

SECOND CIRCULAR



PALAEO DOWN UNDER 2

11–15 JULY 2016, ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

organised by



Australasian Palaeontologists (AAP)

with the participation of

**International Subcommittee on Ediacaran Stratigraphy (ISES)
International Subcommittee on Cambrian Stratigraphy (ISCS) and
International Geosciences Program Project IGCP587**



Palaeo Down Under 2 is sponsored by



Host city

Adelaide, capital of South Australia, awaits delegates to *Palaeo Down Under 2 (PDU2)* in July 2016. The Organising Committee is busy making preparations. Our keynote speakers are confirmed. The conference programme is beginning to take shape, based on responses from over 110 Expressions of Interest received so far. There will be dedicated symposia on the Ediacaran and Cambrian systems, as well as a variety of other session themes as listed below. The pre-conference excursion will visit rock and fossil localities in the world-renowned Flinders Ranges to the north of Adelaide, and will also feature the Emu Bay Shale *Konservat-Lagerstätte* on Kangaroo Island, south of Adelaide, altogether spanning the Cryogenian glacial episodes, Ediacaran biotas and Cambrian geology and fossils. A post-conference camping-style excursion to Mesozoic and Cenozoic fossil localities in the arid Lake Eyre Basin will visit some fascinating occurrences of Australia's unique vertebrate fauna. Updates will be posted to our conference website www.pdu2.org as they become available.

Organising Committee

Dr Peter ('Pierre') Kruse - South Australian Museum, Adelaide; Chair, AAP
Dr Diego García-Bellido - University of Adelaide; Secretary, AAP
Mr James Holmes - University of Adelaide; Acting Treasurer, AAP
Adjunct Professor James Jago - University of South Australia, Adelaide

Event Coordinator/Sponsorship

Ms Sue Mikkelsen - Sponsorship Connections, Sydney and Adelaide

Scientific Committee

Dr John Laurie - Geoscience Australia, Canberra; Editor, *Australasian Palaeontological Memoirs*
Dr Ian Percival - Geological Survey of New South Wales, Sydney; Editor, *Nomen nudum* (AAP newsletter)
Professor Michael Archer - University of New South Wales, Sydney
Dr Phil Bell - University of New England, Armidale
Associate Professor Glenn Brock - Macquarie University, Sydney
Dr James Gehling - South Australian Museum, Adelaide
Professor John Paterson - University of New England, Armidale
Dr Steven Salisbury - University of Queensland, Brisbane
Dr Patricia Vickers-Rich - Monash University, Melbourne

Venue

The conference will be held on the main campus of the University of Adelaide, located close to the Adelaide central business district, which offers a range of

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Travel and accommodation

Adelaide is well connected by air with other Australian capital cities and locations around the world. Other regular connections within Australia are provided by coach services. For a more exotic experience, rail travel is available direct from Perth, Darwin, Melbourne or Sydney.

Delegates will need to make their own accommodation arrangements for the conference period. Accommodation to suit all budgets is readily available in the Adelaide central business district. In particular, *Palaeo Down Under 2* has negotiated a preferential rate at two hotels (Crowne Plaza Adelaide and Ibis Adelaide, see map in previous page for location), both of which will offer online direct booking. Please check the conference website (www.pdu2.org) for information on these offers, which will be available late-January.

Registration

Confirmed per-person conference fees are set out below. Discounted fees are offered to students, retirees, and AAP and Geological Society of New Zealand (GSNZ) members. *Palaeo Down Under 2* meets the criteria for the Memorandum of Understanding between the Geological Society of Australia (of which AAP is a specialist group) and the Geological Society of New Zealand (GSNZ), which came into effect on 1 December 2013. By this arrangement, GSNZ members may attend the conference at AAP member rates.

An Early Bird reduced fee is also available to all delegates before 1 March 2016. As well, a single-day attendance option is available for those who cannot attend the entire conference.

For the general public, attendance at keynote lectures is offered for a nominal fee. The five keynote lectures, one per day, are scheduled for 9:30-10.15 am on Monday 11 July, and 9:00-9:45 am on each of Tuesday 12 July to Friday 15 July inclusive. See below and our conference website (www.pdu2.org) for details of speakers and lecture titles.

Registration for *Palaeo Down Under 2* will open on Monday 18 January. All fees are payable in Australian dollars (A\$) at the time of registration, using the Eventbrite portal at <https://palaeodownunder2.eventbrite.com.au>.

Important notice: the number of places on **field excursions** is limited, so registration for these will be on a strict **first-come-first-served** basis.

