

# CREATION

Vol. 18 No. 3 February 2014



Journal of the CREATION SCIENCE MOVEMENT

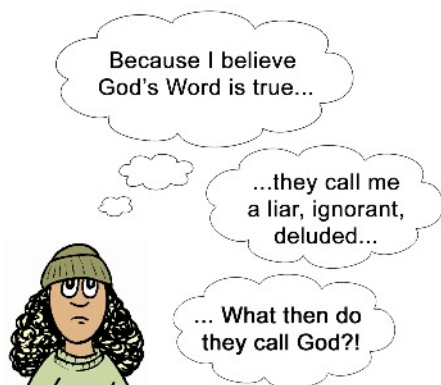
## Defending the Truth

A new breed of theistic evolutionist (TE) seems to be emerging, and they are very active on Facebook and blogs. They are not content to merely say that biblical creation is an eccentric alternative view to the widely accepted belief that ‘God created through evolution’. They want to go much further, and they are very active about it, viewing biblical creationism as a plague. Almost like the ‘New Atheists’, they are not content to ignore the issue but determined that everyone should come to share their view. Examples are Dennis Alexander’s book *‘Creation or Evolution: Do we have to choose?’*, *CG Science* on Facebook and the *godofevolution* blog. These professed Christian believers do not merely disagree with young earth creationists (YECs) but regard them as a serious problem. They either fail to notice or are relaxed about the obvious comfort their attacks on biblical creationists give to the atheists who post approving messages on their websites.

How should biblical creationists respond to these professed believers who apparently side with Richard Dawkins and Brian Cox etc? We can’t ignore them as they won’t ignore us. They call us liars, ignorant, deluded, poisoners of the Gospel, even

idolaters. See [www.godofevolution.com](http://www.godofevolution.com) for details (caution: this site contains material that biblical creationists will likely find offensive). I assume that their target is not so much the open biblical creationists like myself, but the undecided, brother and sister Christians who are uncertain about what to believe and are trying to make their minds up. The TE message is clear: don’t go anywhere near biblical creationists or their arguments, it will damage your faith. They say that we are ignorant, confused, illogical people whose message that the Genesis creation account and related Scriptures are true is turning potential penitents away from the Gospel.

These are grave charges which must be answered thoughtfully. I have addressed some of the issues to the best of my ability



in the essay *'Is Creationism divisive?'* which is published on CSM's website and my [www.questiondarwin.com](http://www.questiondarwin.com) site.

I have posed here ten mainly theological questions\* that may be addressed to theistic evolutionists, particularly if they style themselves as evangelical Christians as some do. I begin with a disclaimer.

## Ground Rules

*A) Salvation is the free gift of God (Romans 6:23) and does not depend on perfect doctrinal correctness on origins or any other issue. Salvation depends on responding in faith and obedience to the grace of God in Christ. If you are a genuine believer, justified by grace (Ephesians 2:8-9) and adopted into God's family (Romans 8), holding an erroneous position on the creation/evolution divide will not stop you entering heaven. Likewise, if you refuse the grace of God and remain an impenitent sinner, holding a technically correct view on this subject will not save you from the coming Judgment.*

*B) Impugning the motives of opponents in a debate is unhelpful. We are called to bless, not curse. I ask for forgiveness for the times when I have failed to live up to this standard.*

*C) The Bible is the rule and final arbiter of faith for Christians. Although our understanding is imperfect (1 Corinthians 13:9-13, 2 Peter 3:16) we hold that the Scriptures are inspired by the Holy Spirit and are both necessary and sufficient (2 Timothy 3:16) to guide us in this sin-cursed world where dangerous false teachers have infiltrated the church (2 Peter 2: 1-3).*

1. If God created by means of the Darwinian evolutionary process as it is generally accepted and taught, i.e. by natural selection acting on random mutations over many millions of years, why did He give us a creation account that in a plain reading says He did it in six normal length days? Please note, Moses was clear that the days of creation were regular 24 hour days, see Exodus 20: 11.

2. Since the miracles of Jesus and other miracles documented in both Old and New Testaments happened near-instantaneously in response to a divine word of command, why would God have used an unrecognisably different kind of process over billions of years to create the heavens and the earth?

3. If evolution is of God, why did it take an unbeliever to enlighten believers?

4. If God created through a process involving billions of animals starving, fighting, suffering birth defects and other diseases and killing each other, then why did God call this 'good' and 'very good' (a phrase that occurs multiple times in the creation account)?

5. Where are the popular hymns and worship songs praising God for random mutation and natural selection? Many songs praise God for creation, none that I have ever come across praise Him for evolution.

