Museums Board of Victoria

2024-25

Annual Report

Supplementary Information





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Externally Funded Projects

The following projects received external funding and commenced during the year under review.

Public Programs and Education

Strategic Partnerships Program, funded by the Department of Education supports development and delivery of curriculum-aligned education programs across our museums.

Best Start, Best Life, an early childhood initiative of the Victorian Department of Education, supported Tiny Tours at Melbourne Museum along with early years educator engagement programs.

Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series programs, funded by the Department of
Education, provide enrichment opportunities
across the curriculum to extend high-ability
students from prep to Year 12 in Victorian
government schools, so they are better supported
to excel and reach their full potential.

The Scanlon Foundation funding continues for the four-year, strategically focused **Community Partnerships Program** with three transformative pillars: breaking down barriers to participation and engagement with diverse audiences, driving creative sector leadership and best practice, and enhancing diversity and inclusion in the workforce.

Creative Futures Ltd supports Museums Victoria's annual Creative Futures program—as part of a long-term investment in design education. This support helps teachers deliver the Design and Technologies curriculum through expert workshops, design thinking, and engagement with museum collections. The program was extended to be delivered in regional Victoria in November 2024.

Catholic Education Commission of Victoria is supporting Museums Victoria to deliver **STEM education programs** and professional development programs for Catholic schools in Victoria.

Future Innovators: Building links between STEM and early learning is funded by the Department of Education to increase skills and confidence in early childhood educators leading to improved outcomes for children across Victoria.

ABCN Full STEAM Ahead, funded by Australian Business Council Network was delivered at Scienceworks and enabled engaging STEM workshops to be delivered to High School students from disadvantaged backgrounds that have low participation rates in STEM.

Dino Days, supported by Goodstart Early Learning, enabled weekly programming for early years and family audiences.

National Science Week, funded by Inspiring Victoria, included Science on Show and *Journey Beyond: A Morning with Astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg*.

The **Science is a Superpower Festival**, supported by the Piers K Fowler Scholarship Fund, included two days of festival programming designed for primary and early high school students with a focus on girls and non-binary tweens aged 10–12.

VicHealth continues to support the delivery of health promotion programs for children, families and young people across the museums, including **The Secret World of Food** and **Climate Café** series.

Additional partner in-kind or financial support enabled a range of programs and events, including support from ABC Radio National, Africa Day Australia, AFTV, Air China, ArtPlay, AsiaTOPA, ASPECT, Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), BEMAC, Camp Challenge, Chamber Made, Chinese Youth Society of Melbourne, City of Melbourne, Emerging Writers Festival, Engineers Australia, Gowrie Victoria, Headspace, It Takes a Spark, Kensington Maternal and Child Health Centre, L'Oréal Groupe, MACS, Melbourne Fringe Festival, Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Melbourne International Film Festival (IMAX), Melbourne Recital Centre, Midsumma Festival,

Minus 18, Monash Nova Rover, Monash University, MSO, Music in Exile, Muslim Agenda, NASA, Now or Never, Orygen, PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival, Polyglot, Rotary, Royal Park, SSI, Taubmans, The A List, Transport Accident Commission, Victorian Catholic Education Authority, Wild Dwellers, Wyndham City Council and, YIRRAMBOI.

Exhibitions

We Outside, a photographic exhibition of artworks created by Ibukun Oloruntoba opened at Immigration Museum in March 2025 and was funded by City of Melbourne. Grant administered by Sabina McKenna.

Museums Victoria Research Institute

The following projects received external funding and commenced during the year under review:

- "Australian Biodiversity Data Mobilisation Program – Elateridae click beetles" project. Funding from Australian Government – CSIRO – Atlas of Living Australia.
- **"2024 Indigenous Repatriation Program Museum Grant"**. Funding from Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts.
- "Bush Blitz 2024 Taxonomy Research Project: A comprehensive taxonomic assessment and revision of three species of eastern Australian reptiles: *Egernia striolata*, *E. saxitilis* and *Pygopus lepidopodus*". Funding from Australian Government Director of National Parks.
- "The ancient origins of Southern Australian marine life" project. Funding from Gabo Foundation.
- "Hearing Victoria's birds: Automated detection of species from ecosystem sounds" project. Funding from Dr William N Holsworth.
- "Bushfire Natural Hazards FRM13 Lowan Mallee Ecological Fire Group Return Sampling" project. Funding from The University of Melbourne.

