



## Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 150

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Edited by Gene Baade



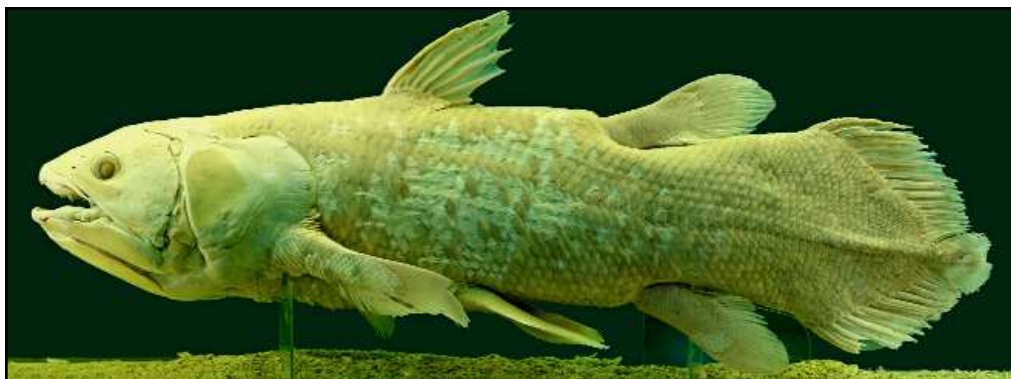
The preserved body of a coelacanth is seen here. I recall seeing exactly the same thing (even a green color) in a display at the Vancouver Aquarian. As I recall, it was in the lobby. You did not have to buy a ticket to see it. The aquarium obtained the specimen after it was caught in 1971. Nevertheless, the fish was discovered in December 1938, so the display took about 33 years to come about. I will bet that aquarium orders for that fish were on the books for a very long time.

Dr. John Napier was born in 1917, so he was 21 years old when the fish was in the headlines. Napier would have been in university at that time, but certainly would have heard about the discovery. In the adjacent quotation he states:

Actually, of course, there is still the obligation, often ignored, of explaining how an archaic form has achieved the remarkable feat of surviving beyond its time.

The answer to this question is that there are places in the world where very few people venture and very little changes. I keep pointing to the interior of British Columbia and its 44,000 islands as perhaps examples of those places.

Whatever the case, there are numerous animals that were thought to be extinct, but were found alive and well, including at least one primate. You just have to netsearch this subject to see them. The coelacanth was a major find because of the length of time (66 million years) it



Correlating monsters present with monsters past is a favourite exercise of their devotees. As a means of rationalizing an otherwise unlikely story, it has much to commend it. By postulating that a monster is a relict form—a hangover from the past—monster fans feel absolved from the necessity of explaining how such an outrageously unsuitable creature has evolved in the light of present-day ecology. Actually, of course, there is still the obligation, often ignored, of explaining how an archaic form has achieved the remarkable feat of surviving beyond its time.

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was thought to have been extinct.

The reference in Napier's quotation regarding sasquatch (also the yeti I suppose) as being an "outrageously unsuitable creature," is a little uninformed. I am not going to speak for the yeti, but the sasquatch appears to have a number of attributes that make it quite suitable for North America in general and the Pacific Northwest coast in particular.

Napier slips in an insult by using the

word "monster" (an imaginary creature that is typically large, ugly, and frightening) in relation to extant relict hominoids. Other than size, the sasquatch is no more a monster than many of the other hominoids recognized by the Smithsonian Institution—see *B&P* No. 81.

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**For instance, even at 18,000 feet, where Shipton and Ward photographed their famous footprint, there are regions of alpine moorland totally devoid of snow in the spring. Indeed Shipton's team camped in such an area after the footprint sighting. These regions are inhabited by pikas and other small mammalian species and are visited in season by bears, snow leopards and a variety of bovid species.**

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What Napier states here may provide another reason why the yeti in some cases goes up above the snowline in the Himalayas. Evidently there are regions that in the springtime have all sorts of animal life. There would also be vegetable matter and perhaps salt, which attracts some animals. I suppose there is the same sort of thing in other mountainous regions, particularly British Columbia. But a netsearch did not turn up anything of the nature provided here.