6. If creation through evolution reveals the glory of God, why have so many people abandoned Christianity as a result of accepting Evolution and millions of years? As an example of this logical progression from

Darwinism to atheism, read the poem 'The Respectable Burgher on the Higher Criticism' by the writer Thomas Hardy, who abandoned Christianity after reading Darwin.

7. What is the worst thing that could happen if we, in good faith and based on a plain reading of the Bible, mistakenly believe in biblical creation if, for argument's sake, it is wrong?

8. What is the worst thing that could happen if we mistakenly accept molecules to man evolution and millions of years if, for argument's sake, *that* is wrong?

9. If there was no worldwide Noah flood, why did Jesus (Matthew 24:37) and Peter (2 Peter 3:5) both refer to it as a real and exemplary fact of history which was linked to the coming universal Judgment?

10. What is the difference between theistic evolution and atheistic evolution? Specifically, if TEs believe 'God created through evolution' then what features (if any) of the standard evolutionary narrative look different to a purely materialistic process because 'God did it'?

Where two sides take an opposite view, both cannot be right. The essence of the Christian religion is that we are sinners who need to get right with God through repentance and faith in the Christ whom God has sent. We cannot do this unless we dare to acknowledge that we might be wrong. TEs assert that biblical creationists are wrong and should examine both ourselves and the evidence, admit fault and change. We ask them to do the same.

**\*Postscript:** The science issues around Evolution are addressed elsewhere, this discussion is mainly about theology. Suffice it to say for now that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ dwells outside of time and possesses and disposes of unlimited power and wisdom, therefore the most stupendous miracles, for example raising the dead, are an intrinsic part of His divine nature. What is impossible with men is possible with God (Luke 18:27). God is not limited by the laws of physics or any precondition that we may set upon Him, and was an eyewitness to the Creation, however it occurred. It therefore follows that if a trustworthy God has revealed the truth about His creation, any asserted scientific fact, argument or interpretation that makes God out to be a liar must be either wrong or misunderstood.

*SH*

## The Brain Drain

Undoubtedly the most complex organ in the human body is the brain. And even though we are all intimately aware of our brains, scientists are still finding out new and surprising facts about how it works.

In mid October the BBC News website (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-24567412>) reported on the amazing discovery that our brain cells shrink whilst we are asleep. This shrinkage opens up gaps between neurons, allowing fluid to wash the brain clean of toxins such as  $\beta$  amyloid that have built up during wakeful hours. So one of the fundamental reasons for sleep is to permit us to have a good mental wash and brush up.

The website article reported on the work of a team based at the University of Rochester, USA. Their research was published in a technical article in *Science* journal where they note, "conservation of sleep across all animal species suggests that sleep serves a vital function. We here report that sleep has a critical function in ensuring metabolic homeostasis...we show that natural sleep or anesthesia are associated with a 60% increase in the interstitial space, resulting in a striking increase in convective exchange of cerebrospinal fluid with interstitial fluid... Thus, the restorative function of sleep may be a consequence of the enhanced removal of potentially neurotoxic waste products that accumulate in the awake central nervous system".

One has to ask: if the activity of the brain during its waking hours produces substances that are toxic, in the absence of an effective cleansing process how long could the brain survive before the toxins accumulated to the point where it became poisoned and died? Furthermore, if the removal of harmful waste products is essential, how can this be achieved whilst the brain is in a fully active state?

Clearly this indicates the existence of an array of essential mechanisms that must intermesh very closely for the brain to continue to survive. The ability to enter an "offline" state where maintenance is possible must go hand-in-hand with a mechanism to facilitate the removal of the waste products and then, once the cleansing has been achieved, a feedback mechanism to declare that it has been done; the brain must have an ability to detect this signal even when in a sleeping state, and



finally it must have the ability to regain wakefulness when required. If all these factors didn't work together then the brain would be doomed either to death by toxins or death through permanent sleep. Could this vital array of mechanisms have developed very gradually, over millions of years? Or does it sound more like it was deliberately designed? Before you answer, we suggest you sleep on it.

RC

## Oil from algae

On 18 December *Science Daily* (<http://goo.gl/gQATuw>) reported the astounding news that engineers had developed a process for turning algae into crude oil. The process takes less than one hour and can be done on a continuous basis, a pre-requisite for endeavours to scale-up successfully to full commercial production.

At the US Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, a slurry of wet algae was pumped into a chemical reactor where it was subjected to very hot water under high pressure to tear apart the biomass and convert most of it into liquid and gas fuels. Once the system is up and running, crude oil is produced in less than an hour, along with water and a byproduct of material containing phosphorus that can be recycled to grow more algae. With additional conventional refining, the crude algae oil can be converted into aviation fuel, gasoline or diesel fuel. The waste water can also be processed further, yielding burnable gas and substances containing potassium and nitrogen. These, along with the cleansed water, can be recycled to grow more algae. The system runs at a temperature of about 350C and a pressure of around 3,000 PSI, combining processes known as hydrothermal liquefaction and catalytic hydrothermal gasification.

