The Royal Society OF VICTORIA

Promoting science since 1854

PATRON: The Hon Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria

PRESIDENT: Mr David Zerman

This Month's Events…

19th April: Ockham's Razor LIVE (ABC Radio National)
Featuring Natasha Mitchell (MC), Gemma Sharp, Krystal Evans, Megan Munsie, Tanya Ha, Nate Byrne and more.

26th April: Elena Ivanova
"Fighting Superbugs: Biomimetic Nanostructures"
*(Voting Members: please register for the **preceding AGM at 5pm**)*

April 2018 Newsletter

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The Royal Society of Victoria Inc.
8 La Trobe Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Tel. (03) 9663 5259
rsv.org.au

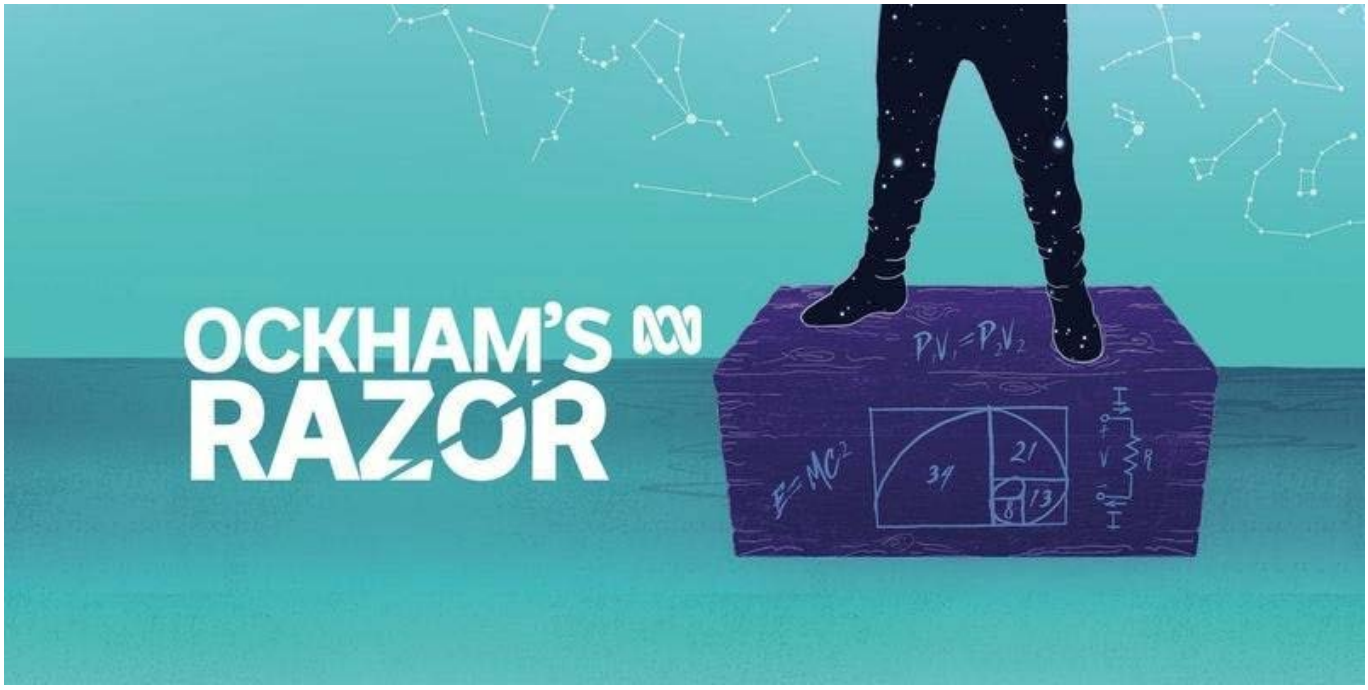
May 2018 Advance Notice:

10th May: Katie Allen
"Why is Australia the Food Allergy Capital of the World?"

24th May: Cordelia Fine
"Testosterone Rex: Death of a Legend?"

