

Keeping in Touch K.I.T.

Our Aim:

To know Christ and make Him known

No :77 Spring 2014



EASTER

Derived from an article by the Bishop of Durham, Dr N. T. Wright.

The Easter stories are full of people getting the wrong end of the stick. Mary thinks Jesus' body has been stolen. Peter sees the linen wrappings and can't work out what it's all about. The disciples didn't understand the scriptures. The angels question Mary and she still doesn't know what's going on. Then she thinks Jesus is the gardener. Then, it seems, she reaches out to cling on to him and he tells her she mustn't. You could hardly get more misunderstandings into a couple of paragraphs if you tried. And the point is, of course: Easter has burst into our world, the world of space, time and matter, the world of real history and real people and real life, but our minds and imaginations are too small to contain it, so we do our best to put the sea into a bottle and fit the explosive fact of the resurrection into the possibilities we already know about.

At one level, of course, the continued puzzlement of the disciples is a mark of the story's authenticity. If someone had been making it all up a generation later, as many have suggested, they would hardly have had such a muddle going on. More particularly, nobody would have made up the remarkable detail of the cloth around Jesus' head, folded up in a place by itself, or the even more extraordinary fact that Jesus is not immediately recognised, either here, or in the evening on the road to Emmaus, or the later time, cooking breakfast by the shore. The first Christians weren't prepared for what actually happened. Nobody could have been.

Christian concern for the whole of humanity grows directly out of the central facts of our faith, because on Easter day God reaffirmed the goodness and image-bearingness of the human race in the man Jesus Christ, giving the lie simultaneously to the idea that utopia could be had by our own efforts and to the idea that humans are just miscellaneous evolutionary by-products. ■



He is not here: for
he is risen, as he
said. Matthew 28:6

*We wish all our readers a very
happy Easter holiday*

NEWS

Molina Wedding

A very happy occasion took place in the Spanish city of Malaga on the 22nd September. Tiphaine Molina daughter of Maryline and Joe Molina was joined in Holy Matrimony to Pastor Jay Rosario of San Jose Hispanic church in California. The Molina family worshipped at Stanborough Park church during the '90s before moving to Spain in 2001. Pastor Luis Torres officiated at the ceremony. The bridal party included Vincent Molina, Tiphaine's brother who lives in Spain. The best man Matt Parra who flew in from Australia and bridesmaids and groomsmen came from the UK, Europe and the USA. A large church group came from Liverpool Central church where Tiphaine attended whilst at University.

Maryline and Joe now live in Bedford and attend Bedford Central church. They thank God for the love and good wishes of the Stanborough Park church family.



Maryline and Joe Molina with Tiphaine and Jay

Local Boy Returns Home To Speak On Richard III

ORIGINAL ARTICLE BY JUNE COOMBS

Watford Grammar School surgeon gives talk on Richard III That was the headline of an article in the local newspaper reporting on the visit made by Dr Colin Allen when he gave his talk to the Seniors Club on the 5th of March 2014.



Stanborough Park Church was Colin's "home church" during his youth where he was a member of the mixed hockey team (mixed in the sense that it comprised a mixture of both men and ladies) that he founded. Colin, who admits to being "nearly 80", grew up in Sheepcot Lane in Garston and attended Watford Boy's Grammar School during the post-war years where he enjoyed playing rugby and chess.

After qualifying as a doctor Colin worked at a hospital in Ghana as well as at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital before becoming a consultant surgeon at Pontefract Hospital.

Following his retirement, he pursued his interest in history taking a special interest in the "enigmatic" Richard III. Colin's

presentation was enlivened by his visit to the dig that was searching for the king's remains on a car park in Leicester where the friary of Grey Friars once stood.

Surprisingly, he was able to show that, although the king had a hunched back and was vilified by the Tudors and by Shakespeare, he was in fact a good general, a loving husband, keen on law and welcomed wherever he went.

Colin speculated that he could have changed history had he visited the spot centuries ago, armed with a penknife, where Richard's son died of a strangulated hernia.

