CREATION RESEARCH

By Christ - For Christ

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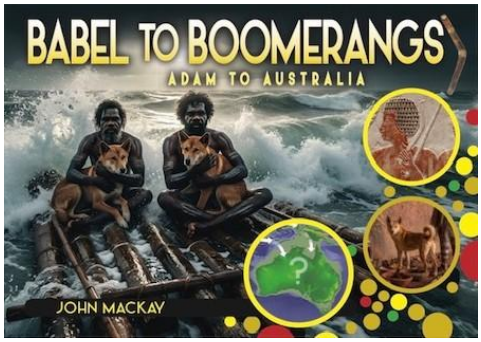
Brisbane Open Day Success

Joseph Hubbard had a fruitful trip to Queensland, northern NSW and Tasmania in June-July. It concluded with a full house at the Creation Discovery Centre -Brisbane, and an announcement of a new book coming out.

Having two sessions at different times in the afternoon worked well and fitted some 70 people into the building. Maximum room size is just under 50 so pray with us that we may be able to expand our facilities and build it up for not just individual tours but larger crowds as well.

Our UK director Joseph Hubbard featured in the day for his last big public meeting before returning to England 1.30am Monday morning. His display of genuine middle eastern pottery (Hezekiah's seals, Pottery from Abraham's time at UR, etc are not only thankfully received, but got the WOW factor award from all present.

We were particularly thrilled with some of the questions from the young children and their desire to touch and feel some of our newer bones and our newer boomerangs.



The Museum now includes ancient boomerangs from India and throwing sticks from all over the world. And yes, we did have to tell one of our dear aboriginal supporters the answer to his question; “are you going to show that the aboriginals did not invent the boomerang?” Yes, that’s exactly what the evidence does show whether it was Ham Shem or Japeth who played throwing sticks off the Ark before people left Babel then India and migrated to Australia as aboriginals. Likewise, the overwhelming evidence points to dingos, boomerangs and aboriginals coming from India (DNA proves this also). A major promotion at the Open Day was a new Book project we are calling “Babel to Boomerangs ADAM to Australia, the global history of mankind”.

Thanks again to our staff such as Diane Eager, Joseph Hubbard, John Mackay and helpers who willingly spent many hours getting the place ready and then cleaning up afterwards, We need lots of people to volunteer for this type of work.

Joseph Hubbard experiences Gondwanaland

Joe’s primary aim for coming to Australia was to catch up with John Mackay in person, for the first time in quite a few years, and to help organize some of the changes that have been happening in Creation Research over the last couple of years. But Joe got a real taste of Gondwanaland too!

From teaching at schools, churches and public meetings, it was great for Australians to get another chance to hear Joseph. While in Tasmania he was able to experience some of the special forest environments that are regarded as remnants of the great southern continent Gondwana which included South America, Antarctica, Australia and India. From a Biblical perspective these land areas were likely connected with the single large supercontinent that existed prior to Noah’s Flood but broke apart during that time. This is an important topic that we need to cover in detail in the future.

Tasmania, as for many parts of Australia, retains some unique vegetation types with species now only found here. It was great for Joe to be able to experience this as he walked around the World Heritage Cradle Mountain National Park and other parts of Tasmania. The

picture shows Joe on the Dove Lake track on a wet winters day next to a large Pandani plant with endemic King Billy and Pencil Pines nearby. Pandani (*Richea pandanifolia*) is the world's tallest heath plant growing to 12metres and is only found in Tasmania.

Important Scientific Fossil Finds in Tasmania

While in Tasmania Joseph and Craig went to a number of fossil sites including one on private property that had not been previously investigated. After receiving permission from the landowner, we found the site and there, Joe made a significant discovery.

Tasmanian paleontologists have confirmed from photo evidence we supplied that the small fossil, about 1cm long, appears to be a bryozoan (lace coral). These are not true corals but have their own Phylum (major group). While these are commonly found in various rocks in Tasmania, they have never been found in rocks considered Cambrian (more than 500 million years old). Indeed, they have only ever been found in these rocks before in the Flinders Range, South Australia and in north and south China.

Importantly, from a Biblical perspective, these rocks are actually sequences of flood deposition and processes and are not indicative of vast time frames. Until recently Bryozoans were not even known from Cambrian rocks causing scientists to wonder why this major group had not evolved in the Cambrian like virtually every other group of organisms. Of great interest is that our find is an example of a creature that we still have alive today showing that even if you want to believe it is over 500 million years old, bryozoans are still bryozoans!