Ockham's Razor LIVE from the Royal Society of Victoria

Thursday, 19th April 2018 at 7:00pm



The ABC podcast Ockham's Razor is a soapbox for all things scientific. Different speakers from diverse backgrounds share their stories, insights, arguments or tributes—anything that can grip an audience by the ears for 10 straight minutes.

In 2018, the ABC is taking the program around the country, recording the talks at special live events. They might even bring an actual soapbox.

ABC's Science Friction podcast presenter **Natasha Mitchell** is taking the reins as we head to Melbourne to mull over a range of topics from social media to medical marketing to meteorology, including:

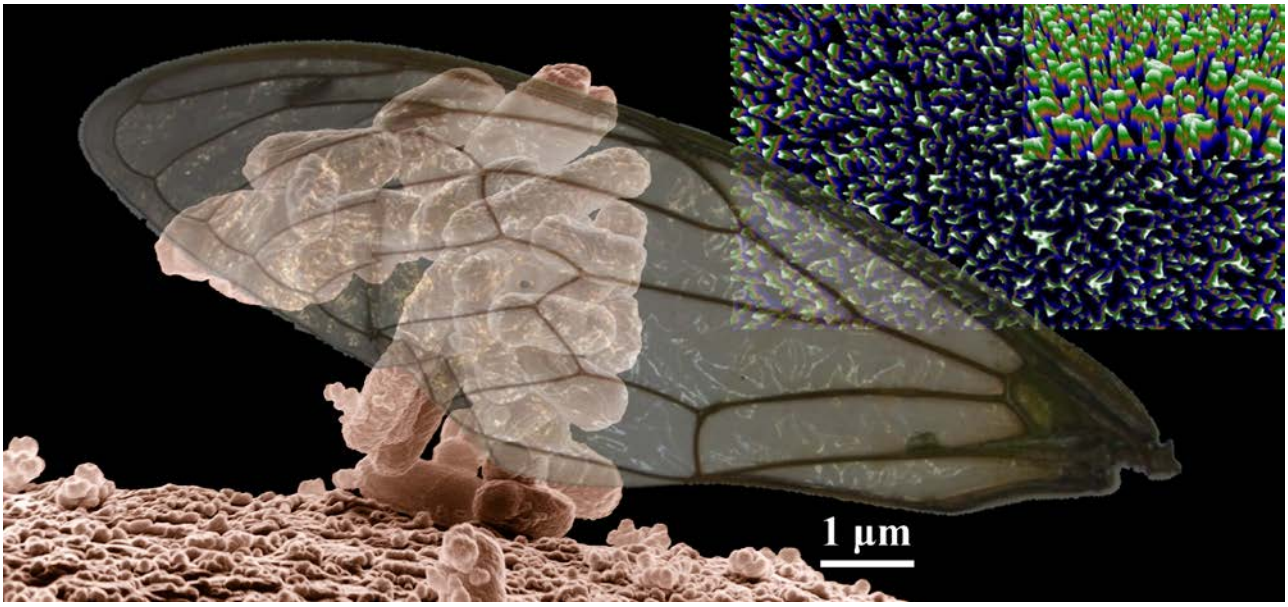
- People's quest for 'perfect' private parts—**Gemma Sharp**, clinical psychologist and researcher, Monash University
- Talking about the weather ain't boring—**Nate Byrne**, ABC News Breakfast weather guru
- Stem cell therapies: sorting the science from the snake oil—**Megan Munsie**, stem cell scientist, University of Melbourne
- Innovation: turning the talk into action—**Krystal Evans**, CEO, Biomelbourne Network
- Share if you care: facts, fear and Facebook—**Tanya Ha**, science journalist and communicator, Science in Public
- …and more!

Join the audience for a great night of ideas! You can listen to Ockham's Razor now via RN, iTunes or wherever you get your favourite podcasts.

Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at https://rsv.org.au/events/ockhams-razor/ , call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au

Fighting Superbugs: Biomimetic Nanostructures

Thursday, 26th April 2018 at 7:00pm



Speaker: Professor Elena Ivanova

Professor of Nanobiotechnology, College of Science, Engineering & Health, RMIT University

The threat of a global rise of untreatable infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria calls for the design and fabrication of a new generation of biomaterials. Following the discovery of the efficient, bacteria-killing nature of insect wing surfaces, the properties of these biological nanostructures have recently become the subject of intense investigation, promising to play a large role in combatting the emerging, worldwide epidemic of “super-bugs.”

