

Le Tour de Lennox 2014



“ Let me tell you this little story: Stephen Hawking was asked if he would sum up religion, ‘Oh’ he said ‘A fairy story for people afraid of the dark.’ And the Times asked me to comment, so I said ‘OK, Atheism is a fairy story for people afraid of the light!’ ”

– Prof John Lennox, *Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?*

John Lennox on tour in 2014

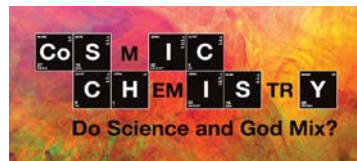
Throughout the month of August Oxford University Professor of Mathematics John Lennox toured Australia, speaking to a broad range of Christian and secular audiences in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

Whilst he didn't travel by bicycle, Lennox's resilience, fortitude and pace matched that of an athlete as he addressed the multitudes on a variety of science and faith-related questions in his popular, intelligent and warm manner.

We hope you enjoy this special edition newsletter presented by the partners of Tour de Lennox 2014. Please pray that non-Christian tour guests would understand and accept God's grace and that Christian guests would continue to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus.

From the Tour Director

City Bible Forum are grateful for the partnership of so many organisations around Australia, and are particularly thankful to Katoomba Christian Convention (KCC) for jointly bringing Lennox to Australia.



Following the KCC events, City Bible Forum managed Lennox's itinerary, working with 10 organisations in 6 cities and hosting 5 headline evening events in Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane and Sydney under the banner - *Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?* The *Cosmic Chemistry* national tour sought to challenge the accepted wisdom that science and religion represent two incompatible ways of viewing the world around us. Like all Tour events, *Cosmic Chemistry* highlighted Lennox's expertise on the interface of science, philosophy and faith and sought to promote intelligent and informed discussion, driven by well-credentialed moderators and interactive audience Q&A via Twitter and SMS.

The Tour de Lennox has been a truly national exercise in gospel partnership. John Lennox's visit to Australia echoed the great Billy Graham crusades of the past, with Lennox speaking at 24 events over 22 tour days. Wherever John went, there was a buzz in the air. Venues were full, non-Christian friends were inspired to think hard about God, some turned to Christ and atheists were seen carrying copies of John's books. It was enormously encouraging to all believers who attended Lennox events.

We would like to sincerely thank Prof John Lennox and his wife Sally for their exuberant willingness to tour Australia to speak to so many, so powerfully. And thank you to all people and organisations who planned, partnered or participated in a Tour de Lennox event!

May God continue to use Prof Lennox mightily in the proclamation of the gospel.

– Peter Kaldor, Managing Director of City Bible Forum

KEY TOUR STATISTICS

- Total tour days: 22
- Stages: 7
- Event days: 17
- Rest stop: Kangaroo Island
- Number of events: 24
- Number of event venues: 22
- Estimated audience size: over 20,000
- Number of domestic flights: 7
- Total kilometres flown within Australia: 8,109 KM
- Number of tour radio broadcasts: 6
- Number of TV programs filmed: 2
- Number of articles in print: 6



ROUTE MAP

- ▶ Start
- Stage 1: Sydney 03-08.08.14
- Stage 2: Melbourne 08-10.08.14
- Stage 3: Adelaide and Kangaroo Is 10-17.08.14
- Stage 4: Perth 17-21.08.14
- Stage 5: Brisbane 21-23.08.14
- Stage 6: Gold Coast 23-24.08.14
- ▶ End
- Stage 7: Sydney 24-26.08.14

Stop press!

ABC *Big Ideas* broadcast the final event of Lennox's tour - the *Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?* Sydney event on 11 October, 2014 on ABC News24 at 12:30pm AEST. The extended version of the event is available at abc.net.au





KCC Oxygen 2014

04-07.08.14 ■ Australian Technology Park

- Team** Katoomba Christian Convention
- Classification** Four-day conference.
- Audience** Oxygen fuelled the passion of 1,500 Christians who are active in ministry.
- News** John Lennox featured as a plenary speaker. He preached two sermons on the "I Am" statements by Jesus and hosted the "Suffering and the God Question" and "Science and the God Question" Apologetics & Evangelism elective sessions.