Douglas Elliott, the laboratory fellow who led the PNNL team's research, was reported as saying "It's a bit like using a pressure cooker, only the pressures and temperatures we use are much higher. In a sense, we are duplicating the process in the Earth that converted algae into oil over the course of millions of years. We're just doing it much, much faster." Really? Surely geological processes are also capable of attaining pressures and temperatures of this magnitude, so why should the production of oil in nature take anything like as long as millions of years? It seems much more reasonable to conclude that the long ages required by evolutionist dogma have simply never existed.

This is not the first time the PNNL has demonstrated that processes claimed to

take millions of years can be accomplished far more rapidly. In 2005 they showed that in optimal conditions wood can be fossilised in just a few days (see <http://goo.gl/70p3IM>).

RC

## Graceful and deadly

Mention seahorses and one thinks of slow, stately, graceful and delicate creatures. But in fact these fishes are active predators, capturing extremely fast moving prey with a very high success rate. How do they do it?

In November the BBC News website (see <http://goo.gl/ZWH18Q>) reported on the findings of a research team at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. The



Seahorses: slow, stealthy but deadly predators. Image: CSM.

team had studied the dwarf seahorse, *Hippocampus zosterae*, which feeds on copepods.

Seahorses utilise a method known as pivot feeding. Their arched necks act like a spring, allowing them to rotate their heads rapidly and suck their prey in. But this suction only works at short distances - their effective strike range is only about 1mm. And a strike happens in less than 1 millisecond. How do seahorses manage to approach their prey so closely without being detected? Using 3D holography - a technique where a microscope is fitted with a laser and a high-speed digital camera - the team studied the movement of water around the seahorse. They found that the seahorse's snout is shaped to minimise the disturbance of water in front of its mouth before it strikes. Furthermore, above and in front of its nostrils is a "no wake zone" and it angles its head very precisely to attack its prey, producing a strike success rate of about 90%.

All this sounds rather like the seahorse was deliberately designed. If it evolved over countless millions of years, how did such a famously slow swimmer manage to survive without starving until its special features had developed?

RC

## Cuttings & Comments from **New Scientist**

by *Dr David Rosevear*

**5 October p.7 – Oh God, Texas**

(Please don't blame me for the blasphemy, I only report.)

**“If creationists in Texas get their way, high school students throughout the US could soon be reading biology textbooks that falsely cast doubt on the scientific validity of evolution.”**

Will the 15-strong Texas State Board of Education accept new textbooks that contain, horror of horrors, creationist arguments undermining the scientific case for evolution? About a third of the board have sought to introduce amendments questioning evolution. After California, Texas is the largest state purchaser of school books **“so versions sold in the state would likely be sold in many other states too. ‘Texas could contaminate the education products sold in the rest of the country,’ says Dan Quinn of the Texas Freedom Network.”**

Looks like they've got their idea of Freedom wrong, as well as their science!

**5 October p.11 – How to grow the hardest teeth in the sea**

**“The chiton’s [molluscs] black metallic teeth are made of magnetite, an iron oxide used in electronics and medical devices. Making magnetite often requires high temperatures, pressures or acidity – but the chiton does it in its**



One of the more colourful species of chiton is *Crytoconchus porosus*, the Butterfly Chiton, from New Zealand. Image: G. Bould, in the public domain.

**mouth...Better knowledge of chiton biology could spur manufacturing...it could be a revolutionary way to produce things.”**

This fingernail-sized creature has the hardest teeth known, though it only feeds on algae. Man must now strive to copy the Lord’s creation.

**12 October p.16 – The bird that stays airborne for six months at a time**

**“Alpine swifts spend more than six consecutive months aloft, not even resting after migrating to north Africa following their breeding season in Europe... Liechi and his colleagues attached 1.5 gram data loggers to three alpine swifts (*Tachymarptis melba*) at a Swiss breeding site and recaptured the birds the following year. The loggers recorded the birds’ acceleration and geographic location. The measurements suggest that for 200 days, all three swifts remained airborne while migrating to and wintering in Africa, implying that the birds can sleep on the wing.”**

It had been previously found that some birds can put half of their brain to sleep, keeping one eye open.

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works!

**19 October p.3 – First, get it wrong**

Our NS editor thinks that Genesis is superstition while evolution theory of origins is science.

So which of these is more closely in agreement with proven scientific laws?