Recent studies of cicada wings have shown that they are covered with nano-pillared arrays lethal to most species of pathogenic bacteria. Rather than relying on a combination of physical and chemical properties to combat biofilm formation, the mechanism of the antibacterial activity of nanostructured surfaces has been described in terms of purely physical, “mechano-bactericidal” effects. Recently, “black silicon” was synthesised to simulate an insect wing’s protective surface, inducing a similar biocidal effect that physically ruptured the small, gram-negative bacteria cells while leaving the host’s much larger, eukaryotic cells intact; however, the precise role of this and other nano-architectures in fighting pathogenic bacteria remains a complex mystery to be solved.

About the speaker:

Professor Elena P. Ivanova is a molecular biochemist whose professional interests are concentrated on development and coordination of collaborative research in fundamental and applied fields of **nanobiotechnology**. With a globe-trotting career that has taken her from the Ukraine and Russian Federation to Japan, the UK, France and finally Australia, she is the recipient of several international awards, including the Morrison Rogosa Award, American Society for Microbiology (1999), UNESCO Biotechnology Fellowship (1997), and the AIST Fellowship, Japan, Foreign Researcher Invitation Program of the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, (1994-1997). In 2017 she was awarded the prestigious **UNSW Eureka Prize for Scientific Research** for her research leadership in the fight against the growing epidemic of antibiotic resistant bacteria. Elena has been based at the Swinburne University of Technology since 2001, and in 2018 commences a new position as Professor in Nanobiotechnology with the College of Science, Engineering and Health at RMIT University.

Full RSV Members: to attend this lecture, please register to attend our Annual General Meeting that precedes it (details next page). Meanwhile, RSV student members and non-members can register for the lecture using the details below.

Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at https://rsv.org.au/events/fighting-superbugs/ , call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au

SECOND NOTICE OF 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 26th April 2018 at 5:00pm

Full RSV members (ie. subscription current, with voting rights) are asked to register their intention to attend the 2017 AGM (yes, in 2018, concerned with 2017!), noting a quorum of 50 will be required.

If you cannot attend, please nominate your proxy on the form provided by the RSV (back page of this newsletter, and online at https://rsv.org.au/wp-content/uploads/PROXY-Form-for-Voting-at-2017-RSV-AGM.pdf . The form details the resolutions to be considered at the meeting. Meeting papers, including our 2017 Annual Report, will be circulated closer to the date.

Once the AGM business has concluded, **Professor Lynne Selwood AO** will be inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Victoria. Sadly, Professor Fiona Stanley cannot join us on the evening due to commitments interstate.

There will be a **members' cocktail function** from 6pm, after which 2017 Eureka Prize-winner **Professor Elena Ivanova** will present to the Society on the subject of ***Fighting Superbugs: Biomimetic Nanostructures*** from 7pm. Non-members and our student members may register to attend the lecture separately at https://rsv.org.au/events/fighting-superbugs/ but as a full members' attendance at the AGM automatically reserves you a place at the cocktail function and a seat at the lecture, there's no need to book twice!

Voting RSV members only at the AGM please (please note student members are ineligible to vote in RSV Council elections or at the AGM, but all members are welcome to join us for the function at 6pm and Professor Ivanova's lecture from 7pm – we encourage our student members to register to attend Elena's talk, so we can hold your place).

Please register to attend online now at https://rsv.org.au/events/rsv-agm-2017/ , call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au

Nominations for RSV Membership

Nominations for membership of the Society have been received on behalf of:

Dr Louise **WILSON**, Applied Statistician, Predictive Analytics Group
Dr Penelope Helen **WHETTON**, Honorary Research Fellow, CSIRO/University of Melbourne
Ms Sara **PHILLIPS**, Editor, Nature Research
Dr Stephen **POROPAT**, Palaeontologist, Swinburne University

Unless Members request a ballot, these will be considered for election by Council and if elected, will be announced at the Ordinary Meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria to be held on 26th April 2018. Recently elected members who have not yet signed the Society's membership book are warmly invited to attend the 10th May meeting to be formally welcomed as members. **Please inform the office if you plan to attend, so we can prepare your membership certificate for collection.**

A number of established members have indicated they have never had an occasion to 'sign in' – again, please let us know at the office if you'd like to rectify the situation, and we'll make sure you get the opportunity!