New Pastoral Team Member

Welcome to our new pastor. Pastor Sam Neves whose enthusiasm, spiritual inspiration and cool will light some fires. Pr Sam attended Stanborough School and later married Amy, a local girl. They now have two young children. He lives and breathes the atmosphere of the digital world and loves all things i. So, login, sync-up, txt away, email on, tweet, and get the app. He is ready. Are we ready?



Pastor Sam with his wife Amy

The Pathfinder Club



Pathfinder investees at Stanborough Church

The Pathfinders have been very busy again this year as usual under the leadership of Florence Allen and in February the children received their Certificates and Awards in an impressive ceremony in the Church's Family Service. Thirty-four pathfinders, fourteen Adventurers, seven Eager Beavers and six Little Lambs were presented with their certificates by Pastor Paul Tompkins. Some of you may remember Paul from his time as a student at Stanborough School (60s/70s) and later in his career in the SDA church ministry. Some highlights of the year were a Swimming Gala, the regional Adventurer Camporee and a trip to Stockwood Park (Luton).

The children have been busy fund raising and doing

community work. They distributed the Stanborough News, and visited a home for the Elderly once per quarter. They also participated in fundraising for the annual ADRA appeal.

The great event they are looking forward to this year is the International SDA Camporee taking place in Oshkosh, Wisconsin USA. They have a team of leaders and helpers ready and are on their way to raising £15,000 to help fund the Camporee.

Community Chaplaincy Service

The church is starting a new service to the local community called the Community Chaplaincy Service (dubbed the CCS), which is going to be more than it seems. We intend to engage more fully with our local community in ways that they want and give them the support that they need wherever we can. Soon members of the church will be visiting homes in Garston with an offer of help to people who have come up against some of life's difficulties or perplexities. The CCS will cooperate with those already operating similar schemes in Watford and those who are already aware of where to target help.

The CCS will offer support in many ways other than conventional Chaplaincy work. They are preparing to help those seeking employment with writing CV's and interview techniques, support for adult literacy needs and more practical tasks like gardening, ironing, shopping for the housebound and DIY.



Anita's Dance Factory

The Chaplaincy Service was announced at an Indian-themed fund raising dinner attended by more than 90 people from the church and surrounding area, many adding to the atmosphere by dressing in Asian costumes. The diners enjoyed a three-course vegetarian Indian meal prepared by a professional chef and were entertained by a traditional Indian dance group called Anita's Dance Factory. The profits from the event will help to kick-start the CCS community work.

Messy Church

Stanborough Church is thrilled to be part of the global

phenomenon called Messy Church. It is a monthly afternoon programme for local families with children. Messy church involves crafts, play, action songs and bible stories all of which is provided free for the 250 visitors that have been coming. It is such a great way for kids to feel involved with Christianity until they want to learn more and they love it.



Messy Church shared meal

Health Resurgam

RICHARD J B WILLIS MA MSc FRSPH

Resurgam (I shall rise again) has long been the great hope of humanity. However, for some, delaying their departure has consumed their interest. The pursuit of eternal youth has taken centre stage with a variety of potions and procedures set to offset the ravages of ageing! Gabriele de Zerbi (1445-1505) in one of the first printed books on ageing, said: '... old age is inevitable ... but its end is uncertain', for if numerous conditions could be described and some prevented, they could not be cured. Benjamin Rush in 1793 wrote about the temperate way of life to prolong its length, but also concluded - 'few persons appear to die of old age. Some of the diseases ... generally cuts the last thread of life'.

Most of what is advocated as putting off the moment is, at best, illusory. Creams to fill wrinkles, surgery to remove surplus and or recontour (reshaping to remove marginal excess and to restore natural anatomic form), implantations (anything from monkey glands to silicon shapes), injections of Botox and its like can only alter the appearance for a limited period, but not change the fact that infinite longevity is not to be achieved. We are right to be concerned about life after death and we should also be concerned about life before death! To the less fortunate and the fit RESURGAM is our ultimate hope and blessed reality. I'll settle for that!

