



EXPEDITIONS AND EVENTS – ON THE HORIZON – JULY 2021 ISSUE

RECENT ADVENTURES

Showcasing a recent expedition “Nukunu, the people of the Southern Flinders Ranges – their history and culture”



Club Member Marg Davy with the Museum's Dr Jared Thomas, and Uncle Kym Thomas



Dr Jared Thomas and Anita Nedosyko at Port Germein



Members relaxing at Melrose

THE COMING OUT SERIES – UPDATE

The Coming Out Series (July 2020- June 2021) was designed by your Club to welcome members back into the Museum following the COVID lockdown. The Series showcased the Museum's high profile scientists and included privileged viewing of items from the Museum's collection. All events in the series were sell outs! Members also told us the offering of wine and pre-dinner canapes as a show starter provided a welcome opportunity to socialise with Waterhouse Club friends and make new acquaintances. Given the feedback from members, your Committee has agreed the evening events will continue to feature regularly on your Club's programs.

STOP PRESS!! The final event in the COMING OUT SERIES was scheduled for Tuesday 29 June 2021 – titled **Global Strategy and the Critical Minerals Revolution** to be presented by Associate Professor Carl Spandler, recently appointed in the Faculty of Science at the University of Adelaide. Carl was impacted by the Queensland COVID border restrictions, resulting in the postponement of the event. **Carl's presentation will focus on what “critical minerals: are, where they can be found globally and in Australia, and how we can extract and process these little-understood mineral commodities.** Look out for re-scheduled date later in 2021.

COMING UP – SAVE THESE DATES IN 2021

Wednesday 14 July

A morning visit to the Tonsley Park Drill Core Library

A rare opportunity to visit South Australia's Drill Core Reference Library at Tonsley Park, a state-of-the-art facility (opened in July 2016) with guidance and interpretation by Club Member and Geologist Trevor Ireland. The visit will include viewing the new storage facility, where over 7.5million metres of South Australian rock samples are stored, with a focus on a selected site where the presence of critical minerals may provide new extractive opportunity.

Event Organiser: Mark Macintosh

Tuesday 20 July – 5.30pm in the Pacific Cultures Gallery

Behind the Scenes of the Museum’s ‘Wonders Exhibition’

This landmark exhibition will bring the stories of 165 incredible objects to life to commemorate the Museum’s 165th birthday in June 2021 – many of which have never been on public display before. Your Club offers a private evening tour of the Exhibition with Museum scientists interpreting and expanding on the significance of items selected from the collection.

Event Organiser: Mark Mackintosh

Tuesday 10 August – 5.30pm in the Pacific Cultures Gallery

Ediacaran Fossils in the Flinders Ranges – What is happening?

The Waterhouse Club is privileged to present an update on the latest developments at the Nilpena Fossil Site and progress of the associated World Heritage Listing bid. The Museum’s Associate Professor Diego Garcia-Bellido will provide a sparkling presentation focussing on the “outstanding universal values” of the Flinders Ranges World Heritage Nomination, with emphasis on the latest discoveries at Nilpena by the Museum team. Mr Jason Irving, Manager National Parks and Protected Area Program, South Australian Government Department for Environment and Water, will share with us the progress of the creation of the Nilpena Ediacara National Park and the World Heritage listing nomination of the park.

Event Organisers: Tim Tolley and Margie Heylen

Friday 3 to Monday 6 September

Ediacara Fossils and the Acraman Meteorite: A weekend expedition to the Flinders Ranges. Postponed from September 2020 – Wait list only

Professor Jim Gehling will take us to the Ediacaran fossil site in the Flinders Ranges, the home of the State’s fossil emblem *Spriggina Floundersi*. Jim is a world expert on the Ediacaran fauna and these fossil beds in particular. He will show us evidence of first complex life on earth – fossil specimens of such high quality that this location has given its name to a new geological era. Also on the expedition will be Dr Vic Gostin, retired Associate Professor of Geology at the University of Adelaide. Vic was involved in the detective work that linked the Acraman Meteorite impact site to the ejecta in the Flinders ranges. We will learn about the geology of the Flinders Ranges, the Acraman ejector meteorite event and see evidence of the meteorite impact.

Expedition Leader: Tim Tolley

Friday 17 to Monday 20 September

Saving the Western Pygmy Possum – A Community Science Project. Expedition 3.

Wait list only

Facilitated by the Museum’s Professor Steve Donnellan this expedition to the Riverland area north of Renmark is part of a “hands on” project which aims to ensure the survival of the Western Pygmy Possum. We will be preparing and installing nest boxes in bushland. In the future, the project will also involve novel proactive conservation actions such as moving animals to the south ahead of climate change to ensure that vulnerable populations have access to existing arid adapted possums.

Expedition Leaders: Gaye and Tim Fischer

Friday 8 October to Sunday 17 October

Museum Biennial Collecting Expedition – Far North East of SA

The expedition will be in the tradition of the popular and highly successful biological survey collaborations between the Club and the Museum. These expeditions help fill the gaps in the Museum’s knowledge of the distribution of South Australian vertebrates and invertebrates. It is likely that the focus of this expedition will be on invertebrates, birds and nocturnal mammals such as bats. It will be a fully catered camp by bush legends Val and Mal Hanson. It is a drive yourself expedition and thus an opportunity to exercise your 4WD.

Expedition Leaders: Rose and Alastair Dow

Tuesday 19 October 6pm – At the Museum, venue to be advised.

Waterhouse Club Annual General Meeting

Save the date for this annual event. Look out for the Agenda and invitation towards the end of September.

