



A U S T R A L I A N

ISSUE

22

AGE OF DINOSAURS

JUN

06

DINOSAUR CANYON GRAND OPENING



David Elliott
and Museum
Patron Dame
Quentin Bryce
AVO cut the
ribbon to
Dinosaur
Canyon

*(Photo by
Carol Trewick)*



Opening day:
Jim Macmillan,
Denise O'Boyle,
David Elliott,
Dame Quentin
Bryce and
Maxine
Macmillan

*(Photo by Carol
Trewick)*



NEXT NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 23, RELEASED SEPTEMBER 2017

NEWS FROM THE JUMP-UP

Ever lost a hub cap on the way up to the Museum or broken a dinner plate in the RV as you went over a particularly rough stretch of corrugation? Well, those misadventures will soon be over! The Winton Shire Council has successfully secured a commitment by the State Government for more than \$2.2 million to seal the road from the Landsborough Highway to the Museum gate.



The first 4.5km from the Landsborough Highway takes shape

The first two stages of bitumen have already begun and will be completed in June 2017. This includes three culverts and the first 4.5km from the Landsborough Highway. The remaining 4km will be completed by June 2018. After last year's flood events, this is very happy news to staff and visitors! Despite our fondness for the blacksoil build-ups under our cars following a downpour of rain... we will persevere!

NEWS FROM THE JUMP-UP

YUM! New dinosaur-inspired treats are starting to be developed in the Cretaceous Café thanks to the Museum's new Café Co-ordinator, Kate. Warning: the Volcanic Eruption Sundae is not for the faint of heart – ice cream headaches have been known to occur if eaten too quickly! ➡



COLOURS OF THE JUMP-UP

Introducing a unique souvenir from the region. Colours of The Jump-Up showcases the effect of deep weathering over millions of years. Each vial is unique and now for sale in the Museum Shop.



AUSTRALIAN AGE OF DINOSAURS

DINOSAUR EXPLORERS



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM JUNE/JULY 2017

Saturday Explorers (24 June, 1 July and 8 July)

Suitable: 4 to 12 years
Venue: Reception Centre
Time: 9.30am–11am

**\$5 per
child**

Make your own antique map of Dinosaur Canyon, build your own explorers' telescope and take part in an experiment about soil layers. Note: Children must be supervised at all times by a guardian or parent.

Monday Explorers (26 June and 3 July)

Suitable: 4 to 12 years
Venue: Reception Centre
Time: 9.30am–11am

**\$5 per
child**

Make your own antique map of Dinosaur Canyon, build your own explorers' telescope and take part in an experiment about soil layers. Note: Children must be supervised at all times by a guardian or parent.

Friday Explorers (30 June and 7 July)

Suitable: 4 to 12 years
Venue: Reception Centre
Time: 9.30am–11am

**\$5 per
child**

Make your own antique map of Dinosaur Canyon, build your own explorers' telescope and take part in an experiment about soil layers. Note: Children must be supervised at all times by a guardian or parent.

Wednesday Explorers Club (28 June and 5 July)

Ages: Suitable 4 to 12 years
Venue: Reception Centre
Time: 9.30am–1.45pm
Max: 12 children per session

**\$35 per
child**

- 9am Check in at the Reception Centre
- 9.30am Guided tour of the Laboratory
- 10.30am Guided tour of the Collection Room
- 11am Explorers' morning tea
- 11.30am Make a telescope, safari hat and map
- 12.15pm All aboard the Noble Express shuttle to Dinosaur Canyon
- 12.30pm Explore Dinosaur Canyon
- 1.30pm Take the Noble Express shuttle back to the Reception Centre
- 1.45pm Club members' farewell

This program includes a group guide and morning tea (juice and apple). All children must be supervised at all times by a parent or guardian.

Pricing: \$35 per child and \$50 per parent/or guardian

For more
information
or to book
your
program
visit:

australianageofdinosaurs.com



DINOSAUR CANYON OPENS

On Easter Saturday Dinosaur Canyon was officially opened. Alongside Museum members, Directors and supporters, the Museum also welcomed the Honourable Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO, Winton Mayor Butch Lenton, Senator James McGrath, Lachlan Millar, Longreach Mayor Ed Warren and Melanie Anderson from the Industry Development Department of Tourism.



David addresses the crowd (Photo by Carol Trewick)

Following several inspiring speeches that brought about a few tears, Dame Quentin and David took to the stage to cut the ribbon to Dinosaur Canyon. As guests streamed past the Guardian of the Bridge (a bronze ornithopod) down into Dinosaur Canyon they became the first official visitors to the attraction. With the setting sun, realistic Aussie dinosaurs and gleaming plaques it was a fantastic experience - one that was immortalised in each visitor guide booklet as visitors took dinosaur tracings of each of the plaques.

