

CREATION NEWS

CREATION RESEARCH

By Christ - For Christ

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CREATION DISCOVERY CENTRE OBTAINS PERMANENT SITE

Exciting news as the CDC (Tasmania) has formally taken over a main street property in Beaconsfield Tasmania, thanks to assistance from a donor. This will give us more security in location and much more room to build a significant museum that declares the truth of biblical creation to Australians and the many visitors who visit the state. We have engaged a Christian architect and builder who met on site with the CDC team in October to discuss next steps.



CDC Board in on-site discussion with architect and builder at the rear of the large site in Beaconsfield.

There is a small building on the site, (previously named Evolution Hair and Beauty), but the plan is to substantially extend this to include shop space, extensive museum display areas, a workshop and museum specimen store. This is where we will need your support to make it a reality. We already have many displays, including in storage that the current centre cannot fit but we need finances for building, builders, volunteers, and equipment donations for example. More information will be provided once plans have advanced further but if this is something you would like to help with contact Craig Hawkins on 0487 343348.

The importance of these centres was demonstrated when a family visiting from Hong Kong stumbled into the Creation Discovery Centre in August. After hearing various evidence, their interest grew to the point that the mother, who admitted they were not 'church goers', exclaimed "I feel inspired that God is telling me to read the Bible". They became so interested a photo of our meeting was requested.



Donations direct to the Creation Discovery Centre can be made to:

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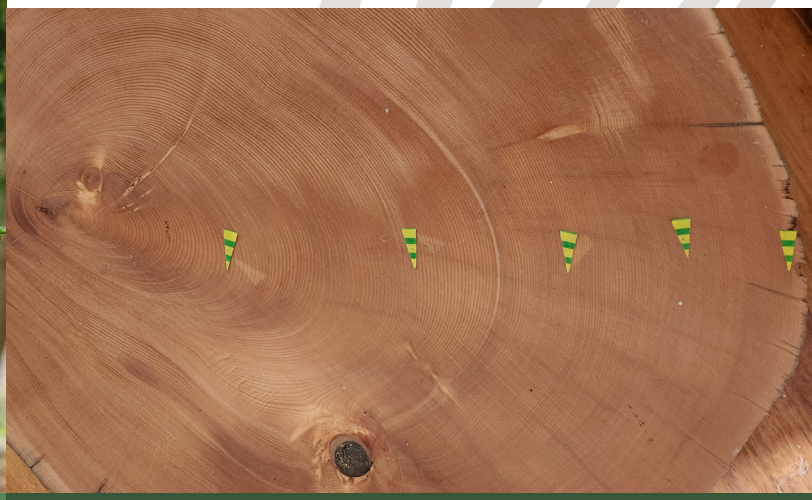
DOES A 10,000 YEAR OLD HUON PINE STAND DISPROVE A GLOBAL FLOOD?

Huon Pine (*Lagarostrobus franklinii*) is a beautiful temperate rainforest tree only found in Tasmania, Australia. It is highly sought after as a beautiful timber for boats and furniture, but availability has declined as remaining stands are protected in conservation reserves. It is a member of the Podocarpaceae family of conifers and has a distinct smell in its timber caused by the presence of Methyl eugenol, a chemical that causes it to be highly resistant to insect attack and decay. As a result, individuals of the species are among the oldest known living plants on earth. But how old are they?

One stand on Mt Read, in western Tasmania has been reported as 10,000 years old which would be impossible within a Biblical worldwide flood understanding as they should have all been destroyed in that event approximately 4500 years ago. Huon Pine has distinct growth rings often very close together due to its slow growth. They are known to produce 'false' rings or inter-season rings which can throw off age estimates if not properly accounted for, especially in the lowland trees. The Mt Read stand, however, is at the highest elevation known for the species, at 1000m (3280ft) and the rings are believed to consistently represent annual growth.