Welcoming new member James Neave to the Society on 22nd March

2018 Program

Here are our confirmed speakers and topics through to May 2018; further details are being confirmed with speakers and partners, or are otherwise subject to the outcomes of our various awards and prizes. Most events through to the end of May are currently online at our website and available for bookings.

April

26th – Annual General Meeting and 2018 Fellow's Induction (5pm).

"Fighting Superbugs: Biomimetic Nanostructures" with Professor Elena Ivanova (7pm).

May

10th – "Why is Australia the Food Allergy Capital of the World?" with Professor Katie Allen.

24th – "Testosterone Rex: Death of a Legend?" with Professor Cordelia Fine.

As always, you can book our lectures as they become available online at https://rsv.org.au/lecture-program/.

The Crossroads: Aboriginal Knowledge & Modern Science

Scott Reddiex and Catriona Nguyen-Robertson
RSV Science Communications

This article follows a presentation by Dr Duane W Hamacher to the Royal Society of Victoria on the evening of Thursday, 22nd February 2018 titled Australian Indigenous Astronomy: 65,000 Years of Science.

"65,000 years is a long time to be in one place!"

Imagine that you were able to read the night sky. Not just to determine north or south, but well enough to know when it will rain, when best to hunt and gather, to use it to encode stories that record history, and much more. This is what Indigenous Australians and Torres Strait Islanders have done for tens of thousands of years, and continue to pass on to each generation.

Dr Duane W. Hamacher is an astronomer and Senior ARC Discovery Early Career Research Fellow at the **Monash Indigenous Studies Centre**. His work seeks to understand how the first Australians developed and embedded scientific information into their knowledge systems. Working closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander elders, students, and knowledge custodians across Australia, he listens to their stories, songs, and traditions to learn about Indigenous astronomical and geological knowledge, and understand the connections between sky, land, and sea.

Many dismiss oral traditions as something easily corrupted over time. Dr Hamacher referenced the game of "Telephone" as the prime example of messages being distorted as they are passed from person to person. But the first peoples have long used Knowledge Systems that are passed down through orality (oral traditions, song and dance, craftsmanship, social practices, etc.) to ensure that the integrity of their stories and lessons are preserved. Orality is not unique to our continent – with the majority of human populations largely illiterate until relatively recently, many cultures have passed down information through elements of orality without distortion, however few cultures come close to the longevity of knowledge encoded through story seen here in Australia.

Indigenous Australians have inhabited this land for tens of thousands of years and Dr Hamacher shared with the audience living memories of events that have occurred over that time. He has been able to match Aboriginal stories of a fire-devil guarding craters in Henbury, Northern Territory to a meteoroid blazing across the Australian sky before crashing into the earth in that spot 4,700 years ago. Going even further back, recent studies show that Aboriginal traditions accurately record sea level changes over this time, including the "birth of the South Star" when sea levels rose to form Bass Strait, separating Tasmania from the mainland about 12,000 years ago. Dr Hamacher also heard many Aboriginal stories that feature eclipses – the male moon and female sun embracing – which only occur once every 300-400 years.

The journey of Dr Hamacher in exploring the antiquity of orality and the knowledge of the first Australians can seem an unlikely path. As a child growing up in a small town in Missouri, USA, Duane was obsessed with science. He always wanted to be either an astronomer or a palaeontologist, and regards himself as fortunate to have had an amazing teacher who pushed the students to learn, helping him realise his dream. First visiting Australia in 2003 for a semester abroad as part of his undergraduate studies in physics, he fell in love with the country. After graduating from The University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science in 2004, he went on to complete a Masters in astrophysics at UNSW in 2006, before pursuing a PhD in Indigenous studies at Macquarie University, which was conferred in 2012.

