

# CREATION

Vol. 17 No. 7 August 2012



Journal of the CREATION SCIENCE MOVEMENT

## Is there anyone out there?

Mankind has a fascination with the immensity of the universe: is there any other intelligent life out there, or are we alone? Surprisingly, the answer may be more easily found but more challenging to accept than many evolutionists might realize. Prof Vernon Jenkins, a highly qualified mathematician, writes the following:



If intelligent life exists among the stars then we might expect to receive signals from some of these civilisations - but so far there have been none. Image: The Andromeda galaxy (NASA Marshall Space Flight Center).

“It is a logical consequence of Darwinian thinking that man is not alone in the universe; that other civilizations exist and flourish out there; that among these must be some superior to our own, able and willing to instruct us in the elusive art of peaceful coexistence.

“With the opening of the new millennium we therefore find many eyes turned heavenwards in anticipation of some non-random signal emanating from the depths of space that would confirm the existence of such beings. Assuming the fulfilment of these expectations, it is highly likely that regular communication would follow and, in due course, direct contact.

“In the initial stages of this scenario mathematical absolutes - particularly those associated with number and form - are expected to assume fundamental roles. For example, the repeated transmission of a sequence comprising the first thousand or so cubic numbers is highly likely to capture the interest and attention of any intelligent receptor - thereby achieving the immediate purpose of announcing its author's galactic presence.

“However, in their eagerness to pursue extraterrestrial liaisons and find salvation



among the stars, the world's scientific and intellectual elite appear to have overlooked a similar message closer to home - one expressed in equally persuasive terms.”

Prof Jenkins' website draws attention to some real and remarkable mathematical phenomena and their far-reaching implications. These are associated, in particular, with the Bible's opening Hebrew words, the Greek form of the name Jesus Christ (understood by Christians to be The Creator), and the riddle of Revelation 13:18.

CSM warmly commends readers to view these astonishing mathematical facts for themselves - facts that demonstrate beyond all reasonable doubt that the Bible must have been designed by an intelligent Being infinitely superior to ourselves. See <http://homepage.virgin.net/vernon.jenkins/index.htm>.

## Early whistleblowers

At several sites now, archaeologists have unearthed flute-like musical instruments from the so-called Stone Age, and they express surprise that our early forebears were even capable of making music, let alone appreciating it. One article on a particular discovery says how the makers would have ripped off with their teeth the raw meat from the bone from which the flute was made, this giving the reader a powerful mental image of grunting ape-like savages getting ready to make music.<sup>1</sup>

If only the archaeologists would finish the story though. They are compelled to admit that these ancient forebears of ours made and doubtless enjoyed music because they

have found the instruments upon which they played, but they stop short of telling their readers and students about the science and Pythagorean level of mathematics that go into the design and manufacture of even a simple flute.

Not that these flutes were in any way simple. They weren't. One that was discovered at Hohle Fels Cave in France is about 20cm long and 2.5cm wide. It has markings clearly indicating where the finger holes should be drilled (as drilled they were with perfection), and an ingeniously carved end-blown double v-shaped fipple. A replica of it has yet to be made, which does not surprise me.

The method of manufacture was this. The ivory tusk from which it was made, was first split in two. Then the bore was carved out and the holes drilled, and then the two halves were put together again and sealed with an airtight glue. Where exactly we could buy a glue which lasts (allegedly) for forty thousand years is a question that would interest all DIY and hobby enthusiasts. Moreover, the holes are bevelled, which makes a better airtight seal for the fingers playing the instrument. Thus, these 'Stone Age bone flutes' are very sophisticated indeed, and could produce the same range of tones as any modern flute!

As a collector and player of replica medieval recorders, I know something (just something) of their complexity and exactitude of manufacture, and admire greatly the craftsmen who can turn them out. But let us remember this. Nowadays, once the jigs and lathes are set up to prescribed specifications, recorders and flutes can be manufactured by the thousand. But when you have to make them



individually out of bone or ivory (the Ach Valley flute of Southern Germany has five holes and is carved from the wing bone of a giant vulture), then you need to recalculate the maths to account for the differences in bore, the sometimes varying thicknesses of the bone, its length, curvature and so on. Nothing is standardized. Each instrument has to be designed and the holes calculated (and not just their positions on the flute, but their diameters too) individually.