Event Organisers: Natalie Rollinson and Margie Heylen

Friday 29 October to Monday 1 November

Naracoorte Caves in Depth - A Weekend of Palaeontological Discovery in the World

Heritage listed Naracoorte Caves

This expedition will give members access to key fossil sites and caves, and hands-on fossil sorting experience. Expeditioners will meet research scientists including Dr Liz Reed, Honorary Research Associate with the South Australian Museum, who is a vertebrate palaeontologist specialising in Quaternary aged cave deposits. The expedition will include a visit to the Bat Observation Centre Cave to observe the southern bent-wing bats which reside in Bat Cave and which we may see in Blanche Cave. There should be an opportunity for tasting some of the local Wrattonbully wines.

Expedition Leaders: Mark and Caroline Mussared

Tuesday 16 November

A Virtual Tour of Mars

Now here is something entirely different! Our presenter, retired Professor of Geology at the University of Adelaide will take us on an out of the world tour of the latest images and happenings on Mars. Look out for the invitation mid-October.

Event Organiser: Margie Heylen

STOP PRESS!!

Are you interested in a volunteer role working with Museum Scientists?

There may be a volunteer opportunity for around ten Waterhouse Club members to assist Dr Elizabeth (Liz) Reid one day a month to assist with sorting megafauna and other fossils from the Naracoorte Caves. Club Member Carol Ireland will be the project organiser.

More information will be available towards the end of 2021. WATCH THIS SPACE!

IN GESTATION 2022 AND BEYOND

Dates to be advised Early 2022

In the footsteps of George French Angus – painting true vistas

A series of intriguing one, two and three-day expeditions with a common theme to different locations, beginning with an expedition to the Barossa Valley led by Dr Phillip Jones. Philip is very knowledgeable and a delightful raconteur. Each of these expeditions will follow one of Angas's painting expeditions, homing in on some of his paintings and locating the likely vantage points from which he made the original drawings. Angus also made observations on natural history, geology, and Aboriginal culture, and these will also be brought into the theme of the expedition. Other likely locations are the Fleurieu Peninsula and Mt Gambier region.

Expedition Leader: Tim Tolley

Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 April 2022

Murray, Middens, and Mulyawonks: Cross-cultural perspectives on biodiversity

conservation along the Lower Murray

Land use and climate change are driving a global biodiversity crisis, with extinction rates in Australia amongst the highest in the world. Worse still, the evidence that biodiversity loss has adverse health consequences is burgeoning, and urgent action is required to conserve and restore biodiversity to benefit both the environment and human health. But where to start? This expedition will focus on visiting good news stories, where environmental protection and restoration has led, or is leading, to the conservation and return of biodiversity as well as the ecosystem services that it provides. The expedition will feature Mark Koolmatrie, Tribal Expertise Facility, Ngarrindjeri, and the Museum's Dr Philip Jones.

Expedition Leader: Professor Phillip Weinstein

Friday 1 April to Sunday 3 April 2022

Saving the Western Pygmy Possum – A Community Science Project. Expedition 4.

Facilitated by the Museum's Professor Steve Donnellan, our Club was invited to be involved in a three to five-year Citizen Science Project which aims to ensure the survival of the Western Pygmy Possum, a small marsupial in eastern South Australia. The expedition will be based in the Riverland.

Expedition Leaders: Gaye and Tim Fischer

Saturday 17 September to Sunday 18 September 2022

Saving the Western Pygmy Possum – A Community Science Project. Expedition 5.

Refer to information Expedition 4, above. Expedition 5 will be based in the Mid North.

Expedition Leaders: Gaye and Tim Fischer

7 to 12 September 2023 – Bookings now open. Limited number of berths available!

Coral Atoll #2 Expedition on 'True North'

The uncertainty of international travel in the foreseeable future has resulted in the cancellation of the Sepik River and Bougainville Island Expedition planned for November 2021. We have welcomed the opportunity for Australian coastal cruising and have negotiated transition to an alternative True North expedition based on one of their signature offerings, designed specifically for the Waterhouse Club. The itinerary for the Coral Atoll cruise can be found on the True North website: www.truenorth.com.au. The uniqueness of the Waterhouse Club expedition is our plan to have on board the Museum's Head of Science, Professor Steve Donnellan. Steve will present to us on the major scientific issues relating to the seamounts that rise from the edge of the continental shelf, and share some observations that will give us special insights into life on the atoll. As always, the good companionship of like-minded expeditioners adds significant value to this very special adventure.

For further information or to express interest in this expedition please contact Margie Heylen via www.waterhouseclub@samuseum or mobile 0419 818166

Date to be advised

Morocco and Canary Islands – Provisionally 2023, subject to COVID international travel restrictions.

Experience the history, architecture, culture, landscape and natural history of Morocco and the western Canary Islands with the Museum's resident Spanish palaeontologist, Diego Garcia-Bellido. The expedition will include visits to several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Atlas and Anti-Atlas Mountains, the Sahara and famous trilobite sites in this area of northern Africa. We will also visit the 3,718 m-high Teide volcano in Tenerife and the European Northern Observatory in La Palma.

Expedition Leaders: Trevor and Carol Ireland

All of the above dates and arrangements may be subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions and protocols and any other unforeseen circumstances

Expressions of interest for any of the above events and expedition are invited.

You can express interest by advising us in an email to waterhouseclub@samuseum.sa.gov.au or by telephoning the Club office. Early expressions of interest assist the Club to plan with confidence. However, this does not offer priority status for bookings. 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 available a ballot will be held to determine allocation of bookings. If necessary, the Club will maintain a waiting list in the event of confirmed booking cancellations.