COMMENT

Fossils In Wonderland

BBC 4's new series called Fossil Wonderlands begins in the Rockies with Richard Fortey exploring a former seabed containing a fantastic number of fossilized life-forms. They occur in the Cambrian period of the geological time scale. Because of the vast number of different creatures represented in this relatively short time period it is called the Cambrian explosion. It is also known as Darwinism's best kept secret. Why? Because most of the higher life forms appear there, fully formed, with no intermediates either before or after. It is just as if all the 'kinds' appeared at once

fully formed. Darwin declared that it was the best argument against his gradualist theory. He expected that the discovery of more fossils would reveal intermediate creatures and prove him right. But no. One hundred and fifty years later and millions of newly discovered fossils have changed nothing. Unsurprisingly, this 'problem' has been 'solved' by evolutionists to their satisfaction by blaming the facts. Rather like Alice in Wonderland.

REGISTER OF EVENTS

Transfers of Membership

Leaving Us

Jonathan Valls-Estebanell & Minerva Hermosilla Garcia to Wetherill Park Spanish SDA Church, New South Wales, Australia.

Ms Hendrine Adzahoe-Baker to Watford Town SDA Church.

Romulo Greco, Karin Greco, Rebecca Greco and Guilherme Greco to Aberdeen SDA Church, Scotland.

Joining Us

Simon and Colleen Wragg and Ashley, Jordan and Grant from Loerie Park SDA Church, South Africa to Stanborough Park.

Sad News

Pat Allen died peacefully at Courtland Lodge in the early hours of Sunday morning 8 December. Pat came to Watford at a young age and worked at Granose from the age of 14 years where she met and married her husband Bert. They had two daughters, June and Rosemary. Pat will be remembered as a lifelong member of Stanborough Park Church. Some readers may remember these friends of Pat and Bert, Alf Kelly, Dr Terry Gallivan and the minister enjoying Ten O'clock conversation-cum-gossip sessions on Friday mornings at which our Lord would have been at home. Simply put by Pr Patrick Boyle: 'These were His kind of people.'

Vera Stearman died on Dec 22 aged 93. It is with sadness that we have to announce the death of Mrs. Vera Stearman, the widow of the late Pastor Peter Horace Stearman, who died on Sunday 22 December 2013, age 93. Our thoughts and prayer are with Carolyn here in the UK, Kathleen in Australia, Jacqueline in France, Rosalind and Anita in Spain and their families at this time.

Philip McCrow died on Jan 5. It is with sadness that the McCrow family announce the death of Philip McCrow on 5 January in Lancaster Court. He had been ill for some time but is pain free at last! We look forward to the new earth where all things will be made new and pain and sadness will be no more.

The full obituaries can be obtained by emailing to kit@stanboroughchurch.org

Baby Dedication



Baby Alyssa Smith and family

Humour in the style of humorist Gerard Hoffnung's Letter from a Tyrolean Landlord (1958)

- There is a French widow in every bedroom, affording delightful prospects.
- On the menu of a Swiss restaurant: our wines leave you nothing to hope for.
- Doctor's office, Rome: specialist in women and other diseases.
- Dry cleaners, Bangkok: drop your trousers here for the best results.
- In an Irish cemetery: persons are prohibited from picking flowers from any but their own graves.

Apologies: "Bronwen apologizes to Johnson Wong and June Coombs for crediting Johnson with the photo June took of the family praying over baby Maria which appeared in the Winter edition of KIT.

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Web Live stream (for Sabbath morning services 11:00 a.m.) shortcut: www.spsda.co.uk/watch

Hope Channel: www.hopetv.org.uk

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TEEN PAGE SPRING KIT 2014

Teen Page editor pete.walton.kit@stanboroughchurch.org Spring 2014

EASTER Have you ever wondered ‘why eggs and bunnies at Easter?’. Well, it’s because Easter is the pagan festival of Spring in honour of their goddess Eostra and the eggs and bunnies represent the new life and the hope of lots of baby bunnies and people. But that is not our reason to celebrate Easter is it? We remember the death and resurrection of Jesus and because those things happened near the time of the Easter festival the church just took Easter over! Easter time should really be called Pascha meaning ‘Passover’. Jesus was called the paschal (Passover) lamb – the symbol of redemption – by the Apostle Paul.