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Some authorities such as Dr Bernard Heuvelmans are already convinced that the Yeti is a descendant of *Gigantopithecus*, a proposal which has achieved recognition even in the correspondence columns of *Nature*.(4) Quite apart from the fact there is no evidence whatsoever to link *Gigantopithecus* with the Yeti (even supposing the latter exists), there are a number of points that make such a relationship rather unlikely.

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Dr. Napier's book was published in 1972, so I believe what is said here about the Giganto-yeti connection indicates the theory was known before that year. John Green does not mention the Giganto in his book, *Sasquatch: The Apes Among Us*, which was published in 1978. I believe John connected the Giganto to the sasquatch in the 1980s. It is likely Napier was the inspiration. Whatever the case, things have changed over the last 50 plus years, so I will not go any further with Napier's thoughts.

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*Gigantopithecus blacki*

*Paranthropus* never had much chance of becoming a man; there was always too much competition from more advanced species of humans living contemporaneously. *Paranthropus* had no more chance than the gorilla or chimpanzee has today of climbing to the top of the hominid ladder. I suppose one might say therefore that *Paranthropus* was a failed human, but this would pre-suppose that it was in the running in the first place.

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Obviously, Dr. Napier did not think the *Paranthropus* was a good candidate for an extant relict hominoid (i.e., one that might still exist). We believe it had a very small brain. The following is from Wikipedia:

*Paranthropus* is a genus of extinct hominin which contains two widely accepted species: *P. robustus* and *P. boisei*. However, the validity of *Paranthropus* is contested, and it is sometimes considered to be synonymous with *Australopithecus*. They are also referred to as the robust australopithecines. They lived between approximately 2.6 and 0.6 million years ago (mya) from the end of the Pliocene to the Middle Pleistocene.

The following display was created

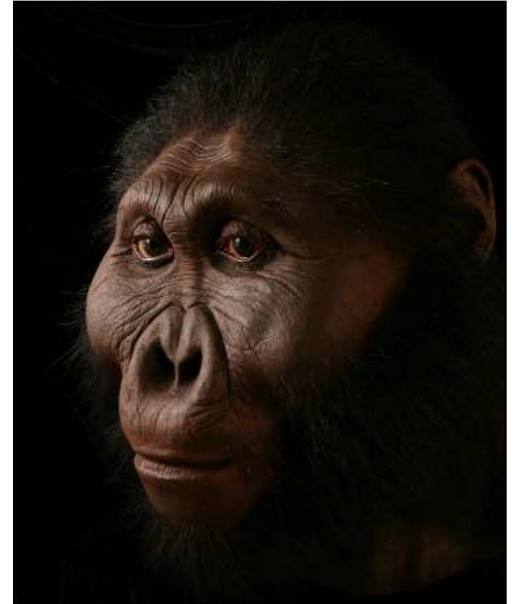


Reconstruction of *Paranthropus robustus* being dragged by a leopard at the Ditsong Museum, Pretoria.

after it was determined that a *Paranthropus* had apparently been killed by a leopard. I believe the inference is that the hominoid was particularly vulnerable to animal attacks, and likely attacks by other

hominoids, if it was seen alone—usually as a result of being expelled from a group.

Nevertheless, the *Paranthropus* managed to survive on the earth for about two million years. By comparison, *Homo sapiens* (human beings) have so far only been around for a maximum of 300,000 years (latest figure). It would be very presumptuous to say that the *Paranthropus* failed as a species. That it failed as a human is obviously true. The following astounding model by John Gurche shows what *Paranthropus Boisei* likely looked like up-close.



Average weight and height are estimated to be 88 pounds at 4 feet for *P. robustus* males; 110 pounds at 4 feet 6 inches for *P. boisei* males; 71 pounds at 3 feet 7 inches for *P. robustus* females, and 75 pounds at 4 feet 1 inch for *P. boisei* females. (Wikipedia)

Whatever the case, this hominoid was far too small to have any connection to what we now call extant relict hominoids. I doubt it would have evolved to “sasquatch status” in just 600,000 years.

Dr. Napier's statement as to gorilla's and chimpanzees is interesting. It implies the *Paranthropus* was at about the same level of intelligence as these two great ape primates. That being the case, then the *Paranthropus* was really not that bad—“Apes can match human two-and-a-half year olds in numerical and spatial reasoning. But toddlers win hands-down in another kind of thinking, called social cognition” (ScienceNetLinks). Had *Paranthropus* carried on, it likely would have been “up there” with the great apes.

