

## Evidence News 23/11 – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011

WELCOME as atheist Attenborough and friends in the UK up their anti-creation propaganda, plus we uncover what makes Tiktaalik tick, as the Times climate agenda provably messes up their new world atlas, while John Mackay prepares for a debate at South Hampton University - and don't miss the important resignation over fudged climate data. All in this Evidence News 23/11 with EDitorial COMment for John Mackay and the Creation Research Team worldwide.

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**1. NEW QUESTION:** The Canadian fishapod fossil Tiktaalik is evidence fish evolved into land creatures. Why can't you guys accept it? Click [here](#) for answer.

**2. ATTENBOROUGH JOINS ANTI-CREATION CAMPAIGN**, according to reports in *The Guardian*, and *Telegraph* (UK) 19 September 2011. Retired wildlife broadcaster David Attenborough has joined outspoken atheist Richard Dawkins and 30 prominent scientists in a campaign “aimed at driving out creationism and intelligent design from classrooms”. Other scientists supporting the campaign include president of the Royal Society, Sir Paul Nurse, neurobiologist Professor Colin Blakemore and theoretical physicist Jim Al-Khalili along with Steve Jones, John Krebs and Michael Reiss, who is also an ordained Anglican minister. Organisations supporting the campaign include the Association for Science Education, the British Science Association, the British Humanist Society and Ekklesia.

The campaigners want the British government to ban creationism from schools and make schools teach evolution in primary and secondary schools. They have set up a website named [Teach Evolution, not Creationism](#) which has the following statement on its front page: “Creationism and ‘intelligent design’ are not scientific theories, but they are portrayed as scientific theories by some religious fundamentalists who attempt to have their views promoted in publicly-funded schools. **There should be enforceable statutory guidance that they may not be presented as scientific theories in any publicly-funded school of whatever type.** But this is not enough. An understanding of evolution is central to understanding all aspects of biology. **The teaching of evolution should be included at both primary and secondary levels in the National Curriculum and in all schools**”. (emphasis in original)

The *Guardian* article also notes: “In 2009, an Ipsos Mori survey found that more than half of British adults think that intelligent design and creationism should be taught alongside evolution in school science lessons – a proportion higher than in the US”.

Links: [Guardian](#), [Telegraph](#)

ED. COM. We have said this before, but it is worth saying again: When evolutionists have to campaign to get governments and law courts to enforce the teaching of their beliefs, and ban any criticism or opposing beliefs, they are admitting their ideas cannot stand up to serious scientific critique. If evolution was good science it would stand up to any honest scrutiny, so there would be no need to hide behind politicians and lawyers. Furthermore, they cannot hide behind the excuse of public funding for schools.

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As the Guardian reminded its readers, it seems a majority of British adults, i.e. the public who supplied the funds, do not want creation and intelligent design banned from schools.

Thanks to one of our colleagues and the website <http://webwhois.nic.uk> we have found out the owner of the “Teach Evolution, not Creationism” website is the British Humanist Society. The humanists know that creationism is a direct threat to their philosophy of materialism, or naturalism, and therefore they are trying to prevent students from hearing anything that undermines their world view. That’s why they argue testing or discussing creation cannot be science since their world view demands Science is “a naturalistic explanation which excludes any reference to God” by their own fiat definition. (*The Science Teacher* Nov 2003, vol. 70 No.8, p.34) This campaign is not about science; it is a clash of world views. Humanism vs everybody else!

Rev. Michael Reiss, and any other theistic evolutionists who claim to follow the God of the Bible but publicly join with atheists such as Attenborough and Dawkins, and do not want God in any explanation of how the world began should take heed of the warning issued by the Creator they claim to believe in. Jesus said: “whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea”. (Matthew 18:6) (Ref. education, philosophy, politics)

**3. DOWNUNDER HUMANISTS** are also trying to remove all references to God in Australian government schools. See our report [here](#) and video clip of ABC news report [here](#).

**4. AMBER DINO FEATHERS FOUND**, according to reports in ScienceNOW 15 September 2011, ScienceDaily 16 September 2011, and *Science* vol. 333, pp1619-1622, 15 September 2011. Scientists in Canada have found amber containing feathers and some filaments that the researchers believe to be dinosaur “protofeathers”. The 11 pieces of amber were found in coal-rich strata at Grassy Lake, Alberta, Canada and are dated as 78 to 79 million years old. Some of the preserved feathers have the specialised features of flight feathers seen in living birds – barbs with Velcro-like hooks that hold them together to make flight surface. Others have the structure of feathers seen in water birds that absorb water and decrease buoyancy, enabling the birds to dive and also collect water to take back to the nest. The researchers suggest these were from a waterfowl like a modern day grebe. Along with these modern-looking feathers are some “regularly spaced, hollow filaments, each of which is about 16 micrometers in diameter, about the size of the finest human hair.” These do not have cell walls like fungal threads or plant fibres, nor do they have the scales found in mammal hair. Ryan McKellar, a palaeontologist at the University of Alberta in Canada, who led the research team explained: “We don't absolutely know what they are, but we're pretty sure what they're not”. He said they could be dinosaur protofeathers because they appear similar to carbonised fibres found associated with some dinosaur fossils. However, no dinosaur fossils have been found directly associated with the amber. Richard Prum, an evolutionary ornithologist at Yale University, commented that McKellar’s team “present an exciting and broad sample of feathers”, but the lack of any preserved remains such as bone or skin in the amber could mean they have nothing to do with dinosaurs, and could be something completely new to fossil researchers.