- (a) Billions of years ago nothing exploded into everything, and dark matter that no one has ever detected caused the sub-atomic particles to coalesce into stars and galaxies, or
- (b) God has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His

wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by His discretion (Jer. 10:12)?

In this editorial, there is an admission that most neuroscience is unsound.

While doing test runs on the new brain scanner in 2009, a researcher placed a dead salmon in the machine. He was shocked to find that the fish brain and spinal column appeared to show signs of neural activity. (There was none, of course.)

**“The field is plagued by false positives and other problems. It is now clear that the majority – perhaps the vast majority – of neuroscience findings are as spurious as brain waves in a dead fish. (The main article on this appears on p.32).**

**“The problems are not exclusive to neuroscience. In 2005, epidemiologist [study of epidemics] John Ioannidis published a bombshell of a paper called *Why most published research findings are false*. In it he catalogued a litany of failures that undermine the reliability of science in general. His analysis concluded that at least half, and possibly a large majority, of published research is wrong. Ioannidis might have expected anger and denial, but his paper was well received...**

**“Things are by no means perfect now. Scientists are under immense pressure to make discoveries, so negative findings often go unreported, experiments are rarely replicated and data is often ‘tortured until it confesses’. But – thanks in no small part to Ioannidis’s brutal honesty – all of those issues are now out in the open and science is working to address them. The kerfuffle over neuroscience is just the latest chapter in a long-running saga.”**

One difficulty with the ‘science’ of evolution is that nothing can be replicated. We can’t make another big bang, nor make life from inanimate chemicals, and we

can't change one kind of creature into another. So it doesn't even qualify as 'science'.

### 19 October p.17 Brain cells that only love numbers

Three epilepsy patients at Stanford University (CA) with electrodes on the surface of their brains to record their activity, were studied.

**“Neurons fired in a region called the intraparietal sulcus when the three volunteers performed arithmetic tests, suggesting they dealt with numbers...**

**“Video footage of their stay revealed that the neurons remained virtually silent for most of the time, bursting into life only when the volunteers talked about numbers or numerical concepts such as ‘more than’ or ‘less than’.**

**“We show here that there is specialisation for numeracy.”**

### 19 October p.28 The selfish benefits of compassion.

Here is an interview with neurosurgeon Professor James Doty of Stanford University who founded the Centre for Compassion and Altruistic Research and Education (CCARE).

**“We can be healthier, live longer and make the world a better place by exploring our potential for compassionate behaviour.”**

Other benefits of being kind and caring are:

**“dramatic improvements in your personal relationships, significant decrease in inflammation, improvement in cardiac function and increase in your telomere length (the DNA that protects the ends of your chromosomes), which increases longevity.”**

We reported similar results in the last issue of *Creation* (*New Scientist* 13 July p.46) where these good outcomes were



Having compassion has medical advantages - in sharp contrast to the fanciful evolutionary benefits of the selfish gene. Image: S. Gjenero, www.rgbstock.com.

associated with the vagus nerve. Here Prof. Doty is saying you can train yourself to be more compassionate. Our God is full of compassion, and He promises that when we show compassion, we inherit a blessing (1 Peter 3:8-9).

### 26 October p.16 – Can one skull rejig our family tree?

In the previous *Creation* journal under *New Scientist* extracts & comments 13 July p.14 we noted that **“Recent discoveries (*A. seiba*) are forcing us to rethink our family history.”** We predicted that ‘the arguments will start all over again when the next new fossil ape is uncovered.’ Three months later our prediction has come to pass. The remains of five skulls of *H. Neanderthal*, together with tools, have been found at a site in Georgia in the Caucasus. One **“is the earliest intact skull of a human ancestor ever found”** and because of this find **“its discoverers argue that the human family tree should be pruned of many of its species.”** There is considerable variability in the shapes and sizes of these five specimens, but they also compared them with the varying measurements of modern human skulls and with fossil finds from Africa. The resulting



data showed that they all fall within the range for human skulls. **“The researchers say the hominin haul supports the idea that the many species of *Homo* thought to have coexisted during this period are, in fact, a single species – *H. erectus*... The team says they are all one species, meaning hominins like *H. habilis* and *H. rudolfensis* are, in fact, *H. erectus*.”** *H. seiba* referred to in July is not a separate species either.

Since *H. erectus* is simply a human also, we are left without a family tree. There are human remains and there are extinct apes, australopithecines. Each reproduced according to its kind, as Genesis says.

