



EXPEDITIONS AND EVENTS – ON THE HORIZON – JULY 2024 ISSUE

RECENT ADVENTURE CANARY ISLANDS – MOROCCO EXPEDITION – APRIL 2024



READ MORE ABOUT A RECENT EXPEDITION

In April, 16 lucky members took part in an expedition to the Canary Islands and Morocco. Led by Carol and Trevor Ireland, the scientific lead was provided by Assoc Prof Diego Garcia-Bellido. The main focus was on the fossil endowment of Morocco. The expedition report and photographs can be found [here](#).

EXPRESSING INTEREST

Note: If you are considering taking part in any of our expeditions, please express interest by email at waterhouseclub@samuseum.sa.gov.au or by telephoning the Club office at 8273 9114. In the leadup to the expedition, the Club will send an invitation to those on the expression of interest list. The invitation will only be circulated more widely if there are spaces available.

MAL AND VAL HANSEN OAM

Honorary Club members Mal and Val Hansen, well known to survey expeditioners as our legendary volunteer caterers and camp managers, both received an OAM in the King's Birthday Awards for their services to the community, including our Club. Richly deserved for their decades of fundraising and other community work.

CLUB DONATION LEADS TO A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY

A proportion of the Club's donations to the Museum have traditionally been channelled to the Museum scientists who have contributed to expeditions and events. This money has been used for various professional purposes, including purchasing equipment. Dr Ben Parslow, Collection Manager, Terrestrial Invertebrates used some of this money to purchase a special macro lens camera which he says has "changed the way we image insects". The new camera led to a remarkable discovery. You can read about it [here](#).

2024/5 EVENING EVENT SERIES

Your Club runs 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 for the invitations in your inbox.

Evening Event. 13 August 2024

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

Day Event. 19th September 2024

Behind the scenes, handling and processing fossil specimens of the Ediacaran

Dr Mary-Anne Binnie, SAM Collection Manager, Palaeontology Invertebrates and Vertebrates will take us through processing fossils from source to display. Lunch to follow

Event Organiser: Tim Tolley

Evening Event. 29 October 2024

When Life got BIG in the Flinders Ranges - a UNESCO World Heritage nomination

A presentation by Professor Diego Garcia-Bellido and a student will update us on the current status of excavation and research on Ediacaran fossils at Nilpena.

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson

Evening Event. Tuesday 26 November 2024 (note new date)

Waterhouse Club Annual General Meeting

Event Organisers: Natalie Rollinson and Sue McCoy

Evening Event. March 2025 (date to be announced)

Repatriation of Ancestral Remains

The Museum Board cares for almost 5,000 ancestral remains, both Australian Aboriginal and from overseas nations. About 3,700 are from South Australian burial sites. A small number of ancestors are from interstate and there are another 400 Aboriginal ancestors whose original burial location is completely unknown. John Carty, Professor of Museum and Curatorial Studies at the University of Adelaide, and Head of Humanities at the South Australian Museum will lead the presentation.

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson.

Evening Event. May 2025 (date to be announced)

Why are we getting so many pandemics?

Pandemics, the global spread of infectious diseases, seem to be making a comeback. In the Middle Ages we had the Black Death (plague), and after the First World War the Spanish flu (influenza). Tens of millions died. Then science began to get the upper hand, with vaccination eradicating smallpox from our planet, and polio nearly so. But then we had HIV/AIDS, and now COVID (no, it is not over yet!). Why is this happening?

Our President Professor Phil Weinstein will explore how our triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution helps to drive pandemics. He will discuss how healthy ecosystems keep people healthy through 'ecosystem services', and how the loss of these services can turn a localised outbreak into a pandemic. Fortunately, a new 'Planetary Health' approach being applied to research, teaching, and policy promises to reduce the risk of disastrous pandemics in the future.

Event Organisers: Mark Mussared and Natalie Rollinson

EXPEDITIONS IN 2024

Several expeditions have been organised for the coming 12 – 18 months. There should be something for everyone.