Constant tuning and retuning is required throughout the manufacturing process, and when I spoke earlier of the Pythagorean level of mathematics required for all this, I was not joking. Try making one yourself and see. Even if you are already a craftsman in the field, you'll really have your work cut out. But our ancient forebears, the makers of the Hohle Fels and Ach Valley flutes, they knew how to do it, and could calculate the maths allowing even for the curvature of the bone or tusk. Which is all very baffling for the experts, for not only did our forebears have to know how to make these instruments, they also had to know the purpose for which they were making them – the sounding of a series of natural notes (on both the pentatonic and heptatonic scales); not discordant, out of tune notes, but notes that were resonant and pleasing to the ear and senses. This they achieved. Grunting savages ripping raw meat from the bone with their teeth? Something tells me in all this that Darwin and his modern followers have got it wrong - terribly, terribly wrong.<sup>2</sup>

*Bill Cooper*

### References

1. <http://goo.gl/w6Qky>

2. The Book of Genesis (4: 21) tells us that the “father of all such as handle the harp and organ,” was Jubal. We take our word ‘jubilee’ from his name, which is worth remembering in this royal jubilee year.

### Addendum:

A videoclip has recently been produced by a professional flute maker that gives further insights into the production and playing of the “ice age flute”. See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBUFRmQ4eso>

## Open wide

From time to time CSM has commented on the remarkable design of whales - superbly fitted for their particular habitats and modes of life. Now it seems that even one of the best studied groups of whales, the rorquals, can still provide a surprise or two. Reported on the BBC News website (<http://goo.gl/W9mKx>, accessed 23 June 2012) has been the discovery of a previously unrecognised organ situated between the two bones at the front tip of a rorqual whale's lower jaw.

Rorqual whales feed by opening their mouths very suddenly, engulfing enormous quantities of seawater and the animals swimming in it. The animals are then trapped and filtered out from the water by the whales' baleen plates. Dr Pyenson, a researcher at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, was reported as saying that a rorqual whale's feeding lunge was "one of the largest biomechanical events on Earth".

How do such whales control this enormous gape accurately and without damaging





Humpback whales feeding - note the enormous gape. Image in the public domain.

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

by *Dr David Rosevear*

### 7 April p.4 – **Bad attitude**

This short article bemoans the fact that Republican candidates in the US presidential primaries assert that global warming is a hoax, and support the teaching of intelligent design. They are “**a science-free zone**”!

“**While trust [in science] has remained strong among liberals, for conservatives it has gradually declined. The decline is not due to ignorance: it has been strongest among conservatives with the most education.**” Surely that should tell them something.

### 7 April p.14 – **Brain organised like street grid of NYC**

A team from a Boston, Mass. hospital claims that the tens of billions of connecting nerve fibres in the human brain are not tangled like a huge bowl of spaghetti. They are laid out like a 3-dimensional grid of fibres that are then folded up.

The grid, revealed by MRI scans, was more obvious in ‘lower’ primates, with progressively more folds and curves of the 3D grid in ‘more advanced’ apes. “**This would help explain how brains wire themselves...The grid may also help to solve the puzzle of how complex brains evolved.**”

Natural selection acting on chance changes in connectivity is not going to produce smart monkeys.

Complex brain structure shouts design.

**14 April p.5 – Monkeying with science**  
“**Tennessee teachers will be allowed to**

themselves? Dr Pyenson and his colleagues examined the jaws of fin and minke whales, dissecting them and using high resolution medical imaging to examine the carcasses, and so discovered the hidden sensory organ. "This shows us how they do it so quickly, co-ordinating the inflation of the throat pouch with the opening of the jaws... and closing their mouth to prevent prey escaping - all in under 10 seconds" he said. The sensory organ picks up signals from the jaw as it starts to open. Nerves from the organ then send signals to the brain, triggering the whales' dramatic and complex feeding lunge.

Dr Gareth Fraser, from the University of Sheffield, commented that the discovery revealed a unique adaptation that mammals had made to an "aquatic lifestyle". But how could rorqual whales have survived for the requisite millions of years until this subtle organ had gradually evolved? The ability to filtrate small organisms out of large quantities of water, the specialised feeding lunge, and the sensory organ that triggers it, must all be fully functional at once for this lifestyle to be successful. This speaks of intelligent design. As the Bible declares, “God created the great creatures of the sea” (Gen. 1: 21).



question scientific concepts like evolution and global warming in the classroom, if a new ‘Monkey Bill’ becomes law. As *New Scientist* went to press, Republican governor Bill Haslam had not announced whether he would allow Senate Bill 893 to become state law. A similar bill was passed in Louisiana in 2008.”

Where would science be if we were banned by law from questioning scientific ideas; especially those based on philosophy rather than evidence?