Another capacity of Huon Pine is vegetative cloning which enables the establishment of new trees from roots, fallen stems or branches drooping onto the ground. The Mount Read stand, is 90% genetically identical [1]. An area of about 1.5ha is actually a vegetatively cloned group of just one male individual and therefore registers as one of the largest living organisms on the planet. It is remote from other stands of Huon Pine so sexual reproduction is restricted in the location.



An almost 300 yr old slice of Huon Pine held by Creation Discovery Centre Tasmania. The markers indicate approx. 50yr intervals. This tree was growing before Europeans settled Australia.

So how was the 10,000 year old age assigned to the stand? No individual tree at Mt Read is older than 1500 years based on dendrochronology (study of growth rings) which can be obtained by drill-coring a stem. In fact the oldest known Huon Pine tree anywhere is about 2700 years old, with one report of up to 3700 years for a tree[2]. The age of the Mt Read stand has been obtained by dating Huon Pine pollen in nearby Lake Johnston from glacial sediments believed to have been laid down at the last glacial maximum about 10,000years ago.[2]

Huon Pine males produce mass amounts of pollen from their numerous tiny cones every 5-7 years. The pollen is known to be readily transported by water and the downstream lake has no other likely sources of Huon Pine pollen which suggests (quite reasonably) that it came from the pollen producing, male dominated stand upstream. 10,000 years is the inferred date given to cores of lake sediments the pollen is found in, using Carbon-14 dating. That becomes highly questionable as it is based on numerous assumptions about the past. For example, if Carbon-14 production on earth was accelerated after the global flood, the amount of Carbon-14 available in the environment would be much lower in the centuries following the flood than it is today. Therefore, any modern measurements not taking that into



Huon Pine Male Cones

consideration would significantly overestimate ages. For more details regarding Carbon-14 dating problems see www.askjohnmackay.com (search "Carbon 14"). Using the more reliable method of tree-ring counting it is incredibly interesting that this ancient, rot resistant tree species, has not been found older than 4,000 years, completely consistent with Biblical history!

References:

1. Shapcott A (1997) Population genetics of the long-lived Huon pine Lagarostrobos franklinii: An endemic Tasmanian temperate rainforest tree. Biol. Cons. 80(2)
2. Anker et al (2001) Holocene Vegetation and Paleoclimatic and Paleomagnetic History from Lake Johnston, Tasmania. Quaternary Research 56, 264–274.

CHANGE BUT NOT EVOLUTION

The Crucifix Orchid is a common garden plant in Australia. It copes with dry weather, wet weather and plenty of sunshine. Many years ago at Jurassic Ark, we were given lots of Crucifix orchids, and our director John Mackay added his own plants to the mix.



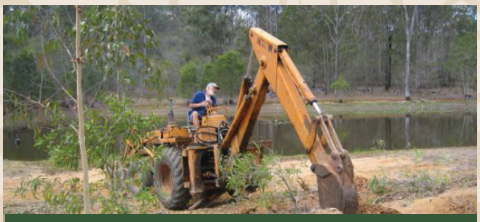
An interesting thing to note about Crucifix Orchids is regardless of what colour you plant, they can produce multiple variants from the same original. Recent flowering at Jurassic Ark revealed red and pink flowers on the same individual (picture). The commonest colours are orange or red, however give long enough these varieties can produce white, yellow and purple varieties. None of this is evolution nor even adaptation to cope with changing circumstance. Such changes occur in all environments and are merely variation within a kind, whose only purpose seems to be giving delight to the eye of humans, which Genesis says is one reason God created plants for. John Mackay has grown Crucifix orchids since he was a boy and says they still do exactly the same. Such changes are often referred to as evolution by teachers and textbooks, but they are nothing of the sort. Variation within a kind is a 'best mechanism' by which plants survive widely changing circumstances, and what a very pretty and pleasing way of doing it.