### **2 November p.11 – Subterranean sleuth rules out dark matter suspects**

In last quarter’s *Creation* journal (*NS* 31 August p. 36 **Portraits of darkness**, the expectation was announced that Cold Dark Matter (CDM) would turn out to be Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs) that could be responsible for an unseen dark universe in our midst, matching the ‘real world’ particle for particle and force for force. WIMPs should react with normal matter and so be seen by a Xenon detector. This theory has been tested in a 1,500 metre deep former SA gold mine, using the LUX Xenon detector. **“If the previous strikes were genuine, it should have seen one every 80 minutes, on average. But the first results of three months of hunting, announced this week, find no firm evidence of dark matter, although they show that the detector is as sensitive as planned.”**

**“The darkness just keeps getting deeper. Despite tantalising early hints of a sighting, the most sensitive search yet for dark matter has come up empty. The result may spell trouble for theories of a**

### **shadow universe where myriad particles interact via their own dark forces.”**

CDM is a requirement of the big bang theory of the origin of the universe, as it would provide the gravitational pull needed for the initial explosion to form stars and galaxies. This set-back to the hunt for dark matter and WIMPs must still be pursued because the alternative to the theory is a God-made young universe, and that is unscientific!

### **9 November p.30 - Letters**

Here, surprisingly, is a letter from a reader of *New Scientist* critical of ‘evolution of life’, calling it chemistry gone mad. DNA cannot build itself up over 13 billion years in the face of naturally increasing randomisation (entropy).

### **9 November p.32 - The forgotten force**

**“When it comes to the cosmos, gravity is the big attraction. The same force that keeps our feet on the ground also shapes the universe. It takes clouds of gas and sculpts them into planets and stars. It fashions hundreds of billions of stars into galaxies, which clump together to form clusters, then superclusters. Yet gravity isn’t the only player in the game – another force operates across the cosmic landscape, and that is magnetism.”**

This description, of course, assumes the big bang theory, making energy and matter, along with laws of physics that give these properties of gravity and magnetism to the matter. But time is not the hero of this scenario, as the above letter of 9 November points out. Time works against such increasing order. Properties do not create those things that possess those properties; any more than language, a property of humans, has made us.

**16 November p.12 – Simple algae take clumping leap of evolution**

Evolutionists try desperately to uncover details of every key step of their ‘science’, from the origin of life from inanimate matter to the change from apes to men. Here the step from single-celled life to multi-celled is optimistically heralded:

**“A key evolutionary jump has been witnessed in the lab. A single-celled alga has evolved a crude form of multicellularity in the lab – a configuration it never adopts in nature. It has given us a chance to replay one of life’s most important evolutionary leaps in real time.**

**“No single-celled organism we know of has evolved to become multicellular in the past 200 million years, so the process is difficult to study.”**

Workers grew 10 cultures of the alga *Clamydomonas reinhardtii*.

**“Every three days, they spun the cultures in a centrifuge and used the bottom tenth to found the next generation. Because clusters of cells settle faster than single ones, this meant that each generation was founded by algal cells that had a tendency to clump together.**

**“After about 50 such transfers, algal cells in one culture [of the 10] began to form clusters – the first step towards true multicellularity.**

**“Cells stuck together for hours as they settled, then broke apart into single cells again.”**

We call this ‘pseudo-scientific spin’ using a centrifuge. Multi-celled plants and animals are not made up of clumps of cells that then fall apart. They share cell walls with neighbouring cells to form organs.

**16 November p.46 – Written in your blood**

**“A single drop of your blood can reveal all kinds of deeply personal information about your lifestyle and your past.”**

Already, the sequence of one’s DNA can reveal sex, ethnicity, hair, skin and eye colour. It can hint at whether one is a risk-taker, an early bird, or has a behavioural disorder such as ADHD. This is because lifestyle, experiences and environmental factors cause labels (methyl groups) to be attached to our DNA as we go through life. Methylation doesn’t alter the underlying DNA sequences, but it can shut down nearby genes. These switches are on the epigenome, or non-protein-coding part of the DNA that until very recently was known by evolutionary geneticists as ‘junk DNA’.

**“But there are tens of millions of sites in the genome where methylation can occur, and no two individuals will have exactly the same pattern. This variation between individuals is at least partly to do with our lifestyles...The epigenome is a snapshot of the major events in your life.”**

One’s epigenome can reveal whether one is a smoker, or has been a smoker, has or has ever had cancer, and can even offer an idea of what one eats. With markers being added to over the years, they give a good idea of one’s age.

Blood at a crime scene may soon become a very detailed diagnostic tool. Further, insurance companies might also be after your blood.

It seems that the study of what was called ‘junk DNA’ will prove to be rather more reliable than phrenology or palm reading! Might epigeneticists set up their booths at fairgrounds or on the seaside piers – ‘Fortunes told here’?

But seriously, this epigenome, formerly labelled ‘junk’, is clearly the work of a Master Designer.