Partner zone kcc.org.au



Spectator Feedback

"Lennox's stories about debates with atheists and his responses under pressure make me laugh. I wish I could do the same! He has a rare gift of being able to win minds and hearts."

Dinner party with skeptics

05.08.14 ■ Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron

- Team** City Bible Forum
- Classification** Outreach dinner party.
- Audience** 4 Christians and 9 non-Christians.
- Motivation** For Lennox to meet with very senior business people.

Spectator Feedback

"Thank you for the invitation last night. I thought it was a most successful, thought provoking evening, and I thoroughly enjoyed the discussion."



Search for Success

07.08.14 ■ Australian Technology Park

- Team** Katoomba Christian Convention
- Classification** Evening outreach event.
- Audience** Nearly 2,500 Christians and their non-Christian friends.
- Motivation** "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?" (Mark 8:36)
- News** John Lennox and Francis Chan shared the gospel, challenging people with the idea "our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter".

Partner zone kcc.org.au



Spectator Feedback

"Lennox and Chan's talks complemented each other so well, truly an experience of brilliant apologetics and gospel proclamation from both speakers - a wise older Irishman and a passionate American."



'Myth or Truth? at the Logos Live Radio Show

08.08.14 ■ Donkey Wheel House

- Team: City Bible Forum
Classification: Lunchtime radio show recording.
Audience: 40 city workers, believers and unbelievers.
Motivation: A six-part series with six experts putting six big claims about the Christian message to the test.

- News: Lennox grappled with with the question 'has science buried God?' in front of a live studio audience.
Partner zone: citybibleforum.org/melbourne

Spectator Feedback

'Absolutely, outstandingly excellent!'



Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?

08.08.14 ■ Melbourne City Conference Centre



Spectator Feedback

'Awesome stuff, good fun and good thoughts. Still not convinced though!'

'Thank you - a great opportunity to invite non-Christian family. Engaging and very relevant discussion.'

- Team: City Bible Forum
Classification: National outreach tour event.
Audience: 700 Christian and non-Christian city workers and students.
News: Lennox delivered his keynote on the question 'do science and God mix?'; followed by a discussion and audience Q&A with investigative journalist and host of the Drive program on 774 ABC Melbourne, Rafael Epstein.
Partner zone: citybibleforum.org/melbourne melbourne@citybibleforum.org

Apologetics Conference: Faith has its Reasons - Science and the God Question

09.08.14 ■ Glen Waverley Anglican Church

- Team: The Peter Corney Training Centre in partnership with Ridley Melbourne and Christian Union, Melbourne
Classification: Apologetics conference for Christians of all ages from many churches.
Audience: 500 Christians seeking good tools to have more meaningful conversations with their unbelieving friends.
News: Lennox was the keynote speaker for the morning sessions, followed by afternoon sessions addressing apologetics topics such as miracles, science, homosexuality and ethics. A panel of scientists shared their journeys of faith and careers in science, followed by Q&A.
Partner zone: petercorneytraining.com.au



Spectator Feedback

'A fantastic and thought provoking event that allowed us to grapple with incredibly complex topics in an accessible and enjoyable way. John Lennox has one of the most brilliant brains and more importantly he can communicate his immense knowledge in an accessible and humorous way.'

Combined service for St Hilary's Kew/North Balwyn, St Marks Camberwell and St James Ivanhoe

10.08.14 ■ St James Ivanhoe Centre



Spectator Feedback

'Thank you very much. We need people like John Lennox to encourage us in this very diverse world of religions, atheists etc. I feel recharged and ready to face the challenges again.'