The leap from astrophysics to Indigenous studies allowed Dr Hamacher to appreciate the vast scope of scientific understanding embedded in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge, and connect the two different scientific languages. Millennia of observations, experiments, analysis and recording by the first Australians – all of which are components of the scientific method – have yielded intricate knowledge about the country they have lived in for so long.

One location that Dr Hamacher has visited is close to home; located in Melbourne's southwest, the Aboriginal stone arrangement of Wurdi Youang is estimated to be around 11,000 years old – 6,000 years older than the iconic bluestone circle of Stonehenge in England. Similar to the manner in which Stonehenge is aligned with the rising sun of the summer solstice and setting sun on the winter solstice, the Wurdi Youang stones

align to the setting sun at the equinoxes and solstices through the year.

Wurdi Youang – the world's oldest known solar calendar.

The dates of the solstices and equinoxes signify the change in season, and have been used by peoples around the world to plan for the coming months. From communities in north-western New South Wales, Dr Hamacher learned what changes in seasons mean to the Ngemba, Kamilaroi and Euahlayi language groups who live there, and how they read the sky. These groups observe an emu, Dhinawan, formed by the dark spaces between the stars in the sky (referred to as 'dark constellations'). In autumn, the Dhinawan appears to be running through the sky – the female emu is chasing a male in order to mate, and this is the time to gather emu eggs for food, as they are not yet fertilised.

Dark Emu – constellations and the stories of their seasonal movement correlate with landscape and food management cycles

In June-July, the Dhinawan points towards the horizon – the male emu sits on the eggs, waiting for them to hatch, meaning that the cold winter has come. When the male emu appears to stand up off the nest and is busy raising chicks, spring has arrived. Late in the year the Dhinawan sits low on the horizon at sunset, searching for water in the waterhole, signifying the lack of water in the hot, dry summer. Encoded in this one constellation, moving through the sky throughout the year, are lessons on the seasonal change in the weather, the life cycle of an animal and the time to gather food.

In the Torres Strait, Dr Hamacher was taught by the locals that the best time to go fishing is at a quarter moon, and to avoid going on a full moon or new moon. The Torres Strait Islanders understand the link between the moon phases and the tides: during a full or new moon, the combined gravitational pull of the sun and the moon produces higher tides, and greater variation between high tide and low tide. This has the effect of churning the water, making it harder to see the fish. However, during quarter moons the sun and moon are perpendicular to the Earth, resulting in shallower tides, less churning, and making it easier to spot fish.

Another fishing lesson imparted on Dr Hamacher while in the Torres Strait was that "if the bright stars look blue and fuzzy, don't go fishing, and start planting – it's going to rain soon". With his background in astrophysics, he considered what the science behind that warning could be. Looking up at the night sky, the bright stars appear blue when all the other bandwidths of light are absorbed by humidity in the atmosphere. The higher humidity also refracts the light of these stars, making them appear fuzzy, and correlates to a higher likelihood of rain, which is why the Torres Strait Islanders have used twinkling stars as a predictor of rain for generations.

"Rising Star" of Aboriginal Astronomy, Kamilaroi woman Krystal de Napoli

Dr Hamacher believes that these stories and traditions are something to be shared and hold great value in the world of science. As a non-indigenous, American researcher, however, he

doesn't believe that he is the best voice to share them and feels uncomfortable being termed an "Aboriginal astronomy expert". He therefore encourages and is training the next generation of scientists with Aboriginal heritage. Currently he is working with four scientists of Aboriginal heritage from diverse language groups: Karlie Noon (*Kamilaroi)* at The Australian National University, Krystal De Napoli *(Kamilaroi*) at Monash University, Kristen Banks *(Wiradjuri)* at the University of New South Wales, and Wily Stevens *(Murruwarri)* at Sydney Observatory. Krystal will join Dr Hamacher to co-present some of their research at the RSV on the 20th of April, and we look forward to watching all of these students become the rising stars of Aboriginal Astronomy.