- "Production of fibroblast cell cultures from reptile tail tip samples and the extraction of **DNA from those cell lines" project**. Funding from University of Southern Queensland.
- "Field collection of wildlife samples for production of fibroblast cell cultures" project. Funding from Urimbirra Co-operative Society Pty Ltd.
- **"Fighting extinction cryobanking"** project. Funding from Zoological Parks and Gardens Board (Zoos Victoria).

The following collaborative projects administered by other institutions received external funding and commenced during the year under review:

- "EcoConnections: Building community for those who care about climate change and the environment" project. The University of Melbourne 2025 McCoy Project Seed Funding (administered by The University of Melbourne).
- "Moana Wan-Solwara Sound Archive" project. The University of Melbourne 2025 McCoy Project Seed Funding (administered by The University of Melbourne).
- "Preserving and interpreting 20th Century paint and design trade literature in Australia" project. The University of Melbourne 2025 McCoy Project Seed Funding (administered by The University of Melbourne).
- "Reconstructing pre-European biodiversity using ancient DNA from Australian lake sediments (sedaDNA)" project. The University of Melbourne 2025 McCoy Project Seed Funding (administered by The University of Melbourne).
- "Using AI to accelerate the registration of museum sciences collections" project. The University of Melbourne 2025 McCoy Project Seed Funding (administered by The University of Melbourne).

Research Supervision

*Bold denotes Museums Victoria employee

Ammresh, Ammresh: PhD, Monash University. Supervisors: Dr Jane Melville (Museums Victoria), Prof. Alastair Evans (Monash University), Dr Emma Sherratt (University of Adelaide). Project: Impacts of Quaternary climate change on shaping past reptile communities across Australia.

Cottle, Rachael: PhD, La Trobe University.
Supervisors: Mr Matthew Churchward (Museums Victoria), Dr Emma Robertson (La Trobe University).

Project: Women of the Victorian Railways.

Di Natale, Isaac: MSc, School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne.

Supervisors: **Dr Karen Rowe and Dr Kevin Rowe** (**Museums Victoria**), Prof. Michael McCarthy (University of Melbourne).

Project: Establishing an eDNA metabarcoding approach to monitor Australasian Bitterns within freshwater communities.

Duncan, Ruairidh: PhD, Monash University.Supervisors: **Dr Erich Fitzgerald (Museums Victoria)**, Prof. Alastair Evans (Monash University). Project: The biomechanics and evolution of toothed mysticete whales.

Ebel, Roy: PhD, Australian National University. Supervisors: Dr Jane Melville (Museums Victoria), Prof. Scott Keogh (Australian National University), Prof. David Chapple (Monash University), Prof. Dr. Johannes Müller (Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany). Project: A systematic quantification of the osteoderm structure in squamate reptiles with implications for their ecology and evolutionary history.

Fernandez, Juan Pedro Valbuena: PhD, Monash University.

Supervisors: **Dr Jane Melville (Museums Victoria)**, Dr Reid Tingley (Monash University). Project: Exploration of the impacts of Quaternary climate change on shaping past reptile and frog communities from the Australian tropics to the temperate south.

Harris, Jaclyn: PhD, Monash University.
Supervisors: Dr Jane Melville (Museums
Victoria), Dr David Chapple (Monash University),
Dr Claire McLean (University of Tasmania).
Project: Fire regimes and reptiles: how does
current fire management impact reptiles and how
can we mitigate these impacts?

Kotevski, Jake: PhD, Monash University.
Supervisors: **Dr Erich Fitzgerald**, Prof. Alistair Evans (Monash University).
Project: Diversity and evolution of Australian theropod (carnivorous) dinosaurs.

Kriesfeld, Les: PhD, Monash University. MV supervisors: **Dr Thomas Rich (Museums Victoria)**, Prof. Patricia Vickers-Rich (Monash University)

Project: Ediacaran fauna of Namibia.

