

## Re: Scientists Find Prehistoric Dwarf Skeleton

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**From:** deowll (*deowll\_at\_bellsouth.net*)

**Date:** 10/30/04

Date: Fri, 29 Oct 2004 23:28:02 -0500

"Antti Jarvi" <no-forename.jarvi@icon.fi> wrote in message  
news:clt62g\$nk1\$1@phys-news1.kolumbus.fi...

>

> *"MrPepper11" <MrPepper11@go.com> kirjoitti viestissä*

> *news:57cfd534.0410281236.1d45d2d8@posting.google.com...*

>> *"Clayton <Insert Pop Culture Pun Here>" <cjfat@SPAMBLOCKphonyemail.com>*

> *wrote in message news:<4180a7b3\$0\$32599\$afc38c87@news.optusnet.com.au>...*

>>> *"MrPepper11" <MrPepper11@go.com> wrote in message*

>>> *news:57cfd534.0410270938.209bfc3e@posting.google.com...*

>>>> *October 27, 2004*

>>>> *Scientists Find Prehistoric Dwarf Skeleton*

>>>> *By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS*

>>>>

>>> *They just had a story about this on the Channel 10 news....with the*

>>> *reporter, not just once but several times claiming this find "shatters*

> *the*

>> *theory of evolution!!!"*

>>

>> *It boggles the mind to see today's news headlines. The reporters*

>> *should have educated themselves with something like this interview*

>> *with Bernard Wood:*

>>

>> *ABC Online*

>> *Anthropologist says new skeleton discovery most significant in 100*

>> *years*

>> *Thursday, 28 October, 2004*

>> *Reporter: Alison Caldwell*

>>

>> *HAMISH ROBERTSON: One of the world's leading anthropologists has*

>> *described the find as the most significant discovery about human*

>> *evolution for the last hundred years.*

>>

>> *Bernard Wood is Professor of Human Origins and Human Evolution Anatomy*

>> *at George Washington University in the United States. He believes the*

>> *Flores Man is a distant ancestor of Homo Sapiens, and there could have*

>> *been many more similar hominids on other islands around the region.*

>>

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>> *Bernard Wood has been speaking to Alison Caldwell.*

>>

>> *BERNARD WOOD: I just think it's the most amazing thing that I've seen*

>> *in my professional lifetime – it's just a dwarf version of what our*

>> *ancestors were like probably about one–and–a–half million years ago.*

>>

>> *ALISON CALDWELL: What does it mean for the evolutionary theory? What*

>> *we have to come to accept is that there's this line, there are apes at*

>> *one end and there are human beings at the other end. Where do these*

>> *little hominids sit?*

>>

>> *BERNARD WOOD: It doesn't change it at all. It doesn't change it at*

>> *all. I mean, these creatures are the descendants of our ancestors,*

>> *about somewhere between one and two million years ago.*

>>

>> *The fact that they have survived as an isolated community right up*

>> *until 18,000 years ago doesn't alter their biology. They are what they*

>> *are. They aren't miniature little modern humans, they are, if you look*

>> *at their skeletons, it has all the hallmarks of what our ancestors*

>> *would have looked like one–and–a–half million years ago.*

>>

>> *And all that's happened is that they have dwarfed and they have kept*

>> *themselves to themselves. It just means that the group that we*

>> *recognise from one–and–a–half million years, that we thought had*

>> *become extinct, managed to maintain a sort of tenuous existence on*

>> *this island.*

>>

>> *And for all I know there may be the equivalent on other islands, and*

>> *they became. or this individual died or was killed 18,000 years ago,*

>> *my guess is because modern humans happened then to reach Flores, and I*

>> *don't think these would have stood much of a chance if they had come*

>> *face to face with homo sapiens at 18,000 years.*

>>

>> *ALISON CALDWELL: Is it possible these little hominids could also be*

>> *elsewhere on other islands around the region?*

>>

>> *BERNARD WOOD: I think it's entirely possible. And what's interesting*

>> *is that our view of human evolution, which has been based on Africa,*

>> *where there is insularity, because zoologists will tell you that they*

>> *think one major lake basin may not. may have their own flora and*

>> *fauna, their own specific flora and fauna. it's the first time we've*

>> *seen what human evolution might be like in an environment where you*

>> *have the potential for groups of creatures to be on an island and then*

>> *to be essentially undisturbed for literally maybe a million years.*

>>

>> *ALISON CALDWELL: But what about the scientists who say that Flores Man*

>> *doesn't belong in the genus homo at all, even if it was a recent*

>> *contemporary?*

>>

>> *BERNARD WOOD: Well, I think that's like saying this sort of dwarf*

>> *elephant that they've found on the island doesn't belong to the genus*

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>> *stegodon*. It's just a dwarfed version.

>>

>> *And Homo floresiensis is a dwarfed version of Homo Agasta (phonetic)*

>> *or early African Homo Erectus. Just because it has a small brain*

>> *doesn't mean it's an ape. I mean, that just shows a sort of lack of*

>> *imagination.*

>>

>> *HAMISH ROBERTSON: Bernard Wood, who is the Henry R Luce Professor of*

>> *Human Origins and Human Evolution Anatomy at George Washington*

>> *University. He was speaking to Alison Caldwell.*

>

> *Very good views above!*

> *As far as I remember Homo erectus remains have been found in different*

> *parts*

> *of Asia, These date all times during the whole preceeding million years.*

> *These Forens men skeletons look very similar to other erectus findings.*

> *They*

> *are smaller, but so are many other sub species living isolated on islands.*

> *So*

> *I would like to see them called Homo erectus florensis. Their forefathers*

> *arrived on this island 100 000 years ago or earlier. So they had had*

> *enough*

> *time to get here accidentally in a flood situation on a floating tree or*

> *debris.*

>

The oldest tools on the island are way older than that.

> *The latest remains date 18 000 Bp, this is very close to the time when the*

> *first Homo sapiens sapiens reached Australia most likely via Flores island*

>

The last remains are about 12 to 13 thousand.

> *Antti Järvi*

> *antti.nofoforename@icon.fi*

>

> *18.000 years Bp is very closely the tim*

>

>