

## Evidence News 20/11 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011

WELCOME to some chicks getting messed up heads, beetles screwing up, and popping ice plants plus a new question: 'Why 6 days?' No - not how long were the days of creation - but why only 6 of them - instead of 6,000 or 6,000,000? PLUS good news - John Mackay who has been in Dartmoor UK for a youth conference finally got his luggage back from the airline so he can start wearing clothes again as he speaks. It's a great Evidence NEWS with EDitorial COMment from the world wide Creation Research Team so enjoy ENEWS 20/11.

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**1. NEW QUESTION: WHY SIX DAYS?** Why did God make the world in 6 days? Surely God could have used any time he wanted so why 6 days? [CLICK](#) for this week's answer by Creation Research Director John Mackay.

**2. MESSING UP CHICKEN HEADS** reported in *New Scientist*, 20 August 2011, p6. Arhat Abzhanov, an evolutionary biologist at Harvard University has developed a technique to reverse evolution in chickens so that they form a snout like an alligator, rather than a beak. Abzhanov has been studying the genes involved in forming the different shapes of Galapagos finch beaks and found that the different shapes were the result of variations in the activity of just a few genes brought about by changes in signalling molecules that turned the genes on and off. He suggested that the change from snout to beak may involve similar such changes in signalling molecules. The tip of an alligator snout is formed from a pair of bones which remain separate, but a bird beak forms into a single sharp bone. Abzhanov looked for signalling molecules in developing alligator and chicken embryos and found they had two in common, but their distribution was different. In alligators they were active on either side of the developing face, but not in the centre. In chickens they were active in the centre as well as the sides.

Abzhanov developed a method of blocking the activity of the signalling molecules using proteins embedded in tiny gel pellets. When he inserted these into the centre of 5 day old chicken embryos he found they developed a pair of bones just like an alligator embryo at the equivalent stage. According to Abzhanov this snout-like feature is something "modern birds have not seen since the Cretaceous". Due to ethics regulations on animal experiments the chickens that have been experimented on this way are not allowed to hatch.

ED. COM. Actually turning off the signalling molecules in the centre of the developing chicken face only messes up chicken heads by preventing them from growing a proper beak. The chicken

embryos are still chickens, and if they were allowed to mature and hatch we predict they would turn out to be deformed chickens that would not survive any struggle for life.

A similar failure of growth occurs in humans during the growth of the upper lip and palate. The upper lip is normally formed by tissue growing in from each side and fusing with tissue growing down into the centre. When the central part does not grow or join up with the sides the resulting deformity of the lip is called “hare lip”, because of its resemblance to the split upper lip in a hare, but no one would claim this as evidence humans are descended from hares.

The fact that alligators and chickens have some identical growth factors is no more significant than the fact mice and men have 75% similar DNA, and 75% of human genes are found in nematode worms, plus “We share half our genes with the banana.” (Robert May, UK chief Scientist, New Scientist, 1 July 2000), but none of this indicates we descended from them. The current theory of evolution claims that dinosaurs evolved into birds, but other important body structures such as their hip bones, are just as different from birds as their heads. Instead of wasting time trying to prove crocodile hipped dinosaurs evolved into birds, this research should be put to use to help us understand how growth defects occur and how we could fix them. (Ref. embryology, teratology, aves, reptiles)

For information on beaks and evolution from previous Evidence News click [here](#).

Check out evolutionary claims that chicken can grow teeth [here](#).

**3. WHAT'S THE EVIDENCE FROM MESOSAURS** [CLICK](#) for PICS.

**4. SEED CAPSULE ORIGAMI** described in ScienceDaily 18 July and Nature Communications doi:10.1038/ncomms1336, 07 June 2011. The seed pods of the ice plant *Delosperma nakurense* consist of five triangular sections, which are tightly sealed in dry conditions, but open in moist conditions. This ensures the seeds are released in the best conditions for germination. Scientists at Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces in Potsdam and the Technische Universität Dresden have studied the way the pods open when exposed to moisture, but close and reseal when they dry out. Hexagonal shaped cells in the pod lids have outer walls containing lignin which does not swell when wet, but they have inner cores containing cellulose which can absorb water and so swell. When the cellulose cores expand the cells elongate and change the shape of the lids so they open. The scientists who studied the process described it as being like moveable origami. The cells forming the seed pod lids are no longer alive, so the movement depends on the arrangement and properties of the materials they are made from, rather than any cellular movement. Peter Fratzl of the Biomaterials Department at the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces, explained: “The mechanism is interesting for technical applications because the energy for the directed movement is already stored in the material”. The researchers hope the study of this process will help design materials for use in modern technology. They wrote: “Extracted principles from this reliable and reversible actuated movement have relevance to the emerging field of 'programmable matter' with applications as far-reaching as the design of satellites and artificial muscles”.

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. It's so obvious you should have spotted it by now... if engineers do develop “programmable matter”, it will only work because an intelligent creative engineer writes the programme, and applies it to matter which already possesses the necessary properties to respond to the programme. Please also note that the lignin and the cellulose in the dead seed pod lids were laid down by living cells, but we all know the cells did not write the program. Neither did the lignin nor the cellulose write it. In fact, the information in the cell to build the seed pods “programmed matter” is encoded on DNA molecules, which are made of chemicals that do not possess the property of making code, so we know the DNA did not write the code. Such information in cells has all the properties of a created code.