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. Prum is correct. There is no dinosaur bone, no tissue, not a thing in these filaments or in the amber to connect them with dinosaurs, other than an already held belief that dinosaurs evolved into birds and must have grown feathers as part of the process. The modern looking feathers are not only good evidence that waterfowl were already present with the dinosaurs, but their specialised feathers show they have always been waterfowl since this amber formed, i.e. no help to evolutionists, but wonderfully consistent with multiplying “after their kind”, just as Genesis 1 says. (Ref. ornithology, aves, fossilisation)

**5. MODERN BIRD SURPRISE** For a fossil grebe claimed to be even older than these feathers see our previous report [here](#).

**6. DID YOU MISS THE DINOSAUR FEATHERS** question: “Don’t feathered dinosaurs prove that birds evolved from dinosaurs?” For our answer click [here](#).

**7. DINOSAURS DOWNUNDER BUS TOUR:** Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday August 24<sup>th</sup> 2012. Mix it with the dinosaurs in the great Aussie Outback with the Creation Research Team for a great time of teaching, fantastic fossils, great fellowship and miles of fun in the wild and rugged and stunningly beautiful Australian Bush. Don't miss it! Expressions of interest: [EMAIL](#).

**8. NOBEL PHYSICIST RESIGNS OVER CLIMATE CLAIMS**, according to Fox News 14 September 2011 and *International Business Times* 15 September. Ivar Giaever, a former professor with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, and winner of the Nobel Prize in physics 1973, has resigned from the prestigious American Physics Society (APS) because he rejects their official stance on global warming. The society claims that the evidence for man-made global warming is “incontrovertible”. In his resignation letter Giaever wrote: “In the APS, it is ok to discuss whether the mass of the proton changes over time and how a multi-universe behaves, but the evidence of global warming is incontrovertible? ... The (APS) claim is that the temperature has changed from ~288.0 to ~288.8 degree Kelvin in about 150 years, which (if true) means to me that the temperature has been amazingly stable, and both human health and happiness have definitely improved in this ‘warming’ period”. *International Business Times* also quotes Giaever as claiming: “Moreover, global warming has become a new religion. We frequently hear about the number of scientists who support it. But the number is not important: only whether they are correct is important”.

Links: [Fox News](#), [International Business Times](#)

ED. COM. We couldn't say it any better than Giaever – truth or error is never determined by the numbers of believers, or the exalted position they may have in the eyes of the world. If something is true, it doesn't matter how unpopular it is. It won't cease to be true because a lot of scientists, politicians, lawyers, economists or journalists pour scorn on it. If something is false, then whether it is said by many laymen or a few prominents it will not make it true. This principle not only applies to climate change, but also to creation, evolution, the big bang theory, peer review and many other issues. (Ref. climate, weather, philosophy, world view)

**FOR MORE CLIMATE STORIES** check out our Climate Change file [here](#).

**9. FUDGED NEW WORLD ATLAS** as Journalists across the UK received glossy press packs last week for the launch of a new [Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World](#). It included a press release declaring: “For the first time, the new edition [...] has had to erase 15 per cent of Greenland's once permanent ice cover – turning an area the size of the UK and Ireland ‘green’ and ice-free. This is concrete evidence of how climate change is altering the face of the planet forever”. Today glaciologists have been crying foul, saying that the 15 per cent figure is wildly inaccurate, reports *New Scientist* who contacted the *Times Atlas* team last week to find out where they had obtained the number, they cited the National Snow and Ice Data Centre in Boulder, Colorado, but were unable to be more precise. Ted Scambos the NSIDC's expert on Greenland ice, says neither he nor his colleagues were consulted in person. “Graduate students would not have made a mistake like this”, he told *New Scientist*. “If what *The Times* has said were true, something like a metre of sea level rise would have occurred in the past decade.” That is nowhere near what measurements show. “Currently, Greenland is losing mass at about a rate of 150 billion tonnes per year, or about one-third of a millimetre of sea level rise per year”, says Scambos. That means in the 12-year period from 1999 to 2011 that the *Times Atlas* analysed, meltwater from the Greenland ice sheet has contributed roughly 3 mm to global sea level rise – not 1 metre. In total, the Greenland ice sheet holds enough ice to raise global sea level by about 7 metres so the loss since 1999 has been less than 0.05 per cent.

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn20939-times-atlas-grossly-exaggerates-greenland-ice-loss.html>

ED.COM. Imagine that – a climate change agenda driven media publication that's provably wrong! And yet the politicians are basing legislation on such erroneous nonsense.

**10. 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](#).

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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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