### **CONSIDER...**

**The law of gravity -  
a scientific law.**

**Does it need protection?**

**Is it threatened by  
discussion?**

**Are attempts made to gag  
or ridicule people who want  
to discuss it?**

**No?**

**Then why should this  
be the case for people  
who want to discuss  
the theory of evolution?**

**Unless of course the latter  
is not genuinely a  
scientific theory but  
a dogmatic philosophy...**

**TRUE science is about  
freedom of thought  
and discussion.**

#### **14 April p5 – Giant feathered beast**

**“It is the feathered equivalent of a woolly mammoth. At 9 metres long, *Yutyrannus huali* is the largest dinosaur yet to sport feathers. *Yutyrannus* lived during a cold spell in the Cretaceous and may have needed feathers for warmth.”**

It seems that what is imaginatively described as ‘feathers’ could not support this massive creature in flight. More likely they are fibres for insulation. By dishonestly calling it a feathered dinosaur, the morally challenged try to give the impression that reptiles evolved into birds.

#### **14 April p.10 – Eyeless hydra takes a dim view of its prey**

The hydra is a centimetre-long marine creature that hunts its prey in the deep using stings that it propels like harpoons. It is handicapped by not having eyes; it is blind. Its genes have been studied and found to include one coding for opsin, a protein that is key to all animal vision. The gene is expressed in a complex of cells connected to the hydra’s hunting equipment. When kept in a tank with changing light levels that simulated the shadows of prey, the hydra let off its harpoons. **“This finding is part of efforts to uncover the evolutionary origins of sight.”** So who is blind?

#### **14 April p.11 – When early humans left trees to snore on the floor**

Chimps normally sleep in the trees, away from nocturnal predators. The extinct ape *Australopithecus afarensis* had arches under its feet, so it may have walked upright a carefully estimated 3.2 million years ago. It had long arms and slender fingers, so evidently also swung from, and maybe slept in, the trees. Researchers from Cambridge University counted ground nests in use today in Nimba, and collected



their hairs for DNA identification. Twelve of the 634 nests were chimp sleeping quarters. If chimps can sleep on the ground in Nimba where there are few predators, perhaps *A. aforensis*, an assumed hominin, also did so. Those who sleep on the ground sleep more soundly, with REM sleep, so it is hoped this could be a clue to cognitive development as they evolved towards being human. So when did humans leave the trees and learn to make sleeping bags?

**“Proving any of this will be difficult, says Ward (of Missouri U.). ‘This topic is far into the realm of speculation’.”**

One has to agree with her.

### **21 April p.34 – The full-blown American optimist**

Here is an interview with Harvard professor emeritus E. O. Wilson, the veteran philosopher who looks at social conflict in terms of evolutionary selection.

**“We ought to recognise that religious strife is not the consequence of**

**differences among people. It’s about conflicts between creation stories. We have bizarre creation myths and each is characterised by assuring believers that theirs is the correct story, and that therefore they are superior in every sense to people who belong to other religions. This feeds into our tribalistic tendencies to form groups, occupy territories and react fiercely to any intrusion or threat to ourselves, our tribe**

**and our special creation story. Such intense instincts could arise in evolution only by group selection – tribe competing against tribe. For me, the peculiar qualities of faith are a logical outcome of this level of biological organisation.”**

Wilson hopes there will be an end to these religious conflicts by the next century, by means of education and science. A more certain and blessed hope of ending the conflict will be the glorious appearing of the great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is also our Creator.

### **21 April pp.36 & 37 - Letters**

Here are a couple of reader’s letters of interest - R Miller of Perth, Scotland writes:

**“We talk of antelopes evolving longer legs to escape from lions, of coloration evolving for camouflage, of evolutionary strategies and arms races, not to mention selfish genes. It is as if the antelopes deliberately set out to evolve**



Legs of antelopes such as these kudu are highly complex - they must have the correct kinds of joints, the right combination of weight, strength, flexibility, endurance and impact resistance, along with an integrated nerve system and efficient nutrient, oxygen and waste management, damage repair and disease resistance - to name just a few factors. There's far more to them than just a matter of growing! Image: CSM.



longer legs; and it is not surprising that some people, realising that no creature actually sits down to figure out an evolutionary strategy, think evolution is nonsense.”

We would comment that leg length is governed and limited by the genetic information of the antelope, and not by the efforts of those who successfully outrun the lions. These are evolutionary Just So stories, as Miller has spotted.