Not to be outdone Craig Hawkins made his own significant find at a different location. An Orthocerid nautiloid is an extinct straight shelled nautiloid in the broader squid/octopus family. They are normally found in Ordovician rocks at limited locations in Tasmania and are "exceptionally rare" in Permian rocks, so it was great to find a near complete one in the latter. Again, this has generated significant interest for Tasmanian paleontologists. According to normal evolutionary thought, Orthocerids are found from the Ordovician to the Triassic, a period of about 300 million years. They appeared suddenly and went extinct basically unchanged so like the bryozoans are no help to the idea of evolution.

Following on from our Dung Beetle article last newsletter, Dr. Diane Eager explains how dung beetles have been found to be essential in complex integrated ecosystems in Africa.

Dung beetles are well known for breaking up, removing and burying animal droppings. This fertilises the soil by recycling nutrients more efficiently and helps to disperse seeds, promote plant growth, and decreases the numbers of biting flies that can spread disease to people and animals. Ecologists have long predicted that removal of large herbivores, such as elephants, which produce large masses of dung, would adversely effect dung beetle populations resulting in a loss of their ecosystem services.

These predictions were mainly based on computer simulations, but now a 15 year study in East Africa has provided a real-world example of the effect of loss of elephants on dung beetles. An international team of scientists tested how a community of 179 species of dung beetles responded to loss of elephants. They set up "ex-closure" areas where elephants were excluded but smaller herbivores had access. Dung beetles in this region had a distinct preference for elephant dung. The experiment found *"23% fewer species (of dung beetles), 51% less biomass, and 67% fewer individual dung beetles in plots where elephants were selectively excluded."* The researchers also reported *"depletion of dung beetles in elephant ex-closures impaired two ecosystem services: dung decomposition and seed dispersal."*

The research team concluded: *"Our findings affirm the long-standing idea that large animals—which are inordinately extinction-prone—act as keystone species by provisioning many linked consumers with essential resources, thereby sustaining biodiversity and ecosystem services."*

One of the researchers, Todd Palmer, a professor of biology at University of Florida commented: *"Elephants are charismatic and there is lots of focus on their conservation, but primarily for their own sake. This paper adds a new argument, showing that elephants are infrastructural. Their dung subsidizes an entire community of insects that collectively perform services worth billions of dollars annually."* ..... *"So, losing elephants doesn't just mean losing elephants. It means losing a significant fraction of dung beetle diversity and the ecosystem functions that go with them."*

An article in Princeton University News described the study as the "first experimental evidence of a 'co-extinction' connection: Without elephants, dung beetles disappear."

References: Princeton University News 29 May 2026, University of Florida News 28 May 2026, *Science* 28 May 2026 DOI:10.1126/science.aeb706

Editorial Comment: This study reminds us that nothing in the living world works in isolation. The diminutive dung beetle and the enormous elephant are parts of an integrated ecosystem that involves many different organisms all making their contribution, and the loss of one diminishes the function of the others and of the whole system.

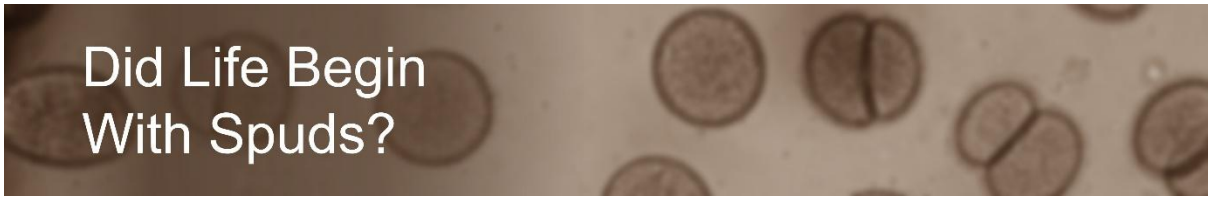
Studies of ecological systems such as the one described above are a reminder that God created integrated functioning ecosystems in the beginning, not just individual living things. Getting a system of very different component parts that work together in mutual benefit to one another requires forward planning and an understanding of how the whole system works. Furthermore, it won't function until all the components are present, so slow and gradual evolution over millions of years will not work.