CREATION RESEARCH AT JURASSIC ARK

Text and Photography by John Mackay (© 2026)

HISTORY OF FIND: My Queensland University geology degree began with my lecturer stating; *"We are not here to discuss such rubbish as creation or Noah's flood"*. Yet the entrance to the science building had *'Let there be light'* inscribed over the door ... a verse from the Bible. The contradiction was glaring. But why? And what would the evidence for a creation or catastrophic flood be? This brief research article on Jurassic Ark continues to expose the answer!



2005

Fossil wood was first found at this site when a dam was excavated. John Mackay soon started bringing groups there to collect samples of petrified wood. In 2005 serious excavation began (*left*) exposing a large number of fossil logs of all sizes. This became the basis of today's 10 hectares of Jurassic Ark with its fossil trees, dinosaur displays, labs, living fossil gardens and Bible teaching murals.

CATASTROPHIC: Geologist Liam Fromyhr (*right*) explains to a media reporter why our pine tree fossils are a catastrophic deposit. John Mackay had visited and photographed (*below left*) the results of a major flood in Western Canada which had caused a pine forest on a mountain side to collapse in to a river. By the time the logs reached the river mouth, they had eroded to match the features of our fossil pine log deposit (*below centre*), which is therefore rightly called a flood deposit.



Liam Fromyhr



Canadian Log Jam

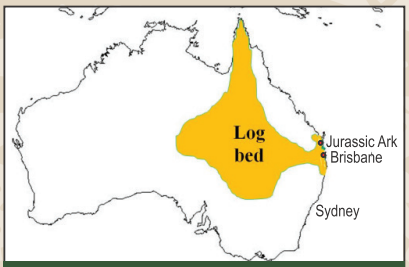


Abraded Logs Canada



Jurassic Ark Abraded Fossil Pines

The sketch (*right*) was done by Liam to show distribution of our fossil trees. All sizes are present and rest on a rock/boulder bed whose constituents range in size from gravel to bowling ball, up to one metre across. Liam's analysis shows the rocks/boulders came from up to 200km away.



Sketch Map

THESIS 1: A large forest of conifer trees was demolished, then washed in a roughly NE-SW direction. During this movement trees were stripped of leaves and branches, debarked, buried rapidly then squashed. This site continues to illustrate 'we can recognize a catastrophic flood deposit'. Any final thesis on this deposit has to account for the huge size of the bed and the vast number of fossil trees in the bed. (*right*)

Your prayers and support make this research possible. See details in newsletter!
VISIT Jurassic Ark! For information see: www.creationresearch.net/Museums click Jurassic Ark

AN EXCITING MAGNETIC FIND



Daryl Brenton



1 Magnetized Wood

DISCOVERY: Our Jurassic Ark curator Daryl Brenton discovered some fossils at this site were magnetic by simply testing them with magnets (*picture 1 & 2*). To date, no fossil leaves or isolated blobs of resin (amber) have been found, nor do any iron rich concretions show magnetism. Our testing has shown this magnetic phenomenon is found throughout our tree bed and is strongest on broken logs where resin has leaked (*picture 2*). RESIN is a sticky insoluble liquid produced by conifer trees to cover injuries and to protect trees from insects or pathogens.



2 Magnetized Resin

Our logs are mostly devoid of bark (*picture 3*). The bed also contains a well-preserved fossil bunya seed and unusual petrified pods (*picture 4*). The fossil log bed contains petrified broken tree fragments, but only one separated sheet of bark is known (*picture 6*). The wild mix of fossils at this sites continues to illustrate 'we can recognize a catastrophic flood deposit'. Soils excavated at the dig site were used to make an impressive "living fossil" garden of fossil plants found in these beds, particularly conifers (Bunya, Hoop and Wollemi Pines).