An Easter Story As far as I am concerned, Easter is a time of chocolate eggs, lots of them. Hollow chocolate, cream filled, large and small. Bunnies – no. But I have a extraordinary memory of Easter eggs that could have happened to Alice in Wonderland. It was a time when fresh, real, eggs were very scarce. It was difficult to get even one egg. So it was a rare treat when my family got one egg each! That is five eggs altogether. Mum, dad, my two older brothers and me. It was Easter morning and we were allowed to paint the shells with traditional decoration patterns. Of course being boys we didn’t want to. We were much keener to eat them. But – this is where Alice in Wonderland comes in – as soon as my egg was handed to me, just like Humpty Dumpty, it had a great fall (ok I dropped it) and just like Humpty Dumpty it could not be put together again, or eaten. And I was grinning like the Cheshire Cat. A little tragedy for my mum. I am sure she gave up her own egg for me, but for me an egg is only an egg. Powdered egg was just as good!

Mums do try so hard to get special things for us children and sometimes we don’t care that much. So, my lesson from this story for you is to watch out for your mum’s little gifts and please, make sure you show her you love her. And this Easter remember God’s greatest gift and be thankful to Him too.

BRINGING DARWINIAN THEORY TO LIFE

The Evolution MegaLab of the Open University (www.evolutionmegalab.org) started an online mass public experiment aimed at ‘Bringing Darwinian theory to life’ (I did not know it was dead). More than 6,000 people, including school children, in 15 European countries took part in one of the largest evolution studies ever by observing banded snails in their gardens and open public spaces. The study resulted in a large number of new snails being added to a database that goes back 40 years.

MegaLab wanted to find out these things:

- Have shell colours and bands changed in places that have fewer thrushes?
- Shell colour also affects how sensitive a snail is to temperature. Have shell colours changed with our warming climate?

A report on the results of the MegaLab experiment was optimistic but in fact it showed no overall difference in those characteristics just a few more snails with a single dark band. I think Darwin would have been disappointed. Nothing new was observed. Did the project succeed in ‘Bringing Darwinian theory to life’ – you decide.

What Does the Word Evolution Really Mean?

‘When I use a word,’ Humpty Dumpty said, in rather a scornful tone, ‘it means just what I choose it to mean – neither more nor less.’ ‘The question is,’ said Alice, ‘whether you can make words mean so many different things.’ ‘The question is,’ said Humpty Dumpty, ‘which is to be master – that’s all.’

The MegaLab website defines evolution as ‘Change over

generations in the inherited characteristics found in a population’. That is another disappointment for Darwin. I almost can hear him shouting: “You can’t mean that! That’s not my theory. Even my gardener can prove *that*. My theory is much cleverer; it explained the *origin* of species! I demand an apology! Go and read my book “On The Origin of Species By Means of Natural Selection”.



Striped snails

Because of Darwin’s theory the word evolution came to mean not just ‘change over time’ but a whole new creation story: a theory of how all life came to be from just plain chemicals - spontaneous generation of living organisms. When we talk about ‘evolution’ of life these days it usually means ‘molecules to man’ evolution not just change over time.

We Can Do Evolution

Humans have been manipulating ‘descent with modification’ for thousands of years using deliberate

selection, which is much quicker than natural selection, with great success. We have bred hundreds of special breeds of dogs, horses, cats, flowers, potatoes, all kinds of food. Hundreds of things. This kind of changes is everywhere but it never amounts to new species. MegaLab is using the word evolution like Humpty Dumpty 'When I use a word it means just what I choose it to mean'. Of course we all believe in 'change over time' but that is not what MegLab wants you to think is it?

Can MegaLab's definition of evolution ever be the same as Darwin's?