Liefman, Mike: MSc, School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne.

Supervisors: **Dr Karen Rowe**, Prof. Raoul Mulder and Dr Michelle Gibson (University of Melbourne). Project: Life history predictors of fire response in forest-dwelling birds.

Lockett, Jeremy: BSc(Honours), School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University. Supervisors: Mr Timothy Ziegler (Museums Victoria), Dr Elizabeth Weldon (Deakin University). Project: Pleistocene-aged echidna fossil record in Victoria.

Meaney-Liu, Dior: MSc, School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne.

Supervisors: **Dr Kevin Rowe and Dr Karen Rowe** (**Museums Victoria**), Dr Tyrone Lavery (University of Melbourne.

Project: Camera monitoring to assess population dynamics of threatened species and their predators.

Moore, Robert: PhD, Monash University.
Supervisors: **Dr Ken Walker (Museums Victoria)**,
Dr Matt Piper (Monash University).
Project: Fluctuating asymmetry in the wings of native Australian bees.

Muhammed, Rizaldi Trias Jaya Putra Nurdin: PhD, Institut Pertanian Bogor University (Indonesia).

Supervisors: Dr Kevin Rowe (Museums Victoria),

Prof. Dr. Ir. RR. Dyah Perwitasari and Prof. Dr. Ir. Lilik Budi Prasetyo (Institut Pertanian Bogor University), Dr Anang Setiawan Achmadi (Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense).

Project: Systematics, conservation and evolution of Sulawesi endemic rodents of the Xanthurus group.

Parker, William: PhD, Monash University.
Supervisors: Dr Erich Fitzgerald (Museums
Victoria), Prof. Alistair Evans and Assoc. Prof.
Justin Adams (Monash University).
Project: Unlocking the palaeobiology of Australia's extinct megafaunal marsupials.

Paterson-Crisp, Lochlan: PhD, Monash University.

Supervisors: **Dr Erich Fitzgerald (Museums Victoria)**, Prof. Alistair Evans (Monash University). Project: Functional morphology of the enigmatic shark-toothed cetaceans.

Peel, Giuliana: BSc(Honours), School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Melbourne. Supervisors: Dr Erich Fitzgerald (Museums Victoria), Dr Vera Korasidis (University of

Project: Turtles in time: Fossil diversity and evolution of leatherback sea turtles.

Melbourne).

Pentland, Adele: PhD, Curtin University.
Supervisors: **Dr Thomas Rich (Museums Victoria)**,
Prof. Patricia Vickers-Rich (Monash University), Dr
Steve Poropat and Prof. Kliti Grice (Curtin
University).

Project: Early to mid-Cretaceous pterosaurs from eastern Australia.

Schubert, Joseph: PhD, University of Sydney. Supervisors: Dr Jane Melville (Museums Victoria), Prof. Nathan Lo and Prof. Simon Ho (University of Sydney).
Project: Systematics, biogeography and conservation biology of the Australian Peacock Spiders and their relatives.

Sexton, Candice: MSc, School of Biosciences, University of Melbourne.

Supervisors: **Dr Jane Melville (Museums Victoria)**, Prof. Devi Stuart-Fox (University of Melbourne).

Project: Population genetics of the Tussock skink, *Pseudemoia pagenstecheri*.

Shin, Andrew: BSc(Honours), School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Melbourne.

Supervisors: Dr Erich Fitzgerald (Museums Victoria), Dr Vera Korasidis (University of Melbourne).

Project: Big fish from deep time: Uncovering the fossil record of tunas and billfish in Australia.

Honorary Appointments

Honorary Life Fellows

Granted to individuals of high academic distinction or public standing, considered to have made a significant contribution to the intellectual standing or other significant development of Museum Victoria.