- Team: Booroondarah Anglican churches
Classification: Combined church service.
Audience: 800 Christian people of all ages.
News: Bishop Stephen Hale led the service and Lennox preached inspiringly on the gospel of Luke, followed by a Q&A session addressing questions tweeted in during the sermon.
Partner zone: sthills.com ■ stmarkscamberwell.org.au ■ stjameschurch.org.au





34th South Australian Prayer Breakfast

12.08.14 ■ Adelaide Convention Centre

- Team** CBMC International
- Classification** Prayer breakfast.
- Audience** 1,600 Adelaide business men and women.
- News** Lennox shared his personal journey to faith, and how significant life events impacted him.
- Partner zone** cbmcint.com.au



Spectator Feedback

"I brought two unbelieving business associates. As John shared his experiences of working around the world and particularly behind the iron curtain, it made the gospel so compelling and you could have heard a pin drop in a room of 1,600 people having breakfast. One friend told me John made him think about the meaning of life and why he is here on earth."

Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?

12.08.14 ■ Bonython Hall, University of Adelaide

- Team** City Bible Forum
- Classification** Adelaide event as part of the national outreach tour.
- Audience** 900 Adelaide city workers, students and pensioners from Christian and other worldviews.
- News** Lennox presented his keynote "Do Science and God Mix?" followed by a discussion with Ian Henschke, Presenter 891 Mornings, ABC Adelaide which included questions from the audience submitted via Twitter and SMS.
- Partner zone** citybibleforum.org/adelaide
adelaide@citybibleforum.org



Spectator Feedback

"I had a non-christian friend with me at the Cosmic Chemistry talk. He really engaged with what John had to say, in particular, John's explanation of the Gospel of Jesus at the end of the night was so powerful. I was able to go for a drink with my mate after the talk and John's talk was a catalyst for an amazing discussion that ranged from the rationality of Theism to a very personal engagement with the Gospel of Jesus. He isn't over the line yet but last night was a huge step in the right direction."

Will science ever find God's fingerprints?

13.08.14 ■ Bonython Hall, University of Adelaide

- Team** North Terrace Evangelical Students
- Classification** University lunch time lecture and Q&A session.
- Audience** Over 700 University of Adelaide students from various world views.
- News** As part of the Jesus Week mission, Lennox spoke on the topic 'will science ever find God's fingerprints?', persuasively arguing that Christianity and science are not at odds.
- Partner zone** nt.es.org.au



Spectator Feedback

"A [non-Christian] friend came to the John Lennox talk with me and she agreed with many of his points! She then came to another Jesus week debate, bringing along her boyfriend and another friend."



Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?

18.08.14 ■ Perth Concert Hall

- Team** City Bible Forum
- Classification** Perth event as part of the national tour.
- Audience** 1,600 Perth city professionals and university students, including approximately 500 unbelievers.
- News** Lennox's keynote was followed by an interview with University of WA Professorial Fellow and former Premier of WA Dr Carmen Lawrence, which included many searching audience questions. This event was filmed for broadcast by local TV station WTV.
- Partner zone** citybibleforum.org/perth
perth@citybibleforum.org



Spectator Feedback

"Enjoyable and thought provoking. Great to see SO many people here."

"I thought this event was amazing. John has completely opened my mind. Thank you so much."

Has Science Buried God?

19.08.14 ■ University of Western Australia

- Team** UWA Christian Union
- Classification** University public lecture.
- Audience** 400 students, both non-Christian and Christian.
- Motivation** Many UWA students assume science and Christianity are opposed, but have never thought very hard about it. We wanted to give them the opportunity to hear what a Christian who is also a respected academic had to say about science and God.
- Partner zone** uwacu.org ■ facebook.com/uwachristianunion



Spectator Feedback

"I am already considering Christianity, but this talk has removed many of the doubts I had."

Politics and Religion Don't Mix

20.08.14 ■ Parliament of Western Australia

- Team** Hosted by Dr Graham Jacobs MLA, Member for Eyre
- Classification** Private luncheon with an interview.
- Audience** 12 Western Australian ministers of parliament from all parties.
- News** Dr Jacobs invited Lennox to Parliament so politicians of all parties could experience a Christian scientist and mathematician's view of the world. Lennox challenged the adage that "politics and religion don't mix", asserting that every person in politics comes with a belief system - even it is to believe there is no greater power. He postulated that our government system is inextricably linked to religion - in the case of our system - Christianity.