Mr Braithwaite of Redditch, UK sees an inconsistency in a *New Scientist's* anti-God article:

**“You state: ‘Religious claims still wither under rational scrutiny and deserve no special place in public life’ (17 March, p.3). So somehow it is ‘rational’ to expect people to believe that a particle can be in two places at once and indeed not in either, and it is ‘rational’ to base an entire branch of science on the existence of a particle which – as yet – cannot be seen, but it is not ‘rational’ to believe in a deity (can be in more than one place at a time, cannot be seen).**

Well done, *NS*, for publishing these non-conforming thoughts!

### **28 April p.6 – A curious case of missing darkness**

In our May journal we quoted Juan Collar of Chicago on the problem of finding any of the postulated ‘dark matter’ that should hold the stars in their courses. He said that **“either astrophysics is wrong, or our whole understanding of dark matter is wrong.”** *NS* 7/1/12.

Here we read that Cold Dark Matter, or CDM, has been calculated to **“amount to about 83 per cent of the total mass of the universe. This dark matter has fed into our understanding of how the universe formed ...**

**“A new survey of the stars within 13,000 light years of Earth suggests our patch of the Milky Way could be free of the elusive stuff, yet that would contradict otherwise successful explanations for how galaxies stick together and how our universe formed...Two other recent surveys also suggest a local absence of dark matter.”**

The observations show that the motions of the 400 stars studied were adequately accounted for by **“just the normal visible matter. ‘The result matches the visible mass strongly’.”**

Predictably, other astronomers are sceptical. A CDM theorist is quoted: **“This is not going to be easily abandoned as an idea. I’m not saying they’re wrong, just that you’re going to have to work really hard to convince me.”** After all, the only alternative to a chance formation of everything is the outlawed notion that in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

### **28 April p.10 – Synthetic version of DNA created**

DNA is a double spiral of chains, each composed of a sequence of sugar (deoxyribose) and phosphate, joined together by the bases thymine, adenine, cytosine and guanine. The order of the bases codes for genes. Now intelligent and skilful chemists have synthesised six artificial versions, designated XNAs, or xeno-nucleic acids. XNAs use either different sugars or even completely different molecules.

Starting with enzymes that enable DNA to pass on information, **“over the years the team tweaked them until they produced enzymes that could work on XNAs. Once they had created these enzymes, they were able to store information in each of**



the XNAs, copy it to DNA, and copy it back into a new XNA.

**“The question is whether these XNAs can be introduced into cells...Once the XNAs were installed, they could replicate and evolve on their own.”**

Does this show that evolution could or did take place in nature? This fine piece of chemical synthesis involved a team of skilled chemists, using nature’s templates and working over several years in well-equipped laboratories to make molecules that mimic the work of DNA. This is intelligent design. Even if they managed to get it all to function in a cell, natural selection would weed out mutations, so that it would only reproduce after its own kind.

#### **28 April p.28 – Is it a bird? Is it a dinosaur?**

This article by Professor Alan Feduccia, renowned expert on fossil birds, is based on his latest book, *Riddle of the Feathered Dragons*.

In 1996, the world was stunned by a photograph of *Sinosauropteryx* (Chinese dragon feather) sporting a mane of thick filaments running from neck to tail tip.

**“With no microscopy or scientific substantiation, the fibres were proclaimed to be protofeathers... no evidence then or now has emerged showing that these structures are anything other than collagen fibres supporting a typical reptilian frill.**

**“*Sinosauropteryx* is a standard dinosaur with no feathers, and specimens with true feathers are not dinosaurs but early birds.”**

A photograph here of the *Sinosauropteryx* fossil bears out the truth of Feduccia’s description.

**“No flightless bird ever gave rise to a flying one; the same is surely true in the**



*Sinosauropteryx* fossil showing impressions of fibres but no feathers. Image derived from Sam / Olai Ose / Skjaervoy, Wikipedia, under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Generic licence.

**dinosaur fossil record. But the current orthodoxy argues that birds are derived from theropods, that protofeathers provided insulation for their hot-blooded metabolism (for which no evidence exists) and that flight originated from the ground up [not gliding from the trees], which is biophysically improbable.**

**“Most disturbingly, current orthodoxy dictates that the entire suite of sophisticated avian flight architecture, including aerodynamic wings and**



**specialised brain structures, evolved in earthbound dinosaurs in a non-flight context, a proposal that is practically non-Darwinian.”**

The idea that birds evolved from dinosaurs was a piece of 19<sup>th</sup> century pseudoscience proposed by ‘Darwin’s bulldog’ Thomas Henry Huxley. It is still vigorously promoted today.