Dr Bronte Adams AM

Emeritus Prof. Daine Alcorn

Prof. Rufus Black

Mr Andrew Butcher

Prof. Edwina Cornish AO

Mr Jim Cousins AO

Mr Graham Cunningham

Mrs Amanda Derham

Ms Sylvia Falzon

Mr Martin Foley

Mr Wilkin Fon

Ms Jill Gallagher AO

Prof. Margaret Gardner AC

Mr Terry Garwood

Mr Colin Golvan AM KC

Emeritus Prof. Jennifer Graves AC

Dr J. Patrick Greene OBE

Ms Susan Heron

Dr Robin Hirst PSM

Prof. Peter Hiscock AM

Emeritus Prof. Rod Home AM

Mr Steve Howard

Dr Alison Inglis AO

Dr Gael Jennings AM

Prof. Pookong Kee

Mr Leon Kempler AM

Prof. Janet McCalman AC

Ms Tina McMeckan

Mr Peter McMullin

Mr Graham Morris

Mrs Sarah Myer

Ms Sheila O'Sullivan

Mr Michael Perry

Emeritus Prof. Marian Quartly

The Honourable Haddon Storey QC

Mr Tim Sullivan

Ms Annette Vickery

Emeritus Prof. James Warren

Ms Deanne Weir

Mr Garry Woodard

Curators Emeritus

Granted to curators who retire after having given distinguished service to Museum Victoria for a minimum of 10 years and have made a distinguished contribution in an appropriate curatorial or research field.

First Peoples - Research and Collections

Ms Kimberley Moulton

History and Technology

Mr John Sharples

Dr Charlotte Smith

Ms Elizabeth Willis

Sciences

Dr William (Bill) Birch AM

Dr Thomas Darragh

Dr Chung-Cheng Lu

Dr Mark Norman PSM

Dr Gary Poore

Honorary Associates

Granted to individuals who can be called upon to provide specialist professional advice and assistance to the Board, management or staff on an honorary basis.