Expedition. 28 July 2024

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. 13 October 2024

Bees and Trees on Peramangk Country at Palmer

A full and interesting day with renowned ethnobiologist and native plant author Neville Bonney at his Kitticoola Dryland Arboretum near Palmer, where we will have the opportunity to tour rare Australian trees and wild food plants.

Permanent water and diversity of flowering plants make this property an attractive location for insects. Dr Remko Leijds and Dr Katja Hogendoorn, well-known native bee zoologists will also join us to explore the insect life of the area. Uncle Ivan-Tiwu Copley, descended from the Peramangk-Kurna Peoples, will talk about the area's Aboriginal history. Morning tea and lunch will be provided and there will be some tastings too.

Expedition Leader: Rose Dow

Expedition. 31 October – November 1 2024

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

An overnight expedition in the popular GF Angas series. Angas expert Dr 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. The expedition will overnight in Victor Harbor.

Expedition Leader: Tim and Jen Tolley

Evening Expedition. 5 Nov 2024.

Discovering the wonderful world of nocturnal insects

This evening expedition to an outdoor venue in near Adelaide Hills with dynamic presenter Dr Ben Parslow (Museum's Collection Manager, Terrestrial Invertebrates) will feature the glorious richness of our nocturnal arachnids and insects. The evening will include a meal before the expedition.

Expedition Leader: Alastair Dow

Expedition. 13–16 Nov 2024

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 southwest of Hobart in the Huon Valley, we will wonder at glow worms, 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 lead us through 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 south west of Huonville, with expeditioners making their own way there.

Expedition Leader: Agnes Weinstein

EXPEDITIONS IN 2025

Expedition. Late April 2025

Nukunu, the people of the Southern Flinders Ranges

This is a repeat of a very popular expedition. It will be an introduction to the lands of the Nukunu people of the Southern Flinders Ranges. Dr Jared Thomas, Nukunu man, SAM anthropologist and scientist will interpret the history and culture of the Nukunu people. 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. 5-16 September 2025

Fire and Spice. Banda Sea – Ring of Fire and Spice Islands. Waiting list only

This intriguing expedition follows in the tradition of Club expeditions in the waters north of Australia, but will be aboard a traditional Indonesian vessel with local crew and thus more immersive, both culturally and environmentally. We will sail with SeaTrek, an Indonesian company with its head office in Bali, which has many years of experience in the islands of the Banda Sea, east and north of there.

Highlights of the voyage will include sailing through the area known as Wallacea, and learning more about the history and implications of Wallace's discoveries. We will also view several active volcanic islands, snorkel on healthy coral reefs, visit remote villages, and learn of the latest archaeological and anthropological research throwing more light on the history of human migration through the archipelago, as well as visiting the Banda Islands, the home of nutmeg.

Expedition Leader: Mark Mussared

Expedition. Spring 2025 (date to be announced but will be scheduled to avoid a clash with Fire and Spice)

Exploring the amazing world of the Nullarbor Caves

The Nullarbor Caves are internationally famous places where you can find evidence of past and present biodiversity, including highly specialised insect species which are the particular interest of Dr Jess Marsh, the co-lead scientist of this expedition. We will also be accompanied by cave fossil expert Dr Liz Reed. Expeditioners will help the scientists document past and present biodiversity, record cave habitat features, and record threats, such as the presence of foxes.

Expeditioners will help collect and examine material, such as invertebrate specimens, bones and remains of vertebrates, and sediment samples. These specimens will allow the scientists to investigate recent historical changes to biodiversity, learn more about the climate when they occurred, and help predict future changes.

You won't need to abseil or don an aqualung for this expedition, but you will need a good level of fitness and agility. Whale-watching will also be an option. It will be a self-drive expedition with motel accommodation and catering.

Expedition Leaders: Alastair and Rose Dow

Expedition. October – November 2025

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

A repeat of a 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 an opportunity to taste some local wines.

Expedition Leader: Geoff Neumann

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 at 8273 9114. Early expressions of interest assist the Club to plan with confidence.

Where is there 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 Vaccination Policy

In the interest of protecting the health and wellbeing of members and Museum staff, the Club strongly encourages all event and expedition participants to be fully vaccinated against Covid and Influenza.