This is confirmed by the fossil record as well as the living world. Dinosaurs lived with dung beetles. Fossilised dinosaur dung shows signs of dung beetle activity. The mind boggles at what the environment would have been like in a world inhabited by giants like Diplodocus and Titanosaurus if dung beetles were not carrying out their ecosystem services.

Dung beetles are not purely altruistic in their activity. They benefit from the deposits left by large animals to build nests and feed their young. This is a good reminder that the living world flourishes and works efficiently on mutual cooperation, not adverse competition.

People love large iconic animals like elephants and dinosaurs, but we also should be giving thanks for tiny, humble creatures like dung beetles, worms and other small invertebrates.

Dung beetles are one of God's most brilliant creations. Without them we would be surrounded by piles of animal droppings as we swatted away swarms of flies amidst sparse vegetation. Be grateful that in the beginning God created whole integrated ecosystems with all creatures great and small, e,g. beetles burying dung and worms churning the soil enhances crop and pasture growth. This is not just for our benefit but also a testimony to God's brilliant design and ultimately for His infinite Glory.



Have scientists finally cracked how to make a living cell as recent science reports may have led you to believe?

Scientists at University of Minnesota Twin Cities claim to have made "first synthetic cell with a complete cell cycle". This means the cell can take in food, use it to grow and then divide to reproduce more cells, which can then begin this process themselves. The cells, called SpudCells were made from components extracted from living cells, including proteins, DNA and ribosomes. (Ribosomes are chemical factories that make proteins using genetic information). These components are held together in a droplet of fluid surrounded by the same kind of lipid membrane that surrounds living cells.

Using these components the cells can grow and replicate their own genome. However, they cannot divide using the complex process used by living cells which requires an internal scaffold called a cytoskeleton. To enable the cells to divide without the cytoskeleton the scientists compressed them through a membrane containing microscopic holes which made the cells split up. This process was rather inefficient as it could not always get an even division of the gene carrying structures so that the newly made cells had complete sets of genes.

According to Science (AAAS) news the SpudCells are "the closest researchers have come to building a living cell from scratch."

References: Science (AAAS) News 1 July 2026; Biotic; Biorxiv 2 July 2026; ArsTechnica 3 July 2026

Editorial Comment: These scientists may have carried out an impressive piece of nanotechnology, (i.e. manipulating microscopic components to carry out some complex processes), but they are a very long way from creating life from scratch. The components they put into their artificial cells were highly complex assemblances of large molecules that had already been made by real living cells. For example, the simplest ribosome has over 50 proteins and three RNA molecules that work together.

If scientists ever do make synthetic cells from scratch, it will only because they were able to copy the components that make up living cells and assemble them in the same way living cells are assembled.

What these scientists have really shown is that it takes a lot of creative design and intelligent manipulation to make something that resembles a living cell. The closer they get to making a functional living cell the less excuse they will have for believing that living cells evolved by chance random processes from simple molecules in the environment.

One day they will be held accountable to the Creator of the real living cells they used in their extremely clever experiments but will be exposed as fools by their own work if they do not acknowledge him, who is Jesus Christ, Creator, Judge and Saviour.

Canada Field Trip with Martin Legemaate - THIS SATURDAY!

Wilberforce Area Mineral Field Trip

With Martin Legemaate, Curator of the Creation Research Museum of Ontario

When? Saturday August 15th 2026, 10:00AM to 3:00PM

Where? Wilberforce area mineral sites.

What? Join us and collect the rock solid facts on creation. These guided activities will help you see the evidence of God's handiwork as Creator. You'll get some great rock/mineral specimens and enjoy a fantastic day out. If you have an "Apatite" for minerals then this is the trip for you. Some great minerals to find include, buff feldspar, orange calcite, purple fluorite, green diopside, and more. Marvel at God's design, order and beauty, stamped even in the rocks! Find out what hidden beauty is and why that perplexes evolutionists.

The trip starts at Wilberforce Park. at 10 am. Cost: $20 per person $45 per family.
Suggested age range 5 and up. Minimum 15 people Maximum 35.
What do I need to bring? Hat, suitable clothing for the area, footwear for hiking. Notepad, pen/pencil, bag for collecting specimens, sunburn cream, insect repellent and lunch.
How fit do I need to be? If you can walk up 4 flights of stairs without pausing for breath and can walk through a shopping centre for at least 2 hours, you are healthy enough.
Hazards: Narrow pathways through the bush sometimes on an incline.

Hope to see you there! For more information and to sign up contact Martin Legemaate at:
Email: creationresearchontario@hotmail.com

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