### **5 May p.3 – The irresistible quest for alien life**

**“In less than 100 days, the most ambitious Mars mission ever devised is due to land on the Red Planet... main task is to search for signs of life...”**

It cost \$2.5 billion!

**“Astrobiology is an odd science. It largely concerns itself with studying something that may not exist.”**

The price of folly!

### **5 May p.10 – Strange fat keeps skin waterproof**

The molecular structure of that layer of our skin that keeps water out when we bathe, and blood in, has been identified for the first time. Lipids occupy the spaces between cells in this outermost layer of skin. Lipids have a water-loving head and two water-repelling tails. These hydrophobic tails normally point in the same direction, but electron microscopy reveals that in the skin they are splayed out pointing in opposite directions. The lipid molecules are stacked on top of one another in an alternating fashion, to form an impermeable bilayer. Except where the skin has pores, no water can pass in or out. Our skin, the biggest organ we have, is part of that ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’ body that David refers to in Psalm 139.

### **5 May p.15 – Biological GPS located in pigeons**

**“The pigeon’s biological global positioning system has been recorded in action.”** Scientists at Houston, Texas have inserted electrodes into the brains of homing pigeons to record the activity of individual neurons. They found that 53 neurons in one area of the brain were activated when the birds were placed in an artificial magnetic field whose strength and direction could be adjusted.

It would appear that the Creator has a prior claim on GPS technology. If pigeons evolved, I wouldn’t fancy their chances of finding their way home, would you?

### **12 May p.3 - Editorial, The improbable ape**

With **p.10 –The humanity switch**

According to this most **“astonishing”** evolutionary journey, a gene involved in brain development duplicated itself in one of our ancestors, around 3.5 million years ago. Then, oh my best beloved, around a million years later it did it again! **“The duplicate genes now play a crucial role in the design of our big, powerful brains (see p.10).”** A handful of other mutations such as *FOXP2*, the language gene, changed our ape ancestors into humans. **“It is no exaggeration to say they are the genes that make us human”**, reckons the editor. **“It brings home the sheer improbability of our existence. The essence of humanity largely boils down to a bunch of random mutations, every one of them happening by chance.”**

Yet all our observations show that chance mutations cannot improve genetic information – quite the reverse.

This sort of pseudo-scientific nonsense is being taught in our schools, and echoed on our TV screens by professors of zoology. How necessary it is for the creationist truth to get out there.



On p.10 we read that a group from the Scripps Institute in California “**focussed on *SRGAP2*. This gene helps drive development of the neocortex, which in humans controls higher-order brain functions such as language and conscious thought. Humans with mutations in *SRGAP2* are prone to epileptic seizures, as are mice that have been engineered to lack it.**” See what we mean!

### 12 May p.25 – Aperture, Magical minefield

This regular *NS* photographic feature shows a beach scene on a moonless night in the Maldives. The shallows are ablaze with bioluminescent protists and copepods that glow when disturbed.

This cold light is made by a pigment called luciferin (from Latin lux, light) and an enzyme, luciferase. The latter catalyses the



A female glow-worm, *Lampyris noctiluca*, bioluminescing to attract a male. Image: Wofl, Wikipedia, under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Germany licence.

reaction of the pigment with oxygen, so that these minute marine creatures incandesce like glow-worms.

**“A range of unrelated animals use the same pigment-enzyme pair to produce light, including fireflies, anglerfish and jellyfish. Bioluminescence evolved independently many times in the bigger picture, it ain’t so magical after all.”**

Both the pigment and the catalyst are molecules of improbable complexity. Skilled chemists with modern equipment would spend a long time doing multi-step reactions, purifying intermediates before possibly achieving these products in extremely low yields. I know; I’ve been there. Left to themselves, the products decompose.

So what are the chances of the interdependent system of luciferin and luciferase occurring by chance in a number of unrelated creatures?

These products arise from the concerted interaction of specific genes with RNA and other proteins. Our Creator spoke the information into existence in the first place in a manner that allowed subsequent generations to reproduce this beautiful effect ‘according to their kind’.

### 26 May p.16 - On-off switch found for RNA

It is known that the addition or removal of methyl groups ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) to or from the bases of DNA will switch a gene’s activity off or on. Now scientists at Cornell University, New York, have found that much of the messenger RNA in rat brain cells and in human kidneys contains methylated versions of the base adenosine. M-RNA is the transcribed copy of DNA that encodes protein manufacture.

The more we find out about the genes in a cell, the more evident it becomes that chance mutations could not possibly make



the system or enable it to operate. We, and even rats, are fearfully and wonderfully made at every level of study.

