

Dear Friends

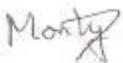
I am sure that many of you will be wondering why you have not received a Newsletter from us for a considerable time. In the last issue, December 2012 I mentioned that we had experienced a number of health problems throughout that year and we were looking forward to a healthy 2013. We were also looking forward to some happy family events in April.

However, this year has proved to be a very difficult and trying time for us. At the end of January, Irene had a bunion operation on her left foot. She accepted to have the operation at short notice due to a cancellation. Two days after coming home from hospital, she had to attend another hospital so that an egg-sized lump on her right calf could be examined. She had already had an x-ray of it and this time she had a scan and four pin biopsies from the lump. The results of the biopsies showed that the lump was cancer – a Leiomyosarcoma (often called an LMS) which is a very rare soft muscle sarcoma. A CT scan of Irene's body revealed that there were no other sarcomas - needless to say, we were thrilled with this news. In March she had the sarcoma removed from her right calf in a four hour operation which included two skin grafts. She recovered well despite the cancer being at a high stage. As soon as the scars were sufficiently healed, she had a six week course of radiotherapy (30 treatments in all). There is no test or tests that can be given to see if the cancer is no longer there. It is a matter of regular checks to see if another LMS is growing anywhere else. Irene will have to have a chest x-ray every three months for the next four years, then stretching out to four, then six months, then annually for ten years to make sure that no secondary tumours are growing in her lungs. At present, Irene is recovering from fatigue, but is still weak - she can now walk about 200 yards without having to rest!

Irene's mother and her young brother both had this type of cancer in the 1970s and both died very quickly. It looks as though this LMS that Irene has is genetic and so she has been entered into a research programme and also a geneticist is pursuing things in the hope of being able to help/protect our children and grandchildren.

As you will appreciate, this has been a very difficult time for us all. It has also been very time consuming with all of the continuing medical appointments. We have had wonderful support from family, friends, our church, the NHS, Macmillan and Tenovus cancer care. I have also tried to continue with some speaking engagements. Please do remember us in prayer.

God bless you all,



Dr A J Monty White

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous:
But the Lord delivereth him out of them all.*
Psalm 34: 19

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Victory Academy

You may be aware that some remarkable things have been going on at Victory Church in Cwmbran. Literally hundreds of people, from all over the UK, have responded to the gospel being preached at the church every night for the past few months. The leaders of this church realise that many of those who have been converted need to be taught basic Christian doctrine and as a result they have established a Victory Academy. The Academy meets on Saturday mornings. Our youngest son has been appointed the Director of Studies and is responsible for organising the curriculum and appointing the lecturers. He has asked me to do some teaching about creation and also explaining the errors of evolution.



Speaking at Victory Academy

I began my ministry with the young Christians in Victory Academy in July when I gave a couple of lectures 'back-to-back' on why you can believe in creation and why you can reject evolution. In October, I am returning to talk about dinosaurs and also about the relationship between the first Adam who lived in the Garden of Eden and the last Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ministry

At the end of June I ministered at Wellspring Christian Centre, Rhyl. On the Saturday evening I gave a talk entitled *Why You Can Believe in Creation* and on the Sunday morning I gave an illustrated talk about *Why You Can Trust the Bible*. That evening I gave an illustrated talk entitled *Who Would Be An Atheist?* First of all I discussed the nature of the universe and showed that the earth lies in the so-called *Goldilocks' Zone* where everything is "just right" for life to exist. Then I considered where everything came from and concluded that the only sensible and logical conclusion was that "in the beginning God created" rather than believing that in the beginning there was nothing and it exploded! I then considered the origin of life in the context of the complexity of living cells and of feathers. Finally, I looked at the reliability of the Bible and God's offer of salvation. Needless to say that I concluded by quoting Psalm 14:1 "*The fool has said in heart, 'There is no God'..*" In answer to the question *Who Would Be An Atheist?* - **Only a fool!**

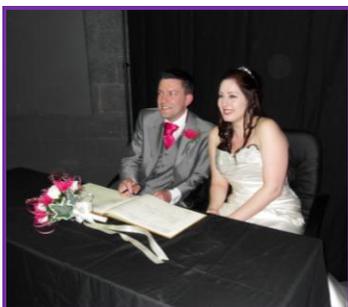
This meeting was part of the church's outreach. I had an interesting conversation with an atheist who came to the meeting at the invitation of a church member. He was surprised to hear about archaeological discoveries that had confirmed the veracity of the historical accounts in both the Old and New Testaments. Also he was unaware of the many discoveries that showed that you can trust the Scriptures and, therefore, that God is real. This man listened intently to my talk and at the end said that I had made him think about his atheistic views and that he was going home to give it further thought!

Throughout the year I have spoken at several other venues. One that stands out in my mind was a church in Pontypridd. The youth leader reminded me that I had ministered there in the 1970s and he had attended that meeting and that what I had spoken about made an impact on his belief in God and the Bible. This conversation reminded me of the Bible's teaching about casting your bread upon the waters promising that it would bring fruit. I was greatly encouraged.

Family News

We also had some happy events earlier in the year. Our youngest son, Jonathan married Carla in April and Irene managed to be there - with the help of a wheelchair. They are expecting their first baby in February next year. We are overjoyed with this news. Carla already has two little girls.

Simon and Iwona had a baby boy, Lucas Samuel White, on 30th April. We had the privilege of seeing him when he was just 12 hours old. We try to see him once a month - they live 200 miles away. Lucas is the most placid child we have ever met - he obviously takes after his mother's Polish relatives! Jamie is delighted with his cousin as are Nicole and Kadie, our step-granddaughters.



Jonathan & Carla White

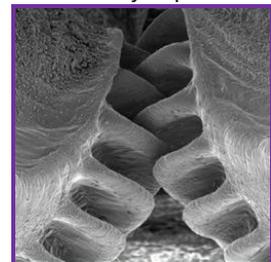


Lucas Samuel White

Insect With Gears



Research conducted at the University of Cambridge by Professor Malcolm Burrows and Dr Gregory Sutton (now of University of Bristol) and reported in the journal *Science*, has shown the presence of natural gears in the form of interlocking cogs in a plant-hopping insect called *Issus* which is found in gardens across Europe. The juvenile *Issus* has hind-leg joints with curved cog-like strips of opposing 'teeth' that intermesh, rotating like mechanical gears to synchronise the animal's legs when it launches into a jump.



There is a fascinating video about this research at <http://www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/functioning-mechanical-gears-seen-in-nature-for-the-first-time>

The scientists involved with this discovery do not recognise God's creative power, and can only say that evolution beat humans in inventing gears! In fact, the article's headline states that gears "previously believed to be only man-made, a natural example of a functioning gear mechanism has been discovered in a common insect - showing that evolution developed interlocking cogs long before we did" [emphasis mine]. They make no attempt to explain how these insects managed to survive through the long, slow process of developing these "cogs" before they managed to reach maturity and hence the age for breeding **and** surviving.

The Bible says "...there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which it may be said, 'See, this is new?'..." Ecclesiastes 1:9-10