3 Debarked Squashed Conifer Logs

THESIS 2: Freshly smashed conifer logs from an unknown location were transported an unknown distance, then dumped and buried in associated sediments and mineral rich water (including salt). Leaves, bark, seeds, branches etc. had been mostly removed from the trees before deposition. Petrified logs are usually vertically squashed (*picture 8*) regardless of size or thickness. Wherever dumped debarked logs cracked, they leaked resin. Both resin and wood gained magnetite. The evidence of catastrophic water-based activity at this site grows.

THE COMMON CLAIM THAT EVOLUTION IS THE BASIS OF ALL SCIENCE AND NO REAL RESEARCH OR SCIENCE IS POSSIBLE BASED ON CREATION OR THE FLOOD IS PROVABLY FALSE.

COMPLEX CHEMISTRY: Samples of the magnet attracting petrified resin/wood have been examined with a scanning electron microscope confirming they contain magnetite. Magnetite deposition in conifers suggests complicated chemistry which has not yet been proven.



4 Bunya Seed

Magnetite (Fe_3O_4) formation results by mixing an iron (II) salt (eg. $FeSO_4$ or $FeCl_2$) with an alkaline solution (eg. *Sodium/potassium hydroxide NaOH*). The sequence of iron and alkaline solutions penetrating the conifers to enable the chemical reactions to occur is unclear, but the mixing process must be complex. Iron salts in acidic solutions are known to arise from volcanic activity but so can the alkaline hydroxides, for example in saltwater geysers. The combination of these ingredients infiltrating the conifers to form magnetite has occurred in a complex chemical soup with lots of water.



5 Pod?

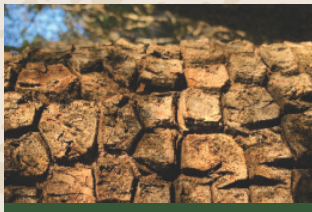
High Sodium Chloride (NaCl) concentrations (as in saltwater, also produced by underwater geysers) are likely important to the process as it would cause the magnetite formation to slow down producing larger magnetite crystals like those found in our fossil material. The NaCl would also allow iron to stay in acidic solution longer rather than being precipitated as magnetite particles immediately on contact with the alkaline environment. Therefore, iron could have been deposited deep into the wood/resin before crystalising as magnetite.

The trees in which magnetite is found have been smashed, debarked, rounded and include resin from injury. As both timber and resin have magnetite present, injury logically occurred before the chemical reactions took place.



6 Bark Fossil

These are simplified scenarios in what would be complex interactions but, in any case, lots of water, mixing of chemicals and possibly heat (e.g. from volcanic activity) is required. The biblical flood provides all of the necessary processes from the tearing up of forests early in the flood year, a traumatic watery environment with complex chemical mixes and multiple progressions of volcanic effusions. Jurassic Ark really is providing us with some incredible scientific insights so continue to pray that we discover more evidence based on Biblical truth as we continue this research.



7 Bark on Tree

This complex chemistry is yet another example that real research is possible based on creation and the flood!



8

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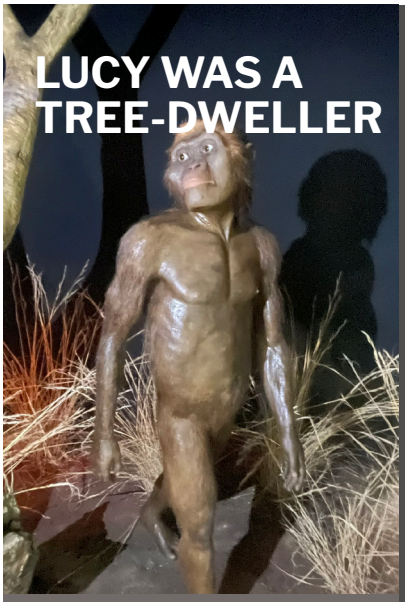
CREATION HEADLINES

LUCY WAS A TREE-DWELLER



A false depiction of upright walking 'Lucy' at Denver Museum of Science and Nature (2025).