#### **2 June p.4 – Lethal weather**

The article offers dire warnings about climate change, and begins: **“The US could end up as full of hot air as the politicians sceptical of climate change.”**

On the facing page we read:

#### **2 June p.5 – Roots of denial**

**“Whatever motivates climate sceptics, it isn’t ignorance of science. People who don’t believe in global warming are just as scientifically knowledgeable as people who accept it.”**

The same might be said about evolution theory sceptics, with even more justification.

#### **2 June p.12 – Bird brains rooted in baby dinosaur skulls**

**“Modern adult birds have skulls that look remarkably like those of juvenile dinosaurs, offering an unusual explanation as to how birds came to have relatively large brains. Birds are living dinosaurs, having evolved from feathered dinosaurs similar to the Velociraptor.”** These claimed ‘feathered dinosaur fossils’ are merely clothed in fibres that bear no resemblance to feathers and could not support flight. Your reviewer has studied them under the microscope at the BMNH.

Using similar ‘logic’, the article goes on to say: **“Adult human skulls look much like those of baby chimpanzees, with flattened faces and oversized brain cases.”**

A team from Harvard is now trying to reverse bird evolution, tweaking the genes of chickens to make them revert to their dinosaur ancestors. They say they haven’t yet found the right genes, but if they do,

they could give a chicken the head of a dinosaur. I suspect that Colonel Saunders’ KFC franchise would find it hard to sell them to their customers, though.

#### **9 June p.8 – Welcome to the Escher-verse**

A study by **“the world’s most famous living scientist, Stephen Hawking of the University of Cambridge”** has given rise to the idea that the universe has the same surreal symmetry as paintings by the Dutch artist M. C. Escher. His team’s idea **“provides a way to square the geometric demands of string theory, a still-hypothetical ‘theory of everything’, with the universe we observe. Their calculations rely on a mathematical twist that was previously considered impossible. If it stands up, it could explain how the universe emerged from the big bang and unite gravity and quantum mechanics.”**

It describes a universe resembling a twisting, wiggly landscape of saddle-like hills. **“This is not what our universe seems to look like... our universe is flat, not twisted.”** We don’t understand the mysterious entity known as dark energy, but Einstein’s general relativity theory has a mathematical way to describe the accelerated expansion.

This seems like what Professor W. R. Thompson described as **“fragile towers of hypotheses based on hypotheses, where fact and fiction intermingle in inextricable confusion.”**

#### **9 June p.34 – Lucky you**

**“Evolution is a game of chance. Clare Wilson uncovers some of the winning mutations that helped us hit the jackpot... Together, these evolutionary accidents led us on a 6-million-year journey from a creature similar to a great ape into us, modern humans.”**



Human and chimp genomes have some 15 million differences in the nucleotides of the genes. Then there are an uncounted number of differences in the regulatory regions of the DNA that act as on/off switches for the genes. (These were formerly called 'junk DNA', left-overs as we evolved!) Clare assumes that these differences are the result of mutations as chimps evolved into humans. **"A cosmic ray blasts into the atmosphere at close to the speed of light. It collides with an oxygen atom, generating a shower of energetic particles, one of which knocks into a DNA molecule within a living creature. The DNA molecule happens to reside in a developing egg cell within an ape-like animal living in Africa."** The mutated DNA is the first step towards the birth of Homo sapiens. How lucky is that!

Generations later, a mutation in the jawbone led to a smaller, weaker jaw, but this made room for a bigger cranium. Our brains are 3 times as big as our 'closest relative, the chimp', though there is no correlation between skull size and intelligence. Big brains use lots of energy. Humans have much higher amounts of the digestive enzyme called salivary amylase that breaks down starch into sugars. A change in a gene called *FOXP2* is supposed to have led to our mastery of language. A change in our hands meant we could use tools.

And that, oh my best beloved, is how some lucky chimps changed into chumps.

**16 June p.16 – OPERA closes in on morphing neutrinos**

**"In the same week that OPERA [a particle research facility in Italy] confirmed once and for all that neutrinos don't outpace light, it also announced its second-ever observation of a neutrino changing**

**shape...it strengthens the surprising idea that ghostly neutrinos have mass."**  
**"Neutrinos come in three flavours: electron, muon and tau... Now a second tau neutrino has shown up in the beam of billions of muon neutrinos that OPERA streams from CERN [the LHC in nearby Switzerland], the team reported at Neutrino 2012 [conference].**

[Subsequently it was announced on July 4<sup>th</sup> that the Large Hadron Collider had detected a particle with the mass and energy expected for the elusive Higgs boson. World headlines shouted: 'God particle exists'!]