First Peoples

Ms Eileen Alberts OAM

Assoc. Prof. Harry Allen

Prof. Henry Atkinson

Ms Susan (Sana) Balai

Prof. Catherine Bennett

Mr Jim Berg JP

Dr Anthony Birch

Dr Carolyn Briggs AM

Mr Robert (Robbie) Bundle

Mr Leonard Clarke

Ms Maree Clarke

Ms Vicki Couzens

Dr David Dorward

Mr John Duggan

Dr Jason Gibson

Dr Michael Green

Mr Simon Greenwood

Mr Mark Grist

Ms Marie (Sissy) Havea

Mr Peter Hood

Dr Colin Hope

Mr Robert Hudson

Mr Brendan Kennedy

Ms Melinda Kennedy

Ms Diane Kerr OAM

Ms Kelly Koumalatsos

Ms Nancy Ladas

Prof. Marcia Langton AO

Prof. Ian McNiven

Dr Michael Mel

Dr John Morton

Ms Janice Muir

Mr Russell Mullett

Mr Bebe Oliver

Ms Rochelle Patten

Dr Lois Peeler AM

Mr Shaun Angeles Penangke

Prof. Nicolas Peterson

Aunty Elvie Rowe

Prof. Lynette Russell AM

Mr Edward (Ted) Ryan

Prof. Gaye Sculthorpe

Ms Diana (Titta) Secombe

Ms Rita Seumanutafa-Palala

Ms Sandra Smith

Dr Nicola Stern

Aunty Weka Tarr

Ms Kirsten Thorpe

Dr Robin Torrence

Dr Chris Urwin

Ms Grace Vanilau

Mr Larry Walsh

History and Technology

Dr Martin Bush

Mr Eddie Butler-Bowdon

Ms Santilla Chingaipe

Dr Sophie Couchman

Dr Lorinda Cramer

Prof. Joy Damousi AM

Prof. Kate Darian-Smith

Dr Gwenda Davey AM

Emeritus Prof. Graeme Davison AO

Ms Rhonda Diffey

Ms Rebecca Forgasz

Dr Margaret (Peg) Fraser

Dr Dzavid Haveric

Dr Sarah Hayes

Mr Geoffrey Holden

Dr Laura Jocic

Ms Alana Johnson

Dr Marina Larsson

Ms Ruth Leveson
Ms Judy McKinty

Dr Camila Marambio

Prof. Andrew May

Dr Pete Minard

Dr Benjamin Mountford

Prof. Timothy Murray

Dr Anh Nguyen Austen

Dr Seamus O'Hanlon

Dr Carla Pascoe Leahy

Dr John Pickard

Dr Gary Presland

Dr Emma Robertson

Ms Heather Russell

Dr Jonathan Sweet

Dr Benjamin Thomas

Prof. Alistair Thomson

Prof. Peter Thorne

Dr Graham Willett

Dr Sara Wills

Dr Chris Wilson

Prof. Andrea Witcomb

Sciences

Dr Justin Adams

Mr Philip Bock OAM

Mr Robert Burn OAM

Dr Lawrence (Laurie) Cookson

Mr James Cozens

Assoc. Prof. Andrew Drinnan

Prof. Alistair Evans

Dr Caroline Farrelly

Dr Ross Field

Prof. Timothy Flannery

Mr Grant Hamid

Mr Alan Henderson

Dr Julian Hollis

Mr Rudie Kuiter

Prof. John Long

Dr Matthew McGee

Mr Peter Marriott

Mr Peter Menkhorst PSM

Dr Gareth Nelson

Prof. Timothy New

Mr Ken Norris

Dr Robert Paddle

Dr Tarmo Raadik

Dr Richard Schodde OAM

Mr Luke Simpkin

Mr David Staples

Prof. Devi Stuart-Fox

Dr Roy Swain

Mr Peter Swinkels

Prof. Patricia Vickers-Rich AO

Dr Mark Warne

Dr Patricia Woolley AM

Strategic Collection Management

Ms Michelle Berry

Ms Donna Fothergill

Dr Sharann Johnson

Dr Robert Waller

Exhibitions and Experiences Division

(Melbourne Planetarium)

Assoc. Prof. Jonathan (Jonti) Horner

Publications

* **Bold** denotes Museums Victoria staff and associates.

Refereed Journals

Goodall, R., & Webster, H. 2025. Showing our Metal: Identifying and Managing Hazardous Substances in Book Covers in the Museums Victoria Library. *Studies in Conservation*, 1–10: https://doi.org/10.1080/00393630.2025.2490884

Steele, G. & **Webster, H.** 2025. Getting Inked? A Survey of Current Institutional Marking Practices in Rare Books and Special Collections. *RBM*: a journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Cultural Heritage. 26(1), 52: doi:https://doi.org/10.5860/rbm.26.1.52

Adams, A.L., Achmadi, A.S., Mursyid, A., Handika, H., Nurdin, M.R.T.J.P., Esselstyn, J.A., Perkins, S.L., **Rowe, K.M.C.** and **Rowe, K.C.** 2025. Wildlife disease surveillance from village to peak: Trypanosome infections of mammals on Sulawesi revealed higher prevalence in intact montane forests. *Therya*, 16(1): 125-141. DOI 10.12933/therya-25-6154

Allen, H., Grossbichler, L and **Raberts, M.** 2025. Change in Bathurst and Melville art: Baldwin Spencer's spears at Melbourne Museum, Victoria, Australia. *Australian Aboriginal Studies*, 2025(1): 124-144.

Appleyard, S.A., Ward, R.D., Pogonoski, J.D., Graham, A., Last, P.R., Deagle, B.E., Holmes, B., **Gomon, M.F., Bray, D.J.,** Johnson, J.W., Hay, A.C., Moore, G.I., Hammer, M.P., Russell, B. & Graham, K.J. 2025. Australia's marine fishes DNA barcode reference library for integrated taxonomy, metabarcoding and eDNA research. *Scientific Data*, 12(21). DOI 10.1038/s41597-025-04375-4

Batista-Ribeiro, D. and **Smit, H.** 2025. The genus *Sperchon* Kramer 1877 in Brazil, with the description of a new species, new records and a key to the Neotropical species of the genus (Acari: Hydrachnidia: Sperchontidae). *Acarologia*, 65(2): 373-379. DOI 10.24349/40vf-gy3a

Birch, W. and **Lindenmayer, O.** 2024. Muonionalustaite, Ni3(OH) 4Cl2·4H 2O, in the weathering crust of the Cranbourne meteorites, Victoria, Australia: the third world occurrence. *Australian Journal of Mineralogy*, 25(2): 29-34.