Host Feedback

"Feedback from my colleagues was extremely positive and they said they learned something. Many attendees were interested in following up on John's publications and subscribed on the internet that day! John Lennox would be most welcome again and I would love John to address our Party Room."

John Lennox: Why I am a Christian

20.08.14 ■ Riverview Church

- Team** Credo, Christian Conventions of WA
- Classification** Outreach event featuring a musical performance by Dan Conway, followed by a talk and Q&A.
- Audience** 1,400 students, workers and high school students, both non-Christians and Christians.
- Motivation** Host an evangelistic night for youth groups and high school students.
- Partner zone** credoperth.org ■ credoperth@gmail.com



Spectator Feedback

"The non-Christian I brought along really found it to be intellectually stimulating and yet he enjoyed how personable Prof John Lennox was and why he believes in Jesus."



STAGE 5: BRISBANE

21-23.08.14

Private dinner with Politicians

21.08.14 ■ Queensland Parliament

Classification

Private dinner with ministers of parliament

Is belief in the supernatural irrational?

22.08.14 ■ University of Queensland

Motivation

Engage university students and academics who are curious about the existence of God. As author of one of the UQ mathematics department's textbooks, Lennox's profile on campus helped raise the profile of the newly formed Centre for the Study of Science, Religion and Society.

Partner zone

centressrs.org ■ uques.org.au

Team

The Centre for the Study of Science, Religion and Society at Emmanuel College with Evangelical Students UQ.

Classification

Public lecture followed by Q&A.

Audience

500 believing and unbelieving academics, postgraduate and undergraduate students of the University of QLD and other universities in South East Queensland.

CSSRS

es evangelical students UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix?

22.08.14 ■ Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Team

City Bible Forum

Classification

Brisbane event as part of national outreach tour.

Audience

700 Brisbane city workers, students and pensioners from Christian and other worldviews

News

After his keynote, Lennox was interviewed by moderator Steve Austin, presenter of the Mornings program on 612 ABC Brisbane.

Partner zone

citybibleforum.org/brisbane
brisbane@citybibleforum.org



Spectator Feedback

"Thank you so much! The 6 hour drive here was well worth it"



STAGE 6: GOLD COAST

23-24.08.14

God and Science: A Public Lecture

23.08.14 ■ Newlife Uniting, Robina

Motivation

The goal of the event was to allow Prof Lennox to present a lucid and compelling case that science is not opposed to Christian faith, but in fact in many ways has arisen out of the Christian worldview and is completely consistent with it. He did this brilliantly. The evening was conversational in style, with Professor Lennox presenting a hour-long lecture followed by questions from the floor for another hour. Lennox also spoke at church the next day.

Team

Newlife Uniting Church

Classification

Public lecture with audience Q&A.

Audience

970 unbelieving and believing guests, with an estimate that half of the audience were under the age of 30.

Partner zone

church.nu



Host Feedback

"We know that at least one person made a commitment to Christ that night - a life-long atheist to that point - as a result of Prof Lennox's talk."



STAGE 7: SYDNEY

24-26.08.14

Cosmic Chemistry: Do Science and God Mix? and Smith Lecture

25.08.14 ■ Sydney Town Hall

Team

City Bible Forum

Classification

Final event of the national tour, with a cocktail reception for Smith Lecture guests before the event.

Audience

2,000 Sydney Christian and non-Christian city workers and university students.

News

Cosmic Chemistry Sydney was moderated by Jane Hutcheon from ABC News24 and One Plus One, and was filmed by ABC Big Ideas for broadcast on 11 October 2014.

Partner zone

citybibleforum.org/sydney ■ sydney@citybibleforum.org



Spectator Feedback

"Thank you for an open frank discussion on science and the relationship to God."

"A well-moderated challenging and empathetic event. The first I have been to, but not the last"

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