At 6pm the bar was opened and guests found their way back. Beautiful Outback table decorations and dinosaur-label wine set the scene as guests savoured the buffet dinner offerings by Golden Roast Caterers. The night's activities included an auction conducted by George, whose recitation of *bidderbidderbidderbidderbidder* was second only to his tendency to reduce bids instead of upping them!



Celebration dinner begins (Photo by Carol Trewick)

DINOSAUR CANYON OPENS CONTINUED

AUCTION RESULTS: Painting of Dinosaur Canyon by Judy Elliott-Maddison sold to Paul Neilsen. A handcrafted timber mirror donated by Charlie Sloan sold to Alison Evans. Two dinosaur prints donated by Pat Vickers-Rich sold to Geoff Coupe. A metal dinosaur cut by Bob Elliott sold to Bruce



The inaugural public tour to Dinosaur Canyon



Collins who then donated the piece to Senator James McGrath. The evening continued long into the night with dessert, drinks, performances and mingling. Thank you everyone for your support and continued commitment to the Museum.

Public tours are now available to Dinosaur Canyon via a shuttle bus from the Reception Centre. Tours include a copy of the Dinosaur Canyon visitor guide and pack of six tracing pencils.

GONDWANA AND WOOL

To unwind after a very hectic grand opening David and Judy, accompanied by Dr Alex Cook, flew down to Victoria to visit Pat Vickers-Rich and Tom Rich. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the National Wool Museum in Geelong to see the *Wildlife of Gondwana* exhibit.

A fantastic array of Australian and overseas specimens are on show and well worth a visit if you are in the area!



Judy, David, Pat, Alex and Tom

EASTER ON THE JUMP-UP

The annual Easter Egg Hunt on The Jump-Up was a huge success – though very busy as Dinosaur Canyon was officially opened on the same day! The highly anticipated Easter Egg



This year's Easter egg hunters!



Hunt attracted over sixty children (locals and those from further afield) all on the hunt for the golden eggs - special tokens that finders traded for dinosaur toy and puzzles prizes from the Museum Shop.

Following this taxing pursuit for gold, most families stayed to enjoy a sausage sizzle and hot cross bun at the Cretaceous Café.

MATILDA DONATION BOX

This month Di and Claire (Prep-A-Dino Honorary Technicians) came to The Jump-Up with more than luggage. Working with the Gympie Men's Shed, they funded, designed and constructed a Matilda donation box for the Laboratory. This fun idea has already attracted quite a bit of attention and extra donations as many visitors attempt to "feed" Matilda!

Di and Claire with the Lab's new addition



SAVANNAH GUIDE SCHOOL

In April the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum helped host the Savannah Guide School for 2017. During the school, Museum guides Grace, Tom, Felicity, Steven and Karen became accredited Savannah Guides through a series of talks and assessments. The Savannah Guides attending the school had travelled from near and far to take part and spent time at Noonbah Station, near Longreach, and Lochern National Park before making their way to



Winton and the Dinosaur Stampede National Monument. Here Grace wowed the Savannah Guides with a talk on the geology of the trackways while Trish conducted an insightful workshop on the *Dinosaurs to Dunnarts* program and the history and interpretation of the dinosaur stampede.

After a well-earned sleep the Savannah Guides headed to the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum to hear a talk on Tour Guide interpretation by Trish. This was followed by a tour on the Museum's newly published dinosaur *Savannasaurus elliottorum* (Wade) by Karen.

Adele commented that while she wasn't applying to become a Savannah Guide, "I was still able to participate in this fantastic program, and meet with some of Queensland's best tour guide and tourism providers. It was somewhat nerve-wracking to stand in front of a room full of professional tour guides and give a presentation on palaeo-biogeography. Put simply, palaeo-biogeography means the location of ancient life through time and is the study of distribution of extinct species across the continents. It's a study more relevant to the dinosaurs and the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum, but I was excited to receive so many positive comments and learn that just about everyone got something out of it!"

Felicity then took the guides on a flora and fauna tour of The Jump-Up, along the Museum Trail to the Laboratory for Steven's Winton Formation workshop and Tom's Laboratory guided tour. The Savannah Guides ended their visit to the Museum with a sneak peek of Dinosaur Canyon and a yummy sausage sizzle.