### 23 November p.36 – Are you thinking what I'm thinking...

Apes don't appear to have abstract thoughts, let alone express them. This *NS* cover story wonders at what point, in the long history of human evolution, our ancestors began to contemplate life, the universe and all that. Alison George is impressed by the brilliant rock paintings at the El Castillo cave in northern Spain, said to date from 150,000 BP.

**“My journey leads me to a hidden chamber so small that I have to lie down so as not to damage the images overhead. They are unlike anything I've ever seen – abstract art composed of large rectangles filled with lines and dots. There's a large cross made from small dots, and two rectangles overlying to make another cross. These geometric shapes are so intricate that it's hard not to imagine they conveyed some kind of information.”**

On the other hand, this may have been the children's play room complete with ochre crayons, in caves used by families to shelter during the ice age following the Flood. Besides the paintings (masterpieces compared with much modern art) there are items of jewellery and sculpture. **“...a weird upright bison figure is carved**



Artist's interpretation of one of the complex abstract cave paintings at El Castillo. Image: CSM.

**from the rock formation, and as we shine our torches on it, its silhouette seems to dance across the cave wall.”**

The progression in culture was **“perhaps the result of genetic mutations that swept through the human population and ultimately resulted in the modern mind.”** Or, perhaps not!

This assumed vastly beneficial mutation must have happened before our ancestors left Africa, they claim, because evidence of brilliance is found all over the world – not just in Europe. The Blombos cave in South Africa featured ostrich shell beads and blocks of ochre etched with geometric shapes. This symbolic art is put at 30,000 years earlier than that of the European art. My own recollection of ticking off the days on a calendar leading up to my demob from the Suez Canal zone in 1955 suggests that the dots and crosses on thousands of old bones and antlers may also have marked the passage of time spent in cold dark caves by *H. sapiens*.

As to culture, during the long life of the first man, Adam, his descendants bred cattle, handled the harp and organ, and worked brass and iron (Genesis 4). And all this just a few thousand years ago.

### 30 November p.8 – Inbreeding shaped human evolution

In recent years, geneticists have read the genomes of long-dead humans. These include Neanderthals that are described as **“extinct relatives”**. The genomes are said to be **“nearly error-free”**. These Neanderthal individuals were found to be severely inbred. Both copies of each gene were identical, indicating that their parents were closely related; probably siblings.

**“Those he has studied have a range of deformities, many of which are**

**rare in modern humans.”** They suffered from rickets. Yet their brains were bigger than ours.

These problems arise where small family groups are isolated. Migration would be difficult during the ice age. Evolutionists, because of their prejudice, assume that they were sub-human ancestors. The genomes studied show that there was interbreeding between Neanderthals and those labelled *Homo sapiens*, which means that they were all of one kind.

### **7 December p.10 – Memories passed down generations**

Lamarck’s theory that acquired characteristics could be inherited is no longer accepted by evolutionists. Yet with the recent discovery that the parts of the DNA that do not code for proteins, the epigenome, are not ‘junk’ but switches that control the genes, we are discovering a scientific mechanism for some of these observations.

Mice have been conditioned to associate the smell of cherry blossom with electrical shocks. Their offspring become jumpy when subjected to this smell. It is found that parts of the epigenome that affect genes controlling M71 smell receptors have markers (methyl groups) that are passed on in sperm to the pups. If the smell was associated with a real danger in the wild, the future generations would inherit the fear.

Of course, the mice are still mice. They have not evolved into another kind. The Creator doesn’t just care for sparrows. He cares for mice too, and even humans.

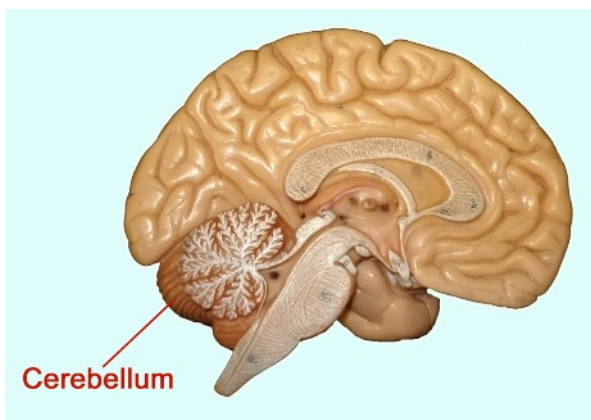
### **7 December p.18 – Male and female abilities mapped in the brain.**

Today it is politically correct to regard the sexes as not simply equal (as they are before their Maker) but the same. Here we read that: **“Women’s and men’s brains are wired differently, in ways that seem to match the stereotypes. The finding comes from a method of visualising brain connections, although it doesn’t give an idea of how the differences initially arose.”**

Have they not read that He that made them at the beginning made them male and female?