**16 June p.19 – Cells that keep gut bugs in their place**

**"There is a fine line between help and harm. The trillions of gut bacteria that are important for our health are prevented from escaping to cause havoc in other tissues by special immune cells."**  
It has been demonstrated, using mice, **"that the immune cells – innate lymphoid cells – confine bacteria to the gut by barricading the lining of the gut and neighbouring tissues."**

It takes a special brand of faith to believe that this barricade, not to mention the vital function of the gut bacteria, all arrived in mice and men by chance. And that we all survived and digested properly before it all got honed to perfection must also be believed, against all logic.

**23 June p.15 – 47 million years old... and still doing it**

Here is a photograph of two conjoined turtles fossilised while in the act of mating. They were excavated from the Messel Pit, a disused quarry in Germany.

This shows that fossilisation occurred suddenly, with the pair being immediately buried in sediment. See Matt. 24:38.



**23 June p.32 – Life: Inevitable or fluke?**  
This 6-page cover story attempts to answer the question; If life arises wherever conditions are right, where are all the aliens?

The Kepler space telescope has already revealed a number of planets similar to Earth, yet we read; **“More than half a century of searching for extraterrestrial intelligence has so far come up empty-handed.”**

Biochemist Nick Lane thinks he knows why. He says that on Earth, bacteria arrived spontaneously soon after the planet formed, but complex multi-celled life only came after an immense period of time. It was a one-off happenstance that then allowed evolution to proceed.

**“The enzymes that powered the first life cannot have been as efficient, and the first cells must have needed a lot more energy to grow and divide – probably thousands or millions of times as much energy as modern cells... The enzyme that makes ATP is a rotating motor powered by the inward flow of protons. Another protein that helps to generate the membrane potential, NADH dehydrogenase, is like a steam engine, with a moving piston for pumping out protons. These amazing nanoscopic machines must be the product of prolonged natural selection. They could not have powered life from the beginning.”**

What is ignored is that complex structures tend to break down over time, not build up. According to Lane, some cells acquired mitochondria. About 2 billion years ago, one simple cell somehow ended up inside another and gave up most of its few genes to its host. The lodger somehow invented the APT Synthase to supply enough energy for the landlord to build more genes and develop a nucleus. **“The emergence of**

**complex life, then, seems to hinge on a single fluke event – the acquisition of one simple cell by another... All this might help to explain why we’ve never found any sign of aliens.”**

Then again, the LORD may have simply created man on the Earth a few thousand years ago, while the rest of the heavens were made for signs and seasons, and for days and years, and to give light upon the Earth.

**30 June p.15 – Ethiopian genes hint at truth to Queen of Sheba story**

**“The genomes of Ethiopian people hold echoes of the meeting between a legendary king and queen.”**

Luca Pagani of the Wellcome Trust in Hinxton, UK, has examined the genomes of a number of Ethiopians and found that some folk had components of both African and eastern Mediterranean lineages. **“What’s more, the gene flow probably took place around 3,000 years ago.”** [Is the timing knowable?]

**“The finding is backed by linguistic research, which shows that one of the four language families of Ethiopia migrated from the same region about 3,000 years ago.”**



*Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba* by the 17th C artist Claude Lorraine. Far from being a myth, the Queen of Sheba is attested as an historical figure by the Bible. Now modern-day genetics is catching up with the fact. Image in the public domain.



It would appear that those in the retinue of the Queen of Sheba returned with more than just the Wisdom of Solomon.

Incidentally, the use of the term 'legendary' shows an ignorance of the very careful keeping of family genealogies by the Jews, and not just the royal line.

### 30 June p.27 – One minute with Sanal Edamaruku compared with

### 30 June p.28 – Still waiting for ET to call

Mr Edamaruku's very laudable mission is to debunk faked or mistaken 'miracles'. This head of the Indian Rationalist Association investigated the case of water dripping from the feet of a church statue of Jesus that the priest claimed had healing properties. He found that a blocked drain nearby was responsible. *New Scientist* was pleased to point out that religious folk can be so gullible.

The following page tells of Jill Tarter who is retiring as director of the SETI Institute Centre in California after 35 years looking for signs of alien life. Maybe even some scientists can be just a little gullible...