Modern Molecular Biology

Darwin could have discovered the answer to that question literally right under his nose. He probably had Gregor Mendel's book on his desk. It described his discoveries of the laws of inheritance in a mathematical way that Darwin probably could not bother with. Modern biology shows Mendel was right: all the variation we see is governed by mathematical laws of inheritance based on what we now call genes. Darwin would have understood that if variations are strictly limited by mathematical laws his theory could not work. Discoveries of modern biology have caused Darwin's 'Origin of Species' to be quietly dropped and substituted with a new theory.

The New Darwinism

The amazing discoveries of molecular biology have generated new theories called the Neo Darwin Synthesis (New Darwinism). They rely on various kinds of damage to DNA and mistakes in copying, including mutations, to make inheritable improvements to an organism. New Darwinism is completely different to the old idea of evolution. It does not obey any laws, its powerhouse is random mutations and its creator is unguided natural selection. It gave a tiny ray of hope to Evolutionists. But damage to genes takes a terrible toll on nature causing death, deformation, cancer and hundreds of heritable diseases. Research on artificial mutations has been going on for sixty years but despite encouraging work on antibiotics, demonstration of New Darwinian evolution is as far away as ever.

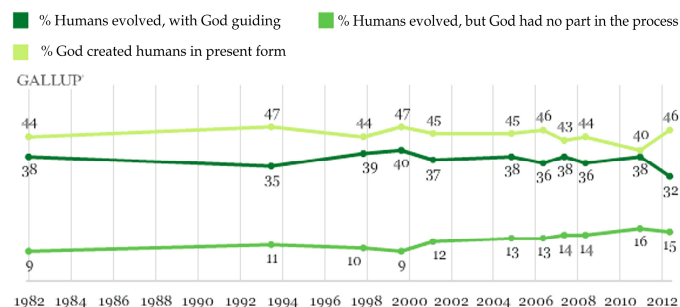
The Future of New Darwinism

Evolutionary scientists are searching for convincing scenarios to explain how New Darwinism can account for the development of new species but evidence is completely lacking. (We do not see evidence for Darwin's evolution in the fossil record either as Darwin himself noted, but that's another story).

What Do People Think of Evolution?

A recent survey in the UK showed that only 15% of the population believe in the New Darwinian Evolution i.e.

without God guiding (bottom line in the figure). In fact the proportion of scientist doubtful about evolution is around 50%. This was a terrible shock to the BBC, the Newspapers and the Department of Education who have been trying to teach Darwinism in schools, Universities and everywhere else for the last 60 years and calling everyone stupid who does not believe it. Richard Dawkins, the high Priest of the New Atheists (also called Darwin's Rottweiler) said the public's lack of understanding of science was shocking. I think it is more likely that the public reject Evolution **because they do understand the science.**



GALLUP poll on attitudes to evolution

Our Education Secretary Michael Gove wants to make children believe in evolution and he plans for it to be taught in Primary school science and to ban all other

explanations of Natural History. Banning things is not science.

'Darwin's theory of Evolution remains the only scientific theory that is widely championed by the scientific community and widely disbelieved by everyone else' says bestselling author and mathematician David Berliski. The reaction is always the same 'you've got to be kidding, right?' He explains why: 'Suspicious about Darwin's theory arise for two reasons. The first: the theory makes little sense. The second: it is supported by little evidence.'

Don't be Bullied in the Classroom

Teachers are encouraged to teach that small changes like the increase in the number of brown striped snails is called evolution, but if you agree 'Sure, I know

that kind of evolution takes place but, *is that kind of evolution really the same as Darwinian evolution*' you may get the same reply that Humpty Dumpty gave to Alice 'When I use a word, it means just what I choose it to mean' and in the same scornful tone.

If you are in school or University don't be bullied in the classroom to believing in the New Darwinian evolution. Calling variation over time evolution is a misuse of words. This Humpty Dumpty way of using words is a standard way to confuse people.

Give teachers a break, they only 'obeying orders' and children simply follow. Anyone who thinks you are stupid probably understands less about evolution than you do. ■



Darwin's tree of life demolished by molecular biology