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In the adjacent excerpt Napier, quoting from Heuvelmans, provides a very good description of the almasty (the word Almas is incorrect). Generally, other than the “medium height” and “big toe shorter than other toes,” the description matches that of the sasquatch. There are varieties of the Russian snowman, and some appear to have very large feet, so would naturally be much larger in stature.

Just when V.A. Khakhlov (correct spelling is Khakhlov) obtained this information is not provided. Nevertheless, we know that as a college student in 1914 he collected information on the wildman in central Asia and named it *Primihomo asiaticus*. He reported his findings to the Russian Academy of Sciences. Professor Boris Porshnev dug out Khakhlov’s report in 1959 and obviously provided information to Bernard Heuvelmans, which found its way to Napier. For certain, the Latin

**Bernard Heuvelmans quotes the Russian zoologist and explorer V. A. Khakhlov, whose journeys in search of ‘wild men’ in the desert and mountainous regions of Dzungaria led him to summarize the principal traits of the Almas from the evidence of witnesses in the following terms: ‘They are of medium height, with hair all over the body, absence of a forehead but prominent brow-ridges and heavy lower jaw and no chin, long arms and short legs, feet broad with big toe shorter than other toes but massive and broad and projecting inwards, other toes fanned out.’**

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species name assigned by Khakhlov was not official.

Back in the early 1900s, it does not appear there was a lot of interest in what we now call hominology. It actually came into its own with Porshnev in the 1960s.

I believe the image shown here is V.A. Khakhlov.

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### A Special Notice from the Editor

The faithful readers of Christopher Murphy’s *Bits and Pieces* should be aware that, in late 2020, Chris was chosen to receive the International Cryptozoology Museum’s (ICM) Lifetime Achievement Award, The Golden Yeti. It has been awarded to Chris for his extensive work over many years in the field of sasquatch research.

The museum’s founder and curator Loren Coleman and his staff make selections annually for this esteemed award. Loren’s own lifetime of research and writing, including several books, eminently qualifies him to recognize the finest contributors and authorities on this subject.

On my bookshelves reside several hundred books on sasquatch or bigfoot, yeti, and related hominoids. There are quite a number of truly important books on the subject of these hidden hominoids. A monograph could be written analyzing their importance and placing them into different categories. I have all eight of Chris’ sasquatch books, most written in association with other noted researchers, including John Green and Thomas Steenburg; also most, if not all, of the books on the subject that Chris edited and promoted. I open them frequently when doing research, or simply reading for

interest. They are what I call “top shelf” books, not because they are shelved out of reach, but because they are among the most important published on the subject.

What most people who follow Chris’ sasquatch books may not know, however, is that he is an authority on Masonic philately and Freemasonry in general. He has written books on Masonic subjects as well as edited a Masonic journal. His books include a great subject: *Brothers of the Diamond: Freemasonry and Professional Baseball* (New Westminster, 1993). One of Chris’ least known books, written as a result of his career as a manager for a major Canadian corporation, is *Vendor Quality Management* (New Westminster, 1992). Two years later he published related titles.

When I learned of Chris’ award, I wrote to him, “I can’t think of anyone more deserving of this particular award.” I told him regarding his books in particular, “... they are chock full of information, facts, and analysis, and are attractively designed and published. As for the combination of all three aspects, I believe that *Know the Sasquatch* may be the best ever published on the subject.”

I did not offer that praise lightly. A number of people, beginning with Ivan Sanderson, Roger Patterson, John Green, Grover Krantz, Peter Byrne, and continuing in those still formative years



The Golden Yeti Award

with folks like Loren Coleman, have written extremely informative and important books. Some of these must be considered classics in the field. Since then, books poorly written and researched, and books well-written and researched, have flooded the market representing sasquatch analysis. Hundreds of books, if not thousands, have now been written embracing different aspects of the subject.