The most famous supposed human ancestor "Lucy" an Australopithecine (southern ape) has been invariably presented in museums and science publications as an upright walking 'ape-man' - an early relative of modern humans. They have been widely believed to be ground dwellers rather than tree dwellers. In recent years, this has unraveled as evidence mounts, they were not much different to modern chimpanzees, knuckle-walking tree-dwellers. A recent report in Science Advances has added further weight to their chimp-like status by looking at relative limb strengths of apes versus humans. They found the Australopithecines *"exhibit African ape-like interlimb strength proportions, indicating frequent arboreal behaviour"*. They also note how humans' legs suddenly adapted to land-based living. Incredible to think that chimps have always been chimps and humans always humans!

Reference:
Carlson et al. (2026) Proportional limb strengths signal an adaptive shift in arboreality in early human evolution. Sci. Adv. 12(38).

DID ANIMALS EVOLVE 200 MILLION YEARS EARLIER THAN THOUGHT?



Ediacaran Fossil - South Australian Museum. Supposed earliest organisms.

A new study using molecular clock estimates has suggested that the original evolution of animals should be put back another 200 million years [1]. The first thing an evolution sceptic might ask is, what has happened to the mass of so-called science on the geological column that has proven the history of evolution? Do we just discard it now and add on another 200 million years? One commentator on the research admits that animals may have existed at the same time as the oldest rock layers (like the Ediacaran) that don't have examples of them because: *"Fossils can be absent from rocks for several reasons, including because scientists are looking in the wrong places or the conditions were unsuitable for creating fossils, making it difficult to determine the earliest evolved animals.*[2]*"* Creationists have long argued that different environments containing different organisms, buried at various stages of the flood means you won't necessarily find them buried together (e.g. dinosaurs and people, sharks and kangaroos). The fact is that scientists are not finding earlier stages of evolving 'higher' animals because they don't exist. It won't matter how many more millions of years they need to add on, they won't find them.

References:
1. Durbin et al. (2026) Re-evaluating molecular clock maximum age calibrations revives pre-Ediacaran divergence estimates for animals. Sci. Adv. 12(40)
2. Livescience News 3 October 2026

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BIBLICAL BIOLOGY IN BAMBOOZLING BUTTERFLIES

If God made everything very good, with no predators, why do some living things have features that seem designed to avoid predators? With their unpredictable flight paths, butterflies are very hard to catch despite being highly visible. Exeter University tested a theory that their high contrast patterns and wing movements give the impression they are moving in different directions to where they're going. This illusion is like the "barber pole" effect where a rotating pole with high contrast spiral stripes, gives the impression of stripes moving up the pole.

Butterflies were filmed with high-speed cameras to see what their patterns would look like to a bird. The researchers concluded: "Our results show that butterfly wing patterns and flight dynamics create powerful illusory motion effects, potentially representing one of the most successful visual defence strategies in moving animals." (*Nature 30 Sept 2026*)

This may be an effective way to avoid being eaten but it does not explain how it came about. Evolutionists claim such defences arose by natural selection, but selection can only work on features that already exist. Therefore, those already camouflaged will survive, but where did the genetic information came from? It had to be put there by a creative designer who is outside the butterflies and could see the results of inserting genes for colour and patterns ahead of time.

Why would there be camouflage in the original very good world with no predators? This is where we need to think outside the evolutionary box and into Biblical biology. This issue is not just creative design versus evolution, but understanding real history and how it has affected the living world. God created fully functioning living things with features that had purpose. In many instances we still do not know all of those purposes.

Sadly, the "very good" world has been degraded by human sin and God's judgment. The struggle for life and survival of fittest became real processes, but they will not make anything evolve. After Noah's flood, God gave people permission to hunt and kill animals for food, and animals did the same as they struggled in the rapidly degenerating environment. Animals that already had features that made them harder to capture had a better chance of surviving.

