](#).

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