Congratulations Grace, Tom, Felicity, Steven and Karen for earning your patches and thank you to everyone who attended the school.

For more information about the Savannah Guides, visit <http://savannah-guides.com.au/>

SAVANNAH GUIDES



Protectors and Interpreters of the Outback

MEET OUR 2017 TOUR GUIDES

This year we have welcomed nine new staff members and three returning staff members to our ever-growing team. We're excited to welcome Travis, Nicole, Steven, Tim, Sarah, Daniel, James and Lachlan to the AAOD Museum team and would also like to welcome back Tanya, Kat and Kate.

This is going to be another great year!

INTRODUCING

TRAVIS has returned to Australia after holidaying in Egypt. While there he volunteered at an archaeological site where they are discovering and rebuilding six ancient temples. On his return he decided to apply for a job at AAOD so he could combine his passions for customer service, history and prehistoric worlds.



NICOLE has had a passion for natural history and museums since childhood. She has a Bachelor of Museum Studies and a Masters of Science, quite an extensive background in science. During her masters she examined spiders and then volunteered at the spider exhibit at the Australian Museum .



KAT was part of the 2016 guiding team at the Museum and is now back to fill in as Bookkeeper. Kat spent her summer raising milking goats, caring for wildlife and working at a station 250km from civilisation (or Winton).



TANYA was also part of the 2016 guiding team and is returning for another season after a well-deserved break while she volunteered at the Flinders University Palaeontology Society where she sorted and cleaned fossils collected from the Wellington Caves, New South Wales.



STEVEN has worked at Queensland Museum as a Visitor Services Officer where he presented over 300 shows, which sparked his passion in palaeontology.



DANIEL is from Brisbane and recently graduated from the University of Queensland, with a Bachelor of Science (Hons). He believes you can teach many complicated scientific concepts to a wide, general audience if made accessible, and that doing so is very important for education and conservation.



TIM has a background in palaeontology that has taken him to Argentina and Canada. He has recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science with a major in palaeo-biology.



LACHLAN has come from our closest coastal city, Townsville, where he was a volunteer at the Museum of Tropical Queensland. Lachlan has dabbled in stand-up comedy, and has selflessly decided to direct his phenomenal public speaking abilities towards educating the public about our prehistoric past.



SARAH is a Dugger, having attended two of AAOD's dinosaur digs around Elderslie and Lovelle Downs. Sarah has always had a fascination with history that started from a very young age when she decided to become either an archaeologist or palaeontologist, and is now living the dream.



JAMES is at university completing a geology degree. He has just been on a dig with Dr Stephen Poropat at Cape Otway, Victoria.



LAURELLE has been with us for over two years, but this month we say goodbye to her. Laurelle will be missed by all and we wish her all the very best with her next venture.

