



Prof. Ian Stewart FRS

The Mathematics of Evolution

Wednesday October 10th
7.30pm
Auckland Museum Auditorium

Prof. Stewart has held visiting positions in Germany, New Zealand, and the USA, and is an adjunct professor at Houston. His joint book *The Science of Discworld* (written with Terry Pratchett and Jack Cohen) was nominated for a Hugo award at the 2000 World science fiction convention. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2001, and won the Public Understanding of Science and Technology Award of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2002.



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Prof. Ian Stewart is the first Seelye Fellow to visit New Zealand at the invitation of the University of Auckland's Department of Mathematics. He is a world renowned mathematician and science fiction writer who will open the Auckland Museum Institute's Darwin Lecture series which accompanies the Museum's *Darwin* exhibition.

Darwin's theory of evolution is widely recognised as one of the key ideas in biology. However, it is less well known that attempts to model the evolutionary process and to understand some of its more puzzling features have also inspired a number of developments in mathematics. This lecture will describe some of the mathematics that has developed from evolutionary biology. In particular, it will focus on the problem of the evolution of new species - or, as Darwin put it, "The Origin of Species". It will be non-technical, highly illustrated, and without mathematical formulae or equations.

Venue: Auckland Museum Auditorium
Price: \$10 or \$5 for Museum members and University of Auckland staff and students
Bookings: 306 7048 or bookings@aucklandmuseum.com

(NOTE: As part of Late Night Wednesdays, the Museum's *Darwin* exhibition and Columbus Café will be open from 5:30pm)