Researchers scanned the brains of 949 males and females between the ages of 8 and 22. **“They focussed on two regions: the cortex, involved in thought, perception and language, and the cerebellum, which coordinates movement.**

**“The left and right hemispheres of the cortex were much more connected with each other in females than males. But in males, each cerebellum had more links to the cortex on the opposite side of the brain than females. This favours connections that promote coordinated**



Model of cross-section of brain showing cerebellum. The latter’s linkages differ significantly between men and women. Image (slightly modified): S. Muskopf, Flickr, <http://goo.gl/dns0AM>, under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.0 Generic licence.

**movement – something males generally do faster in tests.”**

Like backing into a parking space?

**“The cortex link-up in females would promote communication between areas involved in analytical and verbal tasks and those for spatial and intuitive processing, the team says. Among other things, this could reflect a superior ability to process emotions and understand others’ intentions.”**

Of course, there is much variation between individuals of each gender.

*Vive la difference!*

**14 December p.12 – Deep Earth zombie bugs went global**

Researchers have looked for living organisms deep in the earth. They have found the same 19 microbes at depths of up to 2 kilometres, in dozens of places around the globe as remote from one another as North America, the Middle East and South-East Asia. **“It challenges the imagination to think of nearly identical microbes 16,000 kilometres apart [10,000 miles in old money] in the cracks of hard rock.”**

They have investigated mineshafts, wells and drilling rigs scattered around the world. These bugs have virtually the same DNA, but the puzzle is how they came to be so widespread. **“The team is flummoxed when it comes to explaining the find.”**

It can only surely be that they survived being buried in the sediments laid down in the worldwide Flood in the days of Noah.

**14 December p.34 – A breath of fresh air**

**“Two answers to the looming antibiotic crisis are all around us – in great supply and free of charge.”** They are fresh air and sunlight. Many bugs have become resistant to antibiotics by losing some of the shapes of active sites that allows the antibiotic to link on to them. The bugs remain the same

but have lost part of their shape and active sites (devolution). Now scientists are turning back to the old remedies championed by Nurse Florence Nightingale in the Crimean War. She had hospital wards built with large opening windows that caught the sunlight, and she had her patients’ beds wheeled out of doors. TB no longer spread between wounded soldiers on these wards.

**“Sunlight not only kills airborne bacteria and those on the skin, but also seems to kill TB microbes in the body by boosting production of vitamin D, which has effects on the immune system.”**

However, with the discovery of antibiotics, plus today’s need to conserve heat in buildings, this natural treatment was abandoned. Now with increasing resistance of bugs to antibiotics, we have discovered that UV light of 207nm wavelength will kill microbes but not harm human cells. A lamp has been developed to emit this. Our cells are too large for this light to penetrate and destroy the DNA. Bacteria, including MRSA that is resistant to antibiotics, are zapped by this high-energy light.

Fresh air also kills the infections, and it has now been found that hydroxyl radicals (.OH) oxidise and kill the germs. **“These short-lived molecules are constantly produced in the atmosphere through reactions between ozone and water, catalysed by airborne organic chemicals from plants.”**

Florence Nightingale wrote: **“The first canon of nursing, the first essential to the patient, is to keep the air he breathes as pure as the external air, without chilling him. Never be afraid to open windows.”**

As *NS* says, these two cures are abundant and free. Jehovah Jireh – the Lord provides.

**21/28 December p.10 – Earth’s first animals were made of jelly**

Sponges used to hold **“the accolade of being the most primitive creature (*sic*) to have existed; the one that gave rise to the rest of the animal kingdom. But their position at the very base of the tree of animal life is being challenged by the comb jelly.**

**“Yet comb jellies (or ctenophores) have a primitive nervous system, are hungry predators and have complex cells like nerves and precursor muscle cells. Sponges have none of these features.”**

Ryan’s team from Maryland, USA, have sequenced the genomes of five groups of ‘primitive’ animals, and this has provided the basis for claiming that comb jellies are the most basic of all.

**“If Ryan is correct and sponges came later, that would suggest they had lost**

**their nervous system as they evolved into more passive, sedentary animals.”**

Interesting!

A complex (and beautiful) creature is found at what is considered to be the base of the animal tree of life, and then devolves into something less complex. The fact that such things have genomes that code for their structures is clear evidence that all creatures great and small were designed by a Super-intelligence.

**21/28 December p.15 – Duck-billed dino had flashy cock’s comb**

**“True to its name, *Edmontosaurus regalis* had headgear fit for royalty. The flamboyant crest of the megaherbivore, which lived in herds across North America 72 million years ago, was uncovered quite by chance.**

**“*E. regalis* fossils normally show no sign of any kind of crest. He (Federico Fanti of Bologna) and his colleagues found the skeleton in the characteristic death pose, neck arched back towards its spine.”**

This shows that the creature was suddenly and painfully killed. The fleshy crest was discovered unexpectedly, since soft tissue normal decomposes on burial. Maybe 72 million years is an exaggeration!