RSV Councillor Sophia Frentz (vote of thanks), @aboriginalastro student Krystal de Napoli, Dr Duane Hamacher, RSV President David Zerman.

After a decade of learning about the extent of Aboriginal astronomy, and how previously it has been dismissed and largely ignored by many scientists, Dr Hamacher left us with this advice: "Just shut up and listen!"

Australian Citizen Science Association Victoria Chapter

As announced in last month's newsletter, the Society is helping to convene a new Chapter of the Australian Citizen Science Association (ACSA) as part of our management of the Inspiring Australia program in Victoria. ACSA convenes the community of practice in citizen science, exploring ways to make participation in research by non-scientists not just instructive, but also engaging, fun and social, depending on the project at hand.

First Meeting for 2018

The first meeting of ACSA-Vic will be on **Wednesday, 11th April from 12.30pm** at the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research in Heidelberg. Citizen science program leaders, contributors, scholars and volunteers are all warmly invited to attend! We'll be sharing plans for the year ahead, seeking guidance on how we should focus our time and resources, and hearing from some speakers sharing some of their wisdom and experience in the running of citizen science projects and programs.

Invited speakers include **Patrick Bonney**, a citizen science-focussed researcher with Federation University's CeRDI program, and **Nadiah Roslan**, Program Manager of the Earthwatch Institute's recently re-launched ClimateWatch program.

CoderDojo Carlton

Please meet the amazing **Tamara Jones** and **Alicja Cwierz**, the ferociously committed champions of **CoderDojo Carlton** wrapping up term one with fantastic t-shirts for the kids and a demonstration by the hard-working group of volunteer mentors to the diverse group of local families of all the fabulous robots and other tech the "Ninjas" have to look forward to playing with next term, thanks to a grant from the City of

Melbourne, auspiced by the Royal Society of Victoria.

These kids and their families are having a ball. It's a real privilege to support such an inspiring initiative - a solid gold kids' science club, delivering grass roots STEM education for a diverse group of digital natives! A big thanks to our Business Manager, James McArthur, for his work in administering the grant. ***- Mike***

National Science Week Victoria: Information and Networking

Monday, 23rd April @ 10am

We are delighted to be bringing the National Science Week program together for Victoria this year, and warmly invite everyone interested in being a part of this state-wide celebration of all things Science to come along to our information and networking session here at the Society.

Joining us will be the Victorian Minister for Trade, Innovation & the Digital Economy, Philip Dalidakis MP, Victoria's Lead Scientist, Dr Amanda Caples and Questacon's acting Director of Science and Learning, Dr Bobby Cerini. The Minister will be launching the broader Inspiring Australia program for the state, and we'll be discussing opportunities for our communities to engage.

Our focus on the day will be on National Science Week (11 -19 August), providing some examples of planned events, hearing from the Victorian Science Week Lead Dr Renee Beale on small grants and how to get involved, and an opportunity to network with colleagues (including the National Science Week Manager, Geoff Crane) over morning tea at the Royal Society of Victoria.

If you're thinking about hosting or supporting a Science Week event, or just want to know more about the Inspiring Australia program, please register to join us:

Registrations: ***https://rsv.org.au/events/science-week-victoria-briefing/***

Our Mesozoic Menagerie

Scott Reddiex and Catriona Nguyen-Robertson
RSV Science Communications

This article follows a presentation by Dr Stephen Poropat to the Royal Society of Victoria on the evening of Thursday, 8th March 2018 titled Our Mesozoic Menagerie: Australia's Dinosaurs*.*

Imagine the knowledge encompassed in 180 million years of history lying beneath the Earth's surface.

The Mesozoic Era – The Age of Dinosaurs – is comprised of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, spanning from 252 to 66 million years ago (Mya). The duration of this era was so long that in 2018 we are closer in time to the *Tyrannosaurus rex* (66 Mya) than the *T. rex* was to *Stegosaurus*, which roamed the Earth about 150 Mya.