Could those features have had some other function useful in the very good world? Chameleons have amazing camouflage, but their brilliant colour changes do have other useful purposes such as for communication and finding mates. Useful in both a good or degenerate world. Geometric patterns in the West African gaboon viper, a master of disguise capable of ambushing prey, have other purposes. Their "ultra-black" banding has complex microscopic structures which guides sunlight deep into the scale where it is absorbed by the pigment. These dark bands are beautifully designed for thermoregulation – a useful function in the very good world.

Motion confusion butterflies are beautiful, a feature of the very good world. God loves beauty and has provided it for human beings to enjoy and give thanks for. The movement of highly patterned butterflies has enabled them to survive in the fallen world, God's provision for their important ongoing function in ecology. Perhaps these features also have other purposes that we have not yet discovered.

The Creator, our Lord Jesus Christ, knew the world would go downhill when sin impacted it, so he made provision for living things to survive and function until He brings about the new creation. Give thanks for this, but greater thanks He also had a plan of salvation to deal with the reason we live in a world of struggle and predation – human sin. Jesus came to earth to die on a cross to pay for that sin, rose from the grave and offers new life to all who put their faith in Him. Remember that as you delight in the beauty of butterflies and other wonderful living things God has made.



Swallowtail Butterfly



Previously held in both Dorset and Yorkshire now, we're headed to the Isle of Dinosaurs. Get ready for fossil hunting, dinosaur digs, geology, evening seminars, and fossil prep workshops, all hosted at the Westbrook Centre. (See accommodation details online).

The Isle of Wight is incredibly diverse geologically, with Ice Age remains and fossils in the north, a band of chalk through the middle, and the famed 'Dinosaur Coast' in the south. It is the sixth-best location globally for diversity of dinosaur fossils, and the most important in Europe! We will investigate the evidence for a worldwide flood in one location, with fossil flood evidence from dinosaurs, footprints, log jams, and crocodiles, to trees, seashells, and even hazelnuts – known as 'Noah's Nuts!' The southern latitude also helps with the weather – 2% warmer than the rest of the UK, and more sunshine!

Don't miss this opportunity! For more information and tickets see: www.creationresearchuk.com

DIGGING DEEPER CONFERENCE - UK

Our Digging Deeper conference was a successful event in Oswestry. Attendance has increased each year since we started in 2024. Many thanks to all who came, and for speakers – Simon Turpin (Answers in Genesis), Andy McIntosh (Truth in Science), Joe Hubbard and Dr Diane Eager (Creation Research). We are also grateful to Prof. Andy McIntosh and others who stayed on for our evening event at the Creation Research Centre. It was a great time of fellowship and digging even deeper with Andy.



Joseph Hubbard

RESTRICTING THE CREATOR

A sceptic came into the Creation Discovery Centre recently confidently stating there are not enough words available for God to name all the stars as scripture claims. The Psalmist says: *"He tells the number of the stars; he calls them all by their names"* (Ps 147:4). NASA reports up to 1 septillion stars exist in the universe which is a one followed by 24 zeroes. The vastness of the universe and sheer numbers of stars are beyond our comprehension. Yet our creator God is by definition greater than his creation. A characteristic of man's fallen human condition is to rebel against any notion there is a greater mind than ours out there. The claim of our sceptic visitor is really just an expression of the limitation of our own vocabulary and minds. God is not restricted to making names ten English letters or fewer.

When we consider the names God gives always have meaning, then we are over-awed with the breadth of his understanding as he names each star. How can we understand a septillion meanings? How can we know a God of this magnitude and power? Only because he reaches down to us, walking in the garden with Adam and Eve, telling us his plans in advance through chosen people and of course, most powerfully, by expressing His love through the knowable person and reality of Jesus Christ. May we humble our hearts before the Lord, acknowledge his power and majesty and be thankful for his great love expressed in the gift of eternal life available through faith in the work of Jesus, who IS the creator.

CREATION RESEARCH

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