



EXPEDITIONS AND EVENTS – ON THE HORIZON – JANUARY 2024 ISSUE

RECENT ADVENTURES

Kangaroo Island Survey and Coral Island Cruise

Finding Harvestmen on KI



Rowley Shoal diving



READ MORE ABOUT OUR RECENT EVENTS AND EXPEDITIONS

- At the AGM on Tuesday 14 November, our President Professor Philip Weinstein delivered his annual report – you can read it [here](#).
- In October the Club conducted the biennial Museum survey on Kangaroo Island. Read all about it [here](#), and see the photo book [here](#) courtesy of Geoff Neumann
- Lucky members enjoyed a wonderful trip to Rowley Shoals with True North. Read the report [here](#) and see the photo book [here](#) courtesy of the Mussareds.
- The second 'In the footsteps of George French Angus' took place in the South East around Mt Gambier. Read the report [here](#) and see the photos [here](#) courtesy of the Tolleys. The third and final of these important GFA expeditions will take place this year.

2024 EVENING EVENT SERIES

Your Club is planning a series of evening events, held approximately every three months, usually on a Tuesday night at the Museum, as well as some other, special events, evening and morning. These events will continue to feature welcoming wine and canapes - a great opportunity to socialise with Club members and colleagues. Watch out for the invitations in your inbox.

Evening Event. 20 February

Returning the platypus to the River Torrens

Professor Chris Daniels of Uni SA and the Chair of Green Adelaide will describe the ambitious plan to return the iconic platypus to the River Torrens along the linear park in suburban Adelaide.

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson

Evening Event. 21 May

What's new at the Naracoorte Caves?

Dr Liz Reid, palaeontologist at the University of Adelaide, and a group of her students will tell us the latest fascinating discoveries flowing from research at the Caves, and plans for the future. The following week will be an expedition to Naracoorte with Liz (see below).

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson

Day Event June 13, 11am

Explore the Museum's opal collection with Ben McHenry, Senior Collections Manager of Earth Sciences.

This exclusive tour for a small group will showcase the Museum's opal collection which includes some of the rarest, most beautiful and spectacular opals ever discovered in Australia. The tour will be followed by lunch. Max 8 people. Will be run again if there is a demand.

Event Organiser: Sue McCoy

Day Event. July 11, 11am

Explore the Museum's gold collection with Ben McHenry, Senior Collections Manager of Earth Sciences.

When you think gold discovery in Australia, you think of the Victorian goldfields. But gold was first discovered in South Australia by Captain Thomas Tyrrell. During this exclusive tour, Ben will enlighten us about the history of gold exploration in South Australia, as well as show some of the Museum's treasures. The tour will be followed by lunch. Max 8 people. Will be run again if there is a demand.

Event Organiser: Sue McCoy

Evening Event. August (date TBA)

Critical Minerals

Following his address to the Club in 2021, Dr Carl Spandler of the Australian Critical Minerals Research Centre at the University of Adelaide will update us on the current state of research on, and exploration for, these minerals which are crucial to our progress towards expanding renewable energy.

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson

Event. Tuesday 12 November 2024

Waterhouse Club Annual General Meeting.

Event Organisers: Natalie Rollinson and Sue McCoy

EXPEDITIONS

Several expeditions have been organised for the coming 12 months. There should be something for everyone.

CONFIRMED

Expedition. 30 March - 19 April 2024

Morocco and Canary Islands

Experience the history, architecture, culture, landscape and natural history of Morocco and the western Canary Islands with the Museum's Spanish palaeontologist, Associate Professor 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

Expedition. 24 – 27 May 2024

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

A repeat of a previous very successful expedition, 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, Researcher and Senior Lecturer at Adelaide University 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 maybe an opportunity to taste some local wines.

Expedition Leader: Geoff Neumann

Expedition. July 20 to July 27

Alcoota Fossils and Ants

This repeat of a 2015 expedition will begin in Alice Springs, where we will meet and spend one night, followed by a visit to the Museum of Central Australia's fossil displays the next morning, before heading out to Alcoota, a two-hour drive to the northeast. This will be a self-drive camping trip, fully catered. Five days will be spent digging two to eight-million-year-old fossil bones under instruction from NT Museum Palaeontologist Dr Adam Yates and others, as well as ant collecting supervised by Dr Kirsti Abbott, NT Museum Head of Science and entomologist. Anticipate some interesting presentations and discussions around the campfire!