### 30 June p.32 – Bang goes the theory

This 6 page *NS* cover story by Amanda Gefter points out that many cosmologists are questioning the validity of the idea of cosmic inflation. The first tiny fraction of a second after the alleged big bang start of everything, the proto-universe had to expand at a rate faster than the speed of light. The uniformity of the microwave frequency thought to be the echo of the big bang is a problem because parts of the universe said to be 20 billion light years apart should never have been close enough together to share the same temperature. The article continues with lots of other difficulties. The simple answer is to accept the much more believable statement that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

## “Quotes”

“If there were no God there would be no Atheists.”

*G. K. Chesterton*

“Evolution is promoted by its practitioners as more than mere science. Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion—a full-fledged alternative to Christianity, with meaning and morality. I am an ardent evolutionist and an ex-Christian, but I must admit that in this one complaint ... the literalists are absolutely right. Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution still today. ...Evolution therefore came into being as a kind of secular ideology, an explicit substitute for Christianity.”

*(Michael Ruse, How evolution became a religion: creationists correct? National Post, pp. B1, B3, B7 May 13, 2000)*



“Higher-level animal phylogenetics is hot. Unprecedented funding opportunities, increasingly sophisticated phylogenetic methods, and an accelerating avalanche of new data have combined to make new phylogenies welcome fodder for our revered scientific tabloids. One thing the resulting phylogenetic forest has brought into sharp relief is that never before have we been faced with such conspicuous gaps between the body plans of closest relatives. Barring fortuitous discoveries from the fossil record, many or most of these gaps can be expected to be permanent. With our imagination as the only available bridge across these gaps, it seems inescapable that our scenarios of body plan evolution will remain forever precariously poised on the narrow edge between fact and fantasy.”  
(*Dr Ronald Jenner*, in the publicity material for a lecture entitled ‘Please mind the gaps: fact and fantasy in the reconstruction of animal body plan evolution’ at the Natural History Museum, London, 29 June 2012.)

## The Giant’s Causeway

One of the most amazing sites of geological interest under the care of the National Trust must surely be the Giant’s Causeway on the coast of Northern Ireland. Among many interesting features there is the huge cluster of hexagonal pillars that gives the site its name. The same formation also appears on Mull on the west coast of Scotland, but the array of columns on the Antrim coast is particularly striking. It is understandably a very popular tourist attraction.

As this issue of the Journal was about to go to press, news broke of a new visitor centre



Hexagonal basalt columns of the Giant’s Causeway, Northern Ireland. Image: CSM

for the Giant’s Causeway opened by the National Trust that is causing controversy. Why? Simply because the NT has had the courage and honesty to provide not only the usual evolutionist explanation of origins but also to mention a credible alternative view - the creationist position. The inclusiveness of the NT’s policy is respectful and sensitive to the realities of the situation: that many people in Northern Ireland and elsewhere do not believe the evolutionist dogma and have robust scientific and Christian reasons to hold their dissenting views.

This has not endeared the NT to the evolutionist camp. Seldom has this writer seen so much vicious and insulting baying and braying on comment webpages as that showered by evolutionists on the NT for



having the temerity to give room to an alternative to the evolutionists' creed. Well done to the NT for standing their ground, but if you would like to encourage them, please take a moment to write an appreciative comment or two to counter the venom they are receiving. See <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/giants-causeway/>.

## From the mailbox

“Thank you for this brilliant book by Bill Cooper. It has been so helpful and full of tremendous information. Well done.”  
*S.Y.*

“I must say you are producing some wonderful books and your pamphlets are being put to good use here in Cornwall. Hopefully we will meet up sometime at the museum. God's Richest Blessings.”  
*L.C.*

## Meetings

**Malcolm Bowden** will be speaking on creation and evolution on Saturday 29 September at the Jubilee Community Centre, Charlwoods Road, East Grinstead RH19 2HL; doors open 6pm. More details from Steve Martin, 01342 322751.

## Day conference

On Saturday 3rd November, 10am – 4pm, CSM will, God willing, hold a one-day conference on creation and evolution at the Maritime Club, Queens Street, Portsmouth, in celebration of CSM's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Speakers will include Richard Broadberry, Mark Carter, David Rosevear and Kevin Tuck. There will also be a Q&A session. The venue seats 200 people and tickets (£10 per person) are available from CSM in advance on a first come, first served basis. The newly refurbished Genesis Expo, just round the corner on The Hard, will remain open for those attending. The site is close to good rail and bus links and there are large car parks nearby. Tea / coffee will be served. Food is available to purchase locally or bring your own. Further details will be announced on CSM's website.



Scan the QR code above with your mobile phone to go direct to the CSM website.

# 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**