The Mesozoic is bounded by mass extinctions: it began following the Permian-Triassic extinction event, in which 97% of all life on the planet was

lost, and ended with the more well-known Cretaceous-Paleogene extinction event, that wiped out 75% of species on Earth and marked the definitive end to the age of dinosaurs. Interestingly, while the latter event can often be represented as the traumatic end to the dinosaurs at their peak, their numbers had been in steady decline for nearly 40 million years prior to a large asteroid striking Earth, boiling the atmosphere and throwing up black dust that blocked the Sun's light and heat for months.

Much less traumatic than a rock from the sky, Dr Stephen Poropat was struck with a love of dinosaurs from a young age, after being gifted a book on dinosaurs in grade one by his neighbours. His path to successfully pursuing palaeontology ('where biology and geology meet') as a career was in part thanks to his high-school biology teacher, Penny Crossman, at Whitefriars College in Donvale. Dr Poropat told us how she was able to engage with the students and teach complex concepts by teasing them apart and explaining them. This, he says, 'broadened his horizons', and set him up with the tools to pursue a Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts, followed by a PhD, at Monash University.

Our evidence for the existence of the different dinosaurs that lived in prehistoric Australia comes from fossilised animal remains and other records of life, such as fossilised footprints. Specific conditions are required for fossilisation to occur, which means that not all life-forms from the Mesozoic Era are preserved, but they are all we have to determine the types of animals that existed during this time. As Dr Poropat puts it, 'we need the right rocks!'.

What is now Australia was a very different place during the Mesozoic Era. Scattered throughout the continent, the 'right rocks' from all three of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods can be found. At the beginning of the Triassic period, all of the continents were combined in a supercontinent called Pangaea. The Australian landmass during this time was bounded by Antarctica to the south and India to the west, and sat much closer to the South Pole than it currently does. Over the course of the era, a body of water called the Eromanga Sea covered much of the continent. The prehistoric waterways helped to form the right conditions for dinosaurs to flourish, and subsequently to be preserved in what is now the arid inland of Australia.

The first dinosaurs began to appear in the late Triassic, around 230 Mya, however we have limited fossil records of dinosaurs from this period because of their scarcity. What we do have from the Triassic are fossils of temnospondyl amphibians – 'Triassic fish' – found in every Australian state and territory, as well as the oldest dinosaur footprint (~220 Mya) uncovered in a coalmine in Dinmore, Queensland.

From the Jurassic period, only three dinosaur skeletons have been found in Australia, along with a few sites of preserved footprints dispersed across Queensland and Western Australia. Most of our dinosaur fossils instead come from the Cretaceous period, when large numbers of dinosaurs such as sauropods (herbivores), theropods (larger carnivores) and aquatic plesiosaurs roamed the Australian land and waterways. Many dinosaur fossils from this period have been discovered in the Winton Formation – a geological deposit in central-Western Queensland from the Late Cretaceous period that contains the remains of dinosaurs that lived 98-95 Mya.

Dr Poropat's scientific journey has been closely connected with the Winton Formation, and with David Elliot, co-founder of the nearby Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum. David and his wife Judy raise sheep on their property in Winton, where one fortuitous day he stumbled across a small pile of fossilised bone fragments on the ground. Following this initial discovery, the site has since been excavated to yield many fantastic finds – in particular, the remains of one of the most complete sauropod dinosaurs ever found in Australia, nicknamed 'Wade', after Dr Mary Wade of the Queensland Museum.

After a decade of reconstruction work, Dr Poropat identified Wade as a new species of plant-eating sauropod. He formally named it *Savannasaurus elliottorum,* in honour of the Elliots and the savannah country of Central Queensland where it was discovered. It was not the only dinosaur to be found on the Elliot's property: last year, David's son Bob Elliot discovered 'one of the most amazing sauropods ever found in Australia'.

While Dr Poropat and his team are currently still preparing and studying the fossils, it appears to reveal the gut contents of this creature's last meal – potentially being the first concrete evidence in the world for a dinosaur's diet.

Another owner of a Winton sheep station, Keith Watts, also discovered dinosaur fossils on his property in 1974. The bones were collected by Dr Mary Wade and Andrew Elliot and were found to be the first Cretaceous sauropod discovered in Australia. The location of the find was unfortunately lost until 2004, when Dr Poropat used clues from a roughly drawn map, details of a sign that had previously marked the site, and a flyover in local mayor's helicopter to rediscover the area, and he was able to find more remains of the now-termed *Wintonotitan wattsi*.