*Continued*

Even though I have read or scanned many of these books, *Know the Sasquatch* stands out. Its excellent layout and design, its intelligent composition, and its gorgeous color printed from cover to cover on glossy stock are all backed up by Chris Murphy's decades of focused research, extensive study, and detailed analysis. If I were to construct a list of twenty-five best books on the subject of living relict hominoids, most of Chris' output would be in the list. All of Chris' books have been published by the excellent British Columbia publisher, David Hancock, of Hancock House.

I recently asked Chris for more information on his professional background, including his years at BC Tel (now Telus). He was a purchasing supervisor, then warehouse manager for a district ranging from Vancouver up to Powell River "... (about five supervisors with 80 people reporting to me)." He then became the purchasing manager, again with 5 supervisors and other staff. After some five years he became the vendor quality manager and essentially created a massive computer system that was adopted by all major Canadian telephone companies. He traveled and lectured extensively, writing several books on purchasing and vendor quality. He retired at age 53 after 36+ years' service. "I now had lots of time and carried on for a few

years lecturing—other companies wanted to look at the system. I taught night school at BCIT for a couple of terms and during this time got more and more into the sasquatch."

With a career like this, it should come as no surprise that Christopher Murphy is able to crunch sasquatch-related facts and figures the way he does and assimilate so many lines of thought and research in the relict hominoid field around the world. There is little in the field, historically or in the present, that escapes his notice. In one article he can be talking about Russian research a century old and in the next article he can be sharing his personal conversations with René Dahinden and John Green. His friendship with these and other North American original researchers provides us with a knowledge base and a memoir fountain that is invaluable and keeps on giving.

Not to be overlooked is the remarkable assemblage of sasquatch artifacts and descriptive material Chris found, created, and organized over the years that have been displayed in nine museums in North America, beginning with the Museum of Vancouver, BC, and now residing permanently in the International Cryptozoology Museum Portland, Maine. The first time I saw Chris' exhibit was in the old British Columbia Cariboo

Gold Rush trail town of Yale, on the Fraser River. As mentioned, included in Chris' museum exhibit are many pieces he, himself, created.

Chris is not only a technical expert and analyst who can apply a wide swatch of knowledge in many fields, but he is an excellent mixed media artist.

I began editing *Bits and Pieces* with issue No. 67. Chris contributes material to the Sasquatch Canada website, which posts *Bit & Pieces*. He and the site webmaster have now passed the remarkable milestone of 150 issues. Chris asked me to take on editing *Bits and Pieces* after I assisted him and Hancock House in the proofreading of an important 2019 book written by the late Dmitri Bayanov. It is titled, *The Making of Hominology: A Science Whose Time Has Come*, and was written in association with Christopher Murphy and published by Hancock House.

It has been an honor to have a small part in producing the continuous stream of condensed, fascinating material represented by *Bits and Pieces*, but no honor is more deservedly given than the ICM Lifetime Achievement Award to my friend, Chris Murphy.

Gene Baade

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ICM link: <<http://www.cryptozooneews.com/czist2020/>>

Shown here is the panel and photo display at the International Cryptozoology Museum in Portland, Maine. Loren Coleman is sending images to me as he progresses with combining *Sasquatch Revealed* with his major crypto exhibit.

The top row shows the large panels made by the Museum of Vancouver in 2002/3. There are nine in total. I provided the facts and the museum people did the layouts using images I furnished. I saw drafts of the text, but nothing else. The first time I laid eyes on the panels was when the exhibit opened.

After the exhibit ended, I was given the panels. I saw that they were printed on plastic film affixed to heavy panelboard. I changed the header because it was specific to John Green and his work as a newspaper owner. Although I smile now, John was very unhappy because the headlines were too sensational for him.

The skulls on the left (red arrow) are the work of Yvon Leclerc. He provided the images to me in about 2000.

To the right (yellow arrow) is a display using P/G film site location images taken by Dan Perez. He and other researchers have now fully identified the film site, as presented in *B&P* Issue No. 129.

Again to the right, are P/G film frame images. I had the Cibachrome images enlarged using what was then (late 1990s) current color-copy technology. I was so astounded with the quality that I had a set of the prints laminated and they have been



shown in museum exhibits since that time.

Seeing material professionally displayed adds tremendously to the visual effect and even to the credibility of the subject.

I am sure that Loren's great work is going to open up a few minds in the scientific world.

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