The more we understand how living things work, the more we see the effects of external information applied to matter and energy. Without the information, supplied for the programs, there would be no living organisms. Where did the information come from?

The code in the plants was written by the same intelligent Creator who programmed in advance all the matter in the cells, so they grew into the right shape and laid down the lignin and cellulose in the right places to respond to the changing conditions. As John's Gospel says so well (John 1:1 – 3) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God – all things were made by Him".

**5. DID YOU MISS:** Chemistry Prof Ed Neeland on "How can you recognise design in science"? [CLICK](#).

**6. RSS FEEDS** now available for AskJohnMackay.com [CLICK](#).



**7. DIRE DRAGONS – DINOSAURS.** Spectacular book with hundreds of colour photos from around the world showing evidence that man and dinosaurs lived together. Compelling new evidence from over 20 new sites you have never seen and many new high quality original photos coming from 10 yrs of worldwide research by Vance Nelson. Vance's new book is beautifully presented and is full of convincing data to those who doubt the Biblical account of Genesis that God made all the land creatures and man on the

same day.

*Institute for Creation Research Science Writer - Brian Thomas, MS writes: "I just finished reading Dire Dragons. It was absolutely fantastic. Congratulations on a fine work. I wish every Christian would read it, and I wish I could convert my current Dinosaur talk for ICR into a presentation version of your book".*

CANADA ORDERS <http://www.untoldsecretsofplanetearth.com/>

AUSSIE ORDERS

[http://www.creationresearch.net/products/Dire\\_Dragons\\_by\\_Vance\\_Nelson.html](http://www.creationresearch.net/products/Dire_Dragons_by_Vance_Nelson.html)

**8. BEETLES BEAT US TO SCREWS,** according to articles in ScienceNOW and *Science*, vol. 333, p52 and *New Scientist*, 30 June 2011. Alexander Riedel of the State Museum of Natural History in Karlsruhe, Germany, and colleagues, are studying a group of weevils of the genus *Trigonopterus* and have discovered their legs are attached to their bodies by a structure that works like a screw and nut. The uppermost part of the leg, called the trochanter, has a spiral ridge which fits into a groove in the coxa – the part of the body where the legs attach. The trochanter can rotate like a screw in a nut. The screw thread extends for 410 degrees – more than one full rotation around the leg, although the beetle can only move its front legs through 90 degrees and its mid and hind legs through 130 degrees. The screw thread joint seems to give the beetle more flexibility for moving around on twigs and leaves, but is stronger than a ball and socket joint because it is harder to pull apart. The *New Scientist* article concludes with the comment: "The weevils are another example of evolution coming up with the same solutions to problems as human engineers. Bacteria had continuously rotating wheels long before we did, in the form of spinning 'tails' called flagella. It seems the weevils beat us to threaded screws and nuts".

ED. COM. Now that's how to really insult human engineers whom history tells us have come up with solutions to problems, only because they have minds that can analyse and understand the properties of matter and then apply that knowledge to a problem.

The comparison between evolution and human engineers is a common one in popular science articles about structures in living things, but it is foolish to the point of absurdity. Evolution is a mindless process of chance random or naturalistic processes that involves no plan or design.

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Dawkins and Attenborough may be fooled by it, but rather hypocritically they still employ intelligent engineers to solve their mechanical problems.

Want to really give the put down to a human engineer? Then just go to print claiming a device the engineer designed and patented could have happened by chance random processes. You may end up in court for defaming his intelligence and his professional reputation, yet evolutionary biologists and science writers regularly insult the Creator God by claiming the many wondrous devices we see in living things required no design and have zero engineering. One day they will answer for such foolish claims. (Ref. mechanical engineering, arthropods, locomotion)

**9. AUSTRALIA'S OUTDOOR CREATION MUSEUM SUCCESS** as around 200 people made the journey to our Jurassic Ark site at Gympie Australia to enjoy and celebrate with us the reopening after 6 months of repair to the flood damaged site. The day before we had run a trial run with one of the schools in the Gympie district, taking a field trip to the site.

Really appreciated was the polished petrified logs from Australia, our Jurassic dinosaur foot prints, and fossil thorns etc from our collection. We even had a large and beautifully polished slab of Southern Conifer from the Arizona fossil forest USA, as well as our rebuilt and now upright fossil Conifer tree from the Queensland Jurassic beds. This project needs your financial help to continue.

SEE PICS [CLICK](#).

**10. GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS CONTROVERSY:** See what the ABC said about our work in schools. [CLICK](#). We can't often talk about our work in schools to ensure we don't attract media attention or schools get too frightened to let us in. The skeptics and humanists and secularists and atheists have any Christian work in Schools including that of Creation Research under attack. Please pray for and financially support this usually silent side of the ministry.

**11. SEE WHAT WE TAUGHT** at Gympie [CLICK](#). It is the question time that atheists and sceptics want to stop because you only have to discuss the scientific evidence for design in creation and student immediately ask questions about God and the Bible, etc. Don't be surprised. God's Word says that's how it works - see Romans 1:20.

**12. UK DONT MISS JOHN MACKAY** [www.amen.org.uk/cr/where](http://www.amen.org.uk/cr/where)

**13. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE** can be sent to the following addresses or use our secure Web site: [CLICK](#).

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

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

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/>

AUSTRALIA: P.O. Box 260 Capalaba Qld 4157

CANADA: Westney Heights Baptist Church 1201 Ravenscroft Rd Ajax Ont. L1T 4K5

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

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