

MEMBERS UPDATE – 7 DECEMBER 2020

Dear Members

Further to the release of the Club's "EXPEDITIONS AND EVENTS – ON THE HORIZON – OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE" (see attached), we now have further details to share with you as follows.

ILLUSTRATING THE ANTIPODES: GEORGE FRENCH ANGAS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1844-1845

Tuesday 23 February – Pacific Cultures Gallery 5.30pm

This event will be the first of the Club's *COMING OUT SERIES* for 2021. We are privileged to have as our presenter the Museum's Dr Philip Jones, a curator at the Museum's Department of Anthropology since the 1980s. Philip is the author of *Ochre and Rust: Artefacts and Encounters on Australian Frontiers*, and curator of the forthcoming exhibition and author of a book titled *Illustrating the Antipodes* exhibition. The artist and naturalist George French Angas (1822-1886) was the eldest son of one of South Australia's key founders, George Fife Angas. Philip will take us on a journey in the footsteps of George French Angas through South Australian locations.

Event Organiser: Margie Heylen

AFTER THE FIRES ON KANGAROO ISLAND

Your Club is offering three separate events about the impacts of the devastating fires on Kangaroo Island, as an innovative and collaborative initiative between Museum scientists and Associates and the Botanic Gardens. Each of these events below will include an introduction to the natural history and significance of the specie or species found on burnt sites on the island, how the populations have and are been monitored, the impacts of the fires on the population and the recovery efforts including any citizen science projects linked to the recovery.

EVENT 1: FUNGI AND THEIR HEALING ROLE - PAM CATCHESIDE

Tuesday 23 March – Pacific Cultures Gallery 5.30pm

Pam is an Honorary Research Associate for the State Herbarium. Her research is on macrofungi, their taxonomy/ecology, habitat, phenology and their interactions with other organisms and their habitats. She and her husband David are currently writing a book about the fungi of Kangaroo Island. Pam's presentation will explain the essential roles fungi play in all ecosystems. After fire they promote soil health, break down and recycle burnt timber and re-establish symbiotic plant fungal relationships. There will be a particular emphasis on the fungi of Kangaroo Island: how fungi responded to the 2007 fires and the species that fruited after the most recent summer fires.

Event Organisers: Rose and Alastair Dow

EVENT 2: MICROBATS AND 'EXTINCT' PLANTS

Monday 29 March, 9am - 2.00pm at the Botanic Gardens

A morning event the Botanic Gardens with Dan Duval, "The Seed Collector" managing the [South Australian Seed Conservation Centre](#) and the Museum's well known "bat



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man” Terry Reardan. Dan will share some of the research/monitoring he is involved in on KI. WHC members will learn about some endangered Kangaroo Island plants and how they are being saved. Members will be able to take home some potted seeds to care for until ready to return to Kangaroo Island. Terry will show us the results of the research in progress on Kangaroo Island to save the microbat populations, and we will visit hollows in the gardens where there are microbat populations. Dan and Terry will overwhelm you with their passion and enthusiasm for their respective topics.

EVENT 3: SAVING ENDANGERED BEES AND VANISHED SPIDERS

Late March/early April, 9.30 to 1.30 - Date and venue to be advised

The Museum’s Dr Remko Leijts will tell us about the impact of the fires on Kangaroo Island’s Carpenter Bees and what is being done to ensure their survival. He will show us examples of the artificial nests that are being rebuilt and reinstalled for the island’s Carpenter Bee population. Dr Jess Marsh an arachnologist based on Kangaroo Island will share her research on trapdoor spiders. One species only found on Kangaroo Island, the Kangaroo Island micro-trapdoor spider, has gone missing. Where might it be? What is being done to rediscover it?

NUKUNU, THE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTHERN FLINDERS RANGES – THEIR HISTORY AND CULTURE

Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 April 2021

Incorrectly advertised as a “weekend expedition” in the October Issue, we now confirm the dates as above. Expedition Leader, Tim Tolley has recently visited the region and confirms that this expedition will be an introduction to the lands of the Nukuna people of the Southern Ranges. Based in Melrose, with ensuite cabin accommodation there will be some walking on undulating pathways along creek beds and optional hill climbs interspersed with good food, wines and company.

Expedition Leaders: Tim and Jen Tolley

All of the above dates and arrangements are subject to COVID-19 restrictions and protocols, and any other unforeseen circumstances.

Expressions of interest for the above events and expedition have already been invited but if you are interested and have not done so please let us know if you interested.

You can do this by listing your interests by email: waterhouseclub@samuseum.sa.gov.au, by post, or telephoning the Club office.

Early expressions of interest assist the Club to plan with confidence. When invitations are distributed we will hold bookings open for one week and if more requests for bookings are received than the number of places we are able to offer, a ballot will be held to determine allocation of bookings.