Conference registration: The registration fee will entitle delegates to attendance at the icebreaker reception, conference sessions, and morning and afternoon refreshments, as well as a copy of the abstracts volume and related conference materials, and one copy of the conference proceedings volume to be published in

Australasian Palaeontological Memoirs (formerly *Memoirs of the Association of Australasian Palaeontologists*).

Standard (non-AAP or GSNZ member): A\$450

Early Bird (non-AAP or GSNZ member, before 1 March 2016): A\$405

Standard (AAP or NZGS member): A\$405

Early Bird (AAP or GSNZ member, before 1 March 2016): A\$360

Student (proof of current student status required; see Eventbrite portal): A\$225

Retiree (aged 60 or over and not in full-time employment): A\$315

Single-day (excludes icebreaker; allows oral or poster presentation): A\$100 per day

Keynote talk attendance (suitable for general public): A\$10 per talk

On-site conference check in: The conference check-in desk will be open in the atrium of the Ingkarni Wardli building from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm on Sunday 10 July, and from 8:30 am on Monday 11 July to allow registered delegates to collect their conference materials. All delegates are requested to check in during this period. Pre-ordered vouchers for the icebreaker reception and conference dinner will be provided at that time.

Icebreaker reception: An icebreaker reception will be held in the foyer of the South Australian Museum (in North Terrace, about 5 minutes from the main *PDU2* venues) during 5:30-7:30 pm on the evening of Sunday 10 July 2016. The icebreaker reception is included in all the various full-week conference registration fees but is **not** included in the single-day registration fee. However, single-day delegates are eligible to purchase an icebreaker reception voucher for this event through Eventbrite at <https://palaeodownunder2.eventbrite.com.au> when making their online conference registration. All registered full-week delegates, and those accompanying members and single-day delegates who have purchased an icebreaker reception voucher, are entitled to attend this function and enjoy a variety of canapés and beverages including a selection of Australian wines. This is an opportunity to meet fellow participants in the ambience of the Museum.

All delegates are requested to purchase their icebreaker reception vouchers online at the time of conference registration. Vouchers will **not** be available for purchase on-site during the check-in period.

Conference dinner: The conference dinner will be held at the Crowne Plaza (16 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide) on the evening of Thursday 14 July 2016. Pre-dinner drinks and canapés will be offered from 7:00 pm, prior to commencement of dining service at 7:30 pm. Participants will enjoy a three-course menu with drinks. The evening will feature the inaugural award of AAP's *Etheridge Medal for lifetime contribution to Australasian palaeontology*, and *Mary Wade Early Career Prize* for best paper on Australasian palaeontology in an AAP publication.

All delegates are encouraged to join us for this entertaining evening. This event is not included in any category of registration. All delegates are requested to purchase

their conference dinner vouchers online at the time of conference registration. Vouchers will **not** be available for purchase on-site either during or after the check-in period.

Accompanying members

Accompanying members are those persons accompanying a registered (including single-day registration) conference delegate, but **not** those accompanying keynote lecture attendees. Registrants are asked to nominate their accompanying person(s) at the time of online registration, and to purchase icebreaker reception and/or conference dinner vouchers on behalf of their accompanying person(s) at that time. There is no accompanying delegate fee.

Accompanying members are eligible to partake of scheduled morning and afternoon refreshments at the conference venue, and to participate in the mid-week half-day excursion to Hallett Cove on the afternoon of Wednesday 13 July 2016.

Additionally, we expect that a range of leisure/tourist excursions will be able to be enjoyed during the conference period by participants at their own cost. These excursions will **not** be run by *Palaeo Down Under 2*, but conducted by local commercial tour operators. *Palaeo Down Under 2* accepts no responsibility for non-provision or dissatisfaction with any tour; participants should address all such matters to the specific tour operator. Activities such as walking tours of Adelaide, visits to museums and wildlife parks, and tours of nearby wine regions such as McLaren Vale and Barossa Valley, are expected to be available. Details of these excursions will be provided in a subsequent circular and at www.pdu2.org.

Refunds policy

Full refunds will be made up to 31 March 2016 upon request. Half (50%) refunds will be available from 1 April to 31 May 2016. No refund will be made after that date.

Keynote speakers

Confirmed keynote speakers and their lecture titles are listed below. Keynote lectures will be of 45 minutes duration. See our conference website (www.pdu2.org) for details including abstracts.

Monday 11 July, 9:30 am

Professor Mary DROSER, University of California, Riverside, USA.