**“The fleshy mound is 20 centimetres high. Together with the rest of the animal’s skin, it was preserved in a quick burial, which didn’t allow scavengers or bacteria to do much damage before it fossilised. The fossil offers no indication of colour ...”**

The great flood of Noah’s day covered not just North America but the whole world. It was sudden and violent, destroying the earth and every air-breathing animal. Mighty megaherbivores could hardly be buried suddenly by a team of grave-diggers!



Diverse species of comb jellies as depicted by Ernst Haeckel. Image in the public domain.

## 21/28 December p.40 – A man for all reason

In this interview with Richard Dawkins, **“the world’s most famous atheist”**, the 72-year-old Professor is asked, **“Would you rather be remembered for explaining science or taking on religion?”** He responds: **“To me they amount to the same thing – they are different sides of the same coin.”** He dismisses the large body of scientists who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth celebration is the reason for this *New Scientist* **“Christmas and New Year Special”**. As if in reply, the **Letters** page (p.44) carries a comment from a reader: **“For virtually the entire history of society, the default state of advanced thinkers was theistic. The astronomer and the heaven-watcher have almost always been the same person: the individual interested in big questions.** **“Let us not forget that at least three of the coveted seats at a certain celebrated event in a little town called Bethlehem went to ‘wise men from the east’, people the original text arguably identified as astronomers.** **Merry Christmas!”**

## Quote

"It amuses me how certain 'scientists' change their canon all the time to fit with new evidence, and yet God's word remains the same, He changes not! The truth is the truth is the truth. People are now running around trying to work out what is happening with modern weather, God already covered that in Romans 8:22. The bible is of extraterrestrial (from outside the earth) eternal origin (Isa. 46: 10); the universe as we observe it being restricted to

the physicality of time, will always therefore be subject to that origin."

AB

## Genesis Expo

The Genesis Expo, our free exhibition in Portsmouth, continues to attract visitors from a wide range of countries. The following is a selection of comments left in our visitors book over 2013:

*My son loves it here & was waiting for this to be reopened. We all had a great time. Thank you... Very interesting exhibition and bought some lovely gifts... Great to see 'Genesis Expo' reopened and confirming the absolute truth of the Bible and countering the Evolutionary fable... I came in to check out buying fossils; but left with a more open mind regarding evolution and intelligent creation... Thanks – keep up the good work. Ken... First visit, genuinely impressed with depth of explanations in a language we non-scientists can understand. A very valuable Exhibition. Brian... Member for ~ 40 years. RSC... Great to see the wonder of my Creator. Chris... Wonderful museum – a great way to get the truth of creation out there! Keep up the good work. S... Well-presented information – main points without information overload. James... Very encouraging and reassuring (like a breath of fresh air) to see Biblical truth exhibited, explained and taught... Wonderful exhibit, great for kids and adults both... A fascinating experience. JM (Aberdeen)... Super exhibition. Well done. God is brilliant. Penelope... Thought provoking – well explained; will come again. John... Thank you very much! Lovely exhibition. Enjoyed it a lot. (Estonia)... Thank you! R*

& D. (South Africa)... Good to see such a prominent and honest display of Biblical truth. May you know the Lord's protection and encouragement in your witness. David... *An amazing discovery.* Gaynam... Very interesting! Thanks from Petra (Sweden).

## New resident

Recently the Genesis Expo took delivery of an unusual item - a genuine fossil cave-bear! The image here shows the skeleton of this massive animal newly re-assembled. Bruno (or should it be Ursula?) will soon become sole resident of a specially constructed "cave" to display him/her in a more appropriate setting than a mezzanine floor.

Cave bears are just one of many species of animal that have become extinct since the original Creation - see for example <http://goo.gl/bcIMra> for a long and sad list of the many European species that are known to have become extinct, let alone those known from the rest of the world. As such they demonstrate the truth that the history of this sin-spoiled world is one of *devolution*, not Evolution.



## Opening hours

During the off-season, the Genesis Expo is open noon to 4pm Tuesdays to Fridays and 11am to 4pm Saturdays.

We will open at 10am on bank holidays, half-term and Easter school holidays, and during high summer.

# Creation Science Movement

**PO Box 888, Portsmouth PO6 2YD, UK**

**Founded 1932, Registered Charity 801745**

**[www.csm.org.uk](http://www.csm.org.uk); [info@csm.org.uk](mailto:info@csm.org.uk); 02392 293988**