Expedition Leader: Sue McCoy

Expedition. 28 July

Dr Peter Shaughnessy's Mystery Tour of Historic Port Adelaide and Semaphore

An afternoon tour of historic Port Adelaide and Semaphore includes lunch at the Birkenhead Tavern and afternoon tea. Dr Peter Shaughnessy, Honorary Research Associate at the SA Museum, will be our guide. This repeat of a very popular expedition provides a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the fascinating history of Port Adelaide and Semaphore in comfort.

Expedition Leader: Gaye Fischer

Expedition. September or October. Date TBA

Nukunu, the people of the Southern Flinders Ranges – their history and culture

This is a return of a very popular expedition. It will be an introduction to the lands of the Nukunu people of the Southern Flinders 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: David Cox and Jan Paterson

Expedition. 13 October

Bees and Trees on Peramangk Country at Palmer

A full and interesting day with prominent ethnobiologist and native plant author Neville Bonney at his Dryland Tree Arboretum near Palmer, SA. Uncle Ivan-Tiwu Copley, descended from the Peramangk, Kaurna Peoples, will talk about the area's Aboriginal history.

We will have the opportunity to tour the rare Australian trees and wild food plants and there will be some tastings too.

Dr Remko Leijds and Dr Katja Hogendoorn, renowned SA native bee zoologists, will also join us to explore the native bees of the area. Permanent water and a diversity of flowering plants make this property an attractive location for a range of insects. Morning Tea and Lunch will be provided.

Expedition Leader: Rose Dow

Expedition. November. Date TBA

In the footsteps of George French Angas on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

An overnight expedition in the popular GF Angas series. Angas expert Philip Jones will guide us through Angas's journey across the Fleurieu in 1844. We will try to identify George French Angas' painting sites used for his magnificent watercolours of the Fleurieu area that he visited, such as Yankalilla, The Bluff and the Murray Mouth.

Expedition Leader: Tim Tolley

Expedition. Nov 2024. Dates TBA

Bioluminescence and other mysteries of underground Tasmania

How do glowworms produce light, and what do they eat in apparently barren caves? How do thermal springs work, and do they produce healing waters? How do blind and colourless cave animals – troglobites – evolve? If you are keen to have first-hand experience of these phenomena, with evidence-based scientific explanations, this is the expedition for you.

Over three days at Hastings Caves, about 100km south-west of Hobart in the Huon Valley, we will wonder at glowworms, bask in a thermal pool, and explore cave habitats. Our President, Prof Phil Weinstein, has researched and published in all of these areas, and will take us through our paces with a balanced program of field trips and short seminars.

In addition, A/Prof Geoff Allen (who many members will remember from the 2023 Kangaroo Island Survey), will be showing us insect-plant interactions in the rainforest, and providing an engaging pre-dinner seminar.

The ground component will start at Hastings, with expeditioners making their own way there to allow for other activities before or after Hastings, by individual arrangement.

Scientists: Phil Weinstein, Geoff Allen

Expedition Leader: Agnes Weinstein

Evening Expedition. Nov 2024

Discovering the wonderful world of nocturnal insects.

This evening expedition to a venue in the Adelaide Hills with Dr Ben Parslow will feature the glorious richness of our nocturnal arachnids and insects.

Expedition Leader: Alastair Dow

All of the above dates and arrangements may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Expressions of interest for any of the above events and expeditions are invited by 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 bookings.

Where there is a high level of interest expressed when invitations are distributed we will hold bookings open for at least one week and if more requests for bookings are received than the number of places available a ballot will be held to determine participants, with a wait list created to fill any cancellations.

Please note the Club's COVID Vaccination Policy

In the interest of protecting the health and wellbeing of members and Museum staff, the Club has adopted a policy which requires all participants to be fully vaccinated (that is at least 3 vaccinations), and to provide evidence of full vaccination status before attending Club events, expeditions or other functions. A covid booster (4th shot) and flu shot are also highly recommended.