In the same area, *Australovenator wintonesis* (nicknamed 'Banjo'), Australia's most complete theropod dinosaur was discovered amongst the remains of a sauropod dinosaur, *Diamantinasaurus matildae* (nicknamed 'Matilda'). While the exact cause of Banjo's death remains unknown, Dr Poropat postulates that Banjo was killed while preying on a bogged Matilda, however what is clear is that the two were trapped in a drying waterhole and preserved together.

Lastly, Dr Poropat was fortunate enough to study the Lark Quarry Stampede. 95 Mya, herds of two-legged dinosaurs came to drink at a lake when a large, carnivorous theropod is thought to have spooked them into a stampede. At least 150 small dinosaurs of different kinds left their footprints behind on a site as large as a tennis court, and Dr Poropat believes that there may still be more footprints extending beyond and below the area.

Dr Poropat has been digging up dinosaur bones for over a decade, and his studies depend on the serendipity of discoveries, When asked where his top place to dig with unlimited time and money was, he chose three: Koonwarra, Victoria, where he has previously discovered feathers, fish, invertebrates, and plants, but believes that there is much more to be found; Talbragar, NSW, Australia's only good Late Jurassic vertebrate fossil site; and Miria Marl, WA, the only site in Australia to have yielded vertebrate fossils from the end of the Dinosaur Age.

Straight from the sauropod's mouth: distinguished palaeontologist and RSV life member Dr Tom Rich was in the audience to tell us a little about how – and why – he named various species of dinosaur discovered in Australia.

After hearing about his journey, the people he has met who have stumbled upon incredible finds, who volunteer their time to preserve parts of history, and the palpable passion he has for his work, it's easy to get excited. To give a punchy summary – Australian Palaeontology: We Dig It.

The Royal Society OF VICTORIA
Promoting science since 1854

PROXY Form for Voting at the Annual General Meeting of
THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (INC)

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, financial Members of the Royal Society of Victoria Inc. may vote in person or by proxy. Rule 21 (1) requires notice of the appointment of a proxy, who is a member of the Society, to be given or sent to the Honorary Secretary at the Society's Office no later than 5.00 pm on Tuesday 24th April 2018, the last working day before the meeting (Wednesday 25th is Anzac Day), which will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday 26th April 2018 in the Society's Ellery Theatre.

To assist Members in lodging notice of the appointment of a proxy this form is provided.

I……..

(Block letters please)

being a Member of The Royal Society of Victoria Inc. appoint as my proxy

☐ The Chairman of the Meeting* ☐ ……*

(Name of the Full Voting Member who is to be proxy, block letters please)

*Please tick one box.

My instructions are to vote for / against (circle one for each motion)

If direction to vote 'For' or 'Against' is not provided, the Proxy is considered undirected and so may be used at the discretion of the nominated Proxy holder.

Moved: D. Zerman Seconded: P. Baines For / Against / Proxy's Discretion
That in accordance with Rule 11 (4) (a) the Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting held 26th April 2017 as presented to Council be confirmed.

Moved: D. Zerman Seconded: P. Baines For / Against / Proxy's Discretion
That the 2017 Annual Report (including the President's Report) of the Royal Society of Victoria be received in accordance with Rule 11 (4) (b) and (d).

Moved: A. Davison Seconded: P. Baines For / Against / Proxy's Discretion
That the 2017 Financial Report and Auditor's statement of the Royal Society of Victoria be received in accordance with Rule 11 (4) (b) and (d).

Moved: A. Davison Seconded: P. Baines For / Against / Proxy's Discretion
That Hall Chadwick Melbourne Chartered Accountants be invited to accept the position of Auditor of the Royal Society of Victoria for 2018 in accordance with Rule 11 (c).

Signature …… Date ……..

Please return to:
The Honorary Secretary
The Royal Society of Victoria
8 La Trobe Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

To reach the Royal Society of Victoria office not later than 5.00pm on Tuesday 24th April, 2018