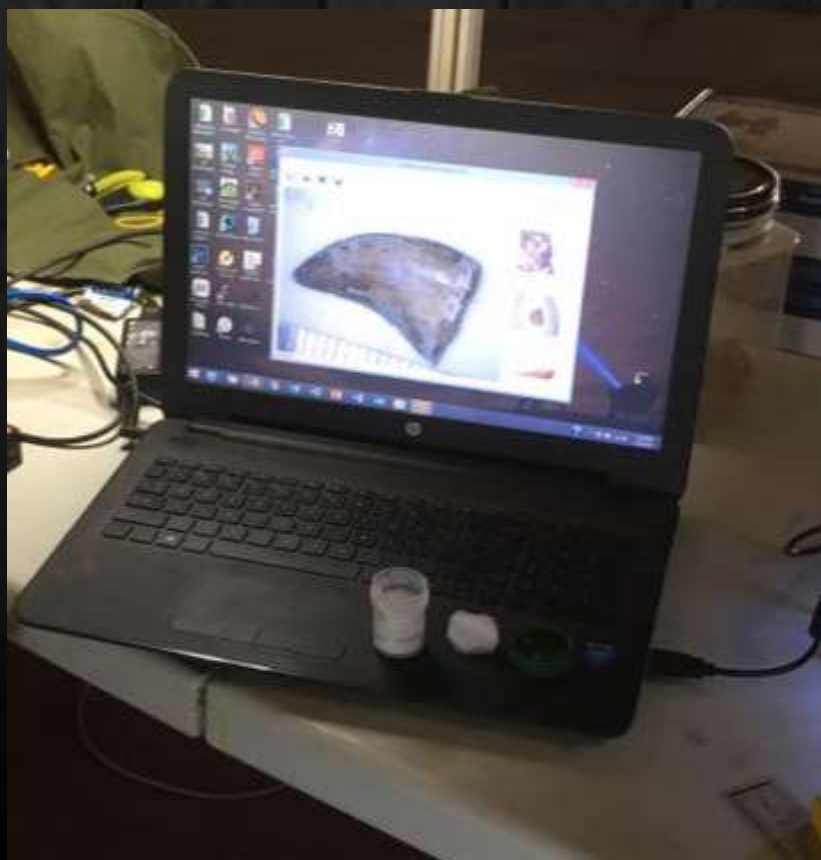


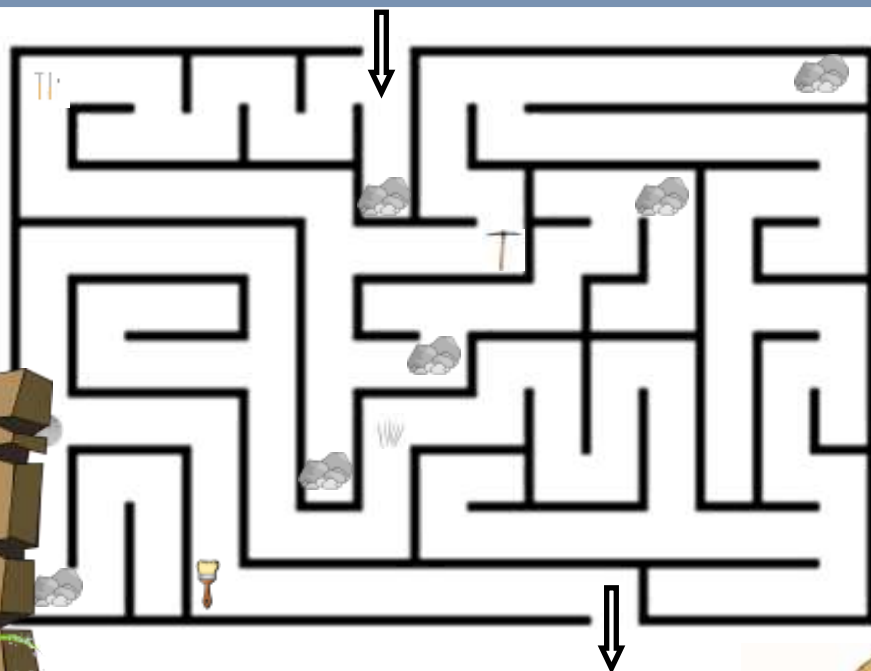




FIRST LOOK AT THE 2017 DIG

MORE NEWS AND
PICTURES IN THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER, **ISSUE 23**





Can you find all the Australian dinosaurs?



Australian Dinosaur Word Search

C	D	I	A	M	A	N	T	I	N	A	S	A	U	R	U	S
T	O	S	F	W	K	A	K	U	V	C	M	K	P	M	E	A
M	U	T	T	A	B	U	R	R	A	S	A	U	R	U	S	P
F	O	P	S	A	V	A	N	N	A	S	A	U	R	U	S	Z
Z	G	K	S	U	A	D	J	K	B	H	O	D	Y	G	D	Y
W	I	G	A	E	W	I	N	T	O	N	O	T	I	T	A	N
J	D	V	D	I	J	I	P	Q	U	C	W	K	J	J	O	C
K	U	N	B	A	R	R	A	S	A	U	R	U	S	X	Z	Z
U	T	F	L	R	J	P	O	G	D	T	X	L	T	H	K	D
W	O	Q	N	J	S	B	X	M	X	K	S	J	M	Z	Z	M
A	U	S	T	R	A	L	O	V	E	N	A	T	O	R	D	I
A	F	L	E	A	E	L	L	Y	N	A	S	U	R	U	A	N
E	R	H	O	E	T	O	S	A	U	R	U	S	C	R	V	M
S	R	Y	W	E	B	B	E	D	V	T	R	E	K	G	X	I
Y	O	P	Y	X	C	K	M	E	N	H	Z	Z	Y	C	B	A
Z	G	M	S	G	M	Y	S	K	K	L	H	T	T	F	Q	N
F	R	N	X	N	S	D	P	X	Y	K	G	I	P	H	T	B

◇ *Australoventor*



◇ *Diamantinasaurus*



◇ *Kunbarrasaurus*



◇ *Leaellynasaurua*



◇ *Minmi*



◇ *Rhoetosaurus*



◇ *Savannasaurus*



◇ *Wintonotitan*



◇ *Muttaburrasaurus*