Catching the second Ediacara wave: ecology and biology of the Ediacara Biota as recorded in South Australia.

Tuesday 12 July, 9:00 am

Professor Maoyan ZHU, State Key Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Stratigraphy, Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing, PR China.

From Snowball Earth to the Cambrian Explosion: recent research advances from China.

Wednesday 13 July, 9:00 am

Associate Professor James S. CRAMPTON, GNS Science, Lower Hutt; and School of Geography, Environment and Earth Science, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand.

Extinction in Palaeozoic zooplankton: resolving revolution, respite and reversal.

Thursday 14 July, 9:00 am

Dr Scott HOCKNULL, Queensland Museum, Brisbane; and Adjunct Associate Professor, Centre for Musculoskeletal Research, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia.

From dig to digital dinosaurs.

Friday 15 July, 9:00 am

Professor Mike ARCHER, Evolution of Earth and Life Systems Research Group, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

Gains, gaps and gags: Riversleigh's growing contributions to unravelling the past, present and future of Australia.

Programme

The following session themes are proposed. Delegates are invited to contribute to their preferred theme. Talks and posters are to be presented in English.

International Subcommittee on Ediacaran Stratigraphy/International Geosciences Program Project IGCP587 joint meeting – Ediacaran Evolution: origins of animal ecosystems

International Subcommittee on Cambrian Stratigraphy - The Cambrian Explosion: setting and aftermath

Palaeontology from New Zealand

Dinosaurs in Australia

Cave palaeontology

Extinction, recovery and radiation

Biostratigraphy

Palaeoecology

Mesozoic vertebrates

Cenozoic vertebrates

Palaeobotany

Latest techniques applied to palaeontology

Palaeontological illustration

Palaeontological heritage: protection and promotion

Palaeontology: into the 21st century

This session is designed to provide an arena for discussion of key areas affecting the vigour and development of palaeontology over the next 100 years. Among other relevant factors, the session would welcome submissions dealing with:

- publication in palaeontology: journal impact factors, citation metrics, open access
- funding in palaeontology: alternative funding sources, philanthropy, crowd funding
- outreach and education: new media and opportunities, how to deliver palaeontology in the new century.

Field excursions

Excursion leaders will have the capacity to allow participants to collect fossils from some (but not all) sites during *PDU2* field excursions. However, participants from outside Australia should note that export of Australian fossils is regulated by the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986*. Under this legislation, fossils are Class B Natural Science objects and therefore require an export permit. The excursion leaders will liaise with the relevant Australian authority in requesting the necessary export permits for excursion participants. However, it is likely that these will not be available in time to allow participants to export collected fossils in their personal baggage after the conference, and thus participants may be expected to cover the expense of freighting their collection to their home institution. Rare or exceptional fossils will not be issued an export permit, and participants who find such specimens will be encouraged to provide their finds to excursion leaders and, if appropriate, collaborate with Australian researchers in their study.

Due to limited places on the pre- and post-conference excursions, priority for places will be given to full-week delegates. Accompanying members and single-day delegates may participate if unused places are available, but until then will be placed in a waiting list, so please **do not pay excursion fees** for these two types of participants until advised by the Organising Committee. In lieu of up-front payment, names of accompanying persons wishing to participate in a particular excursion should be forwarded to PalaeoDownUnder2@gmail.com for addition to the waiting list.

All commercial accommodation during excursions is on a twin-share to dormitory-style basis, according to location. There is no provision for private rooms.

Excursion participants who have special dietary requirements are requested to advise organisers via PalaeoDownUnder2@gmail.com. Organisers will endeavour to make advance arrangements for special dietary requirements, but cannot guarantee that requirements will be satisfactorily met at all establishments.

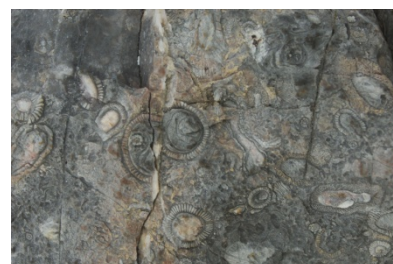
Pre-conference field excursion to Kangaroo Island and Flinders Ranges, 1-9 July – A\$2250: This excursion will visit Cryogenian, Ediacaran and Cambrian fossil and general geological sites in the Adelaide Rift and constituent Arrowie and Stansbury basins. Leaders: Jim Jago, Jim Gehling, Diego Garcia-Bellido, Pierre Kruse, Glenn Brock, John Paterson.

This excursion was originally proposed as a seven-day, six-night trip. Its duration is now confirmed as eight days, nine nights, commencing and finishing with overnight accommodation in Adelaide on Friday 1 July and Saturday 9 July respectively. Participants should arrive in Adelaide on (or before) 1 July. Transport during the excursion will be by tour coach, with ferry crossings to and from Kangaroo Island.

Itinerary

1 July – Arrive Adelaide. Overnight Regal Park Motor Inn (44 Barton Terrace East, North Adelaide, phone 8267 3222).

2 July – Drive to Cape Jervis, ferry to Kangaroo Island. Visit Emu Bay Shale *Konservat-Lagerstätte* (exceptionally preserved late early Cambrian fauna) and Cape d'Estaing (early Cambrian archaeocyaths). Return to mainland. Overnight Jetty Caravan Park, Normanville.



Archaeocyaths, Cape d'Estaing, Kangaroo Island

3 July – Fleurieu Peninsula: visit Little Gorge, Wirrina and Second Valley (Cryogenian succession with Sturtian glacial deposits and Delamerian deformation), and Carrickalinga Head, Myponga Beach and Sellick Hill (early-middle Cambrian Normanville and Kanmantoo groups; ichnofossils and skeletal fossils). Drive to Adelaide. Overnight Regal Park Motor Inn, North Adelaide.



Delamerian folding, Second Valley, Fleurieu Peninsula

4 July – Drive to Flinders Ranges. Visit Pichi Richi (Ediacaran tidalites) en route. Overnight Rawnsley Park.

5 July – Visit Brachina Gorge Geological Trail (Cryogenian to Cambrian: purported Cryogenian spicules, stromatolites, Marinoan/Elatina glacial deposits, Ediacaran GSSP and biota, Ediacaran-Cambrian boundary, Cambrian ichnofossils and reefs). Overnight Beltana station.



Ediacaran GSSP, Flinders Ranges

6 July – Visit the Ediacara biota at Nilpena and Ediacara Conservation Park. Overnight Parachilna Hotel.

7 July – Visit Ajax Mine (classic archaeocyath locality) and Mount Scott Range (early Cambrian carbonates). Overnight Parachilna Hotel.

Nilpena excavated fossil bed



8 July – Visit Wirrealpa area (early Cambrian thrombolites, Flinders Unconformity and archaeocyaths). Overnight Merna Mora station.

9 July – Visit Mernmerna section (Ediacaran-Cambrian boundary, ichnofossils, rift carbonates). Drive to Adelaide. Overnight Regal Park Motor Inn, North Adelaide.

Included in excursion fee: all transport ex Adelaide, excursion guide, all accommodation from Friday 1 July to Saturday 9 July inclusive, bottled water in field, and most meals during the excursion period (i.e. breakfast on Saturday 2 July to breakfast on Sunday 10 July).

Not included in excursion fee: accommodation outside excursion period, evening meals in Adelaide on 1, 3 and 9 July, all alcoholic beverages.

Half-day mid-conference field excursion: This excursion to the classic Hallett Cove geological heritage site will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 13 July 2016. Participants will be able to inspect Ediacaran strata subjected to Delamerian folding, Permian glacial deposits plus associated glaciation features, and Cenozoic deposits, while enjoying the boardwalk and coastal scenery. Leaders: Jim Jago, Jim Gehling.

Post-conference field excursion to Lake Eyre Basin, 16–23/24 July – A\$1450: This camping-style excursion will visit Mesozoic and Cenozoic fossil and general geological sites in the arid Lake Eyre Basin. Note that most accommodation will be camping style. Accommodation in Adelaide at the conclusion of the excursion is **not** included. Leaders: Aaron Camens, Ben Kear. The itinerary is yet to be settled (finish date is still to be advised), but is anticipated to include:

16 July – Leave Adelaide at 7am, approximately 9 hours drive to Coober Pedy, overnight at Coober Pedy motel.

17 July – Coober Pedy and Moonplain with Early Cretaceous high-latitude, cold water assemblage of marine reptiles and benthic invertebrate ‘islands’. Overnight motel at Coober Pedy.



Fossiliferous Moonplain near Coober Pedy

18 July – Drive around Lake Eyre South to Arabana Aboriginal Area at Finnis Springs: Aptian marine reptiles, invertebrates and indigenous culture. Camp overnight.

19 July – Drive to Marree. Overnight camp at Marree.

20 July – Drive to Kalamurina station (4 hours/200 km to Mungernannie thence about 4 hours to Kalamurina Wetlands campsite). Abundant Late Pleistocene megafauna of Katipiri Formation. Camp overnight.



Ichthyosaur vertebra at Finnis Springs

21 July – Visit Lookout locality on Warburton River: a Pleistocene vertebrate locality where remains of extinct megafaunal taxa have been found, including *Diprotodon* (Australia's largest marsupial herbivore), *Procoptodon* (largest browsing sthenurine kangaroo), *Megalania* (giant monitor lizard, twice the size of a full-grown Komodo dragon) and *Thylacoleo* (marsupial lion). We will also visit other locations along the Warburton River with sites spanning the last 4 Ma.



Macropodid jaw at Toolapinna Waterhole

22 July – Drive to Lake Palankarina (about 7 hours): one of the Lake Eyre Basin's most important Neogene localities. Lake Palankarina has a number of Late Oligocene-Early Miocene sites that have yielded mammal, bird, reptile and fish remains. There are also a number of Pliocene and Pleistocene sites at the lake, providing a unique window into the changes that the central Australian fauna has undergone over the last 25 Ma. Camp near Lake Palankarina.

23 July – Drive to Flinders Ranges National Park. Camp in Brachina Gorge.

24 July – Morning visit to Brachina Gorge Geological Trail (Cryogenian-Ediacaran-Cambrian section, including Ediacaran GSSP). Drive to Adelaide (about 6 hours).

Included in excursion fee: transport ex Adelaide, excursion guide, all accommodation, bottled water in field, and most meals and drinks (including some alcohol) during excursion period.

Not included in excursion fee: accommodation outside excursion period.

Guidelines for abstracts, oral presentations and posters

Abstracts: All abstracts should be submitted to PalaeoDownUnder2@gmail.com as a Word Document (.doc or .docx) in Times New Roman 12 pt. Please, label the file "FIRST-AUTHOR_Short-title". They should be written in English and indicate preference of *Oral* vs. *Poster presentation*. Abstracts should be **received by 31**

March, and at least **one of the authors** needs to be **registered** to attend the conference (non-compliance will result in removal from the Abstracts volume). The Scientific Committee will assess all abstracts and may edit to homogenise style; ultimately, the decision to accept a submitted abstract and decide whether the presentation format (talk/poster) needs to be changed is at the sole discretion of the Scientific Committee.

Abstracts should include:

- *Title*

- *Authors:* AUTHOR-1, AA (Institution, City, Country), AUTHOR-2, BB (Institution, City, Country) & AUTHOR-3, CC (Institution, City, Country)... Please underline the name of the author who will be presenting the talk or defending the poster.

- *Text:* Maximum length 300 words, excluding title and author details. Abstract should not include references or figures, but can include keywords.

Oral presentations: Duration of keynote talks is 45 minutes, comprising 35–40 minutes talk plus 5–10 minutes for questions.

Duration of regular talks is 15 minutes, comprising 12 minutes talk plus 3 minutes for questions.

Presentations are accepted in both **Powerpoint (Windows)** and **Keynote (Mac OS)**. For organisational purposes, please indicate which software will be preferred when submitting the abstract. Presentations will need to be uploaded to the computer in the venue room before the beginning of the morning (before 9:00am) or afternoon sessions (before 2:00pm). Please, bring in your USB memory drive as soon as possible and contact the person in charge of computers in the venue.

Label your file with the following information: "Session_FIRST-AUTHOR_Title". The session number will be indicated for each abstract in the conference website in late June and in the detailed programme received with the conference registration package.

Poster presentations: Posters will be in **portrait format only** and a maximum size of **A0** (width=841mm, height=1189mm). Posters should include, under the title, the full name and affiliations of all its authors. Adhesive strips and thumbtacks will be available to mount your poster on provided display panels.

Contact

Updates will be posted to our conference website (www.pdu2.org) as available. Further queries may be directed to AAP Secretary, Dr Diego García-Bellido by e-mail at PalaeoDownUnder2@gmail.com.

Important dates

Deadline for Early Bird registration and payment of fees	29 February 2016
Deadline for abstract submission	31 March 2016
Deadline for full refund	31 March 2016
Third Circular with programme	May 2016
Final deadline for conference and excursion registration	31 May 2016
Final deadline for half (50%) refund	31 May 2016

Australian Earth Sciences Convention

Delegates may also wish to attend the *Australian Earth Sciences Convention* (AESC), to be held in Adelaide immediately prior to the *Palaeo Down Under 2* pre-conference excursion. AESC is organised by the Geological Society of Australia, parent body to AAP, and will cover a broad range of earth science themes. Interested persons should consult the AESC website for further details.