Borstein, S.R., Hammer, M.P., O'Meara, B.C. and **McGee, M.D.** 2024. The macroevolutionary dynamics of pharyngognathy in fishes fail to support the key innovation hypothesis. *Nature Communications*, 15 (10325). DOI 10.1038/s41467-024-53141-4

Bruton, M., **Melville, J., Sumner, J.,** Porter, J., Mahony, S. and Doughty, P. 2025. The last piece of the puzzle: Detection of an extremely rare lizard in the Kimberley completes the phylogeny of Australian dragons (Agamidae). *Australian Journal of Taxonomy*, 94: 1-15. DOI 10.54102/ajt.zoa00

Brutto, S.L, Badalucco, A. and **Smit, H.** 2024. First occurrence of the mite *Litarachna duboscqi* Walter, 1925 (Acariformes: Pontarachnidae) in the central Mediterranean Sea. *Ecologica Montenegrina*, 74: 21-26. DOI 10.37828/em.2024.74.3

Buckeridge, J.S.J.S. and Smith, P.M. 2025. A new pedunculate cirripede (barnacle) from the Early Cretaceous of Central Queensland, Australia. *Alcheringa: An Australasian Journal of Palaeontology* (published online, 27 April 2025, DOI 10.1080/03115518.2025.2492224).

Camaiti, M., Hutchinson, M.N., Hipsley, C.A., **Aguilar, R.,** Black, J., Chapple, D.G. and **Evans, A.R.** 2024. Patterns of girdle shape and their correlates in Australian limb-reduced skinks. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, B, Biological Sciences*, 291(2032) (published online, 2 October 2024, DOI 10.1098/rspb.2024.1653).

Chandrasekara, U., Mancuso, M., **Sumner, J.,** Edwards, D., Zdenek, C.N. and Fry, B.G. 2024. Sugar-coated survival: N-glycosylation as a unique bearded dragon venom resistance trait within Australian agamid lizards. *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, Part C, Toxicology and Pharmacology*, 282: 109929. DOI 10.1016/j.cbpc.2024.109929

Corrie, J. and **Park, T.** 2025. Hearing abilities of a late-surviving archaeocete (Cetacea: Kekenodontidae), and implications for the evolution of sound in Neoceti. *Journal of Anatomy*, 246(3): 376-383. DOI 10.1111/joa.14137

Costello, L.F., **Richards, H.L., Evans, A.R.** and **Adams, J.W.** 2024. Experimental assessment of diffusible iodine-based contrast-enhanced computed tomography (diceCT) protocols. *PeerJ*, 12: e17919. DOI 10.7717/peerj.17919

Criscione, F. 2024. Catalogue of the Gastropoda (snails, Phylum Mollusca) collected by the IN2021_V04 and IN2022_V08 expeditions to the Australian Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands Territories. *Museum Victoria Science Reports*, 27: 1-56. DOI 10.24199/j.mvsr.2024.27

Darragh, T.A. 2024. A checklist of Australian marine Cenozoic Mollusca. *Memoirs of Museum Victoria*, 83: 37-206. DOI 10.24199/j.mmv.2024.83.02

David, B., **Mullett, R.,** Wright, N., Stephenson, B., Ash, J., Fresløv, J., GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, Delannoy, J.-J., McDowell, M.C., Mialanes, J., Petchey, F., Arnold, L.J., Rogers, A.J., Crouch, J., Green, H., **Urwin, C.** and Matheson, C.D. 2024. Archaeological evidence of an ethnographically documented Australian Aboriginal ritual dated to the last ice age. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 8: 1481-1492. DOI 10.1038/s41562-024-01912-w

Driscoll, D.A., Macdonald, K.J., Gibson, R.K., Doherty, T.S., Nimmo, D.G., Nolan, R.H., Ritchie, E.G., Williamson, G.J., Heard, G.W., Tasker, E.M., Bilney, R., Porch, N., Collett, R.A., Crates, R.A., Hewitt, A.C., Pendall, E., Boer, M.M., Gates, J., Boulton, R.L., Mclean, C.M., Groffen, H., Maisey, A.C., Beranek, C.T., Ryan, S.A., Callen, A., Hamer, A.J., Stauber, A., Daly, G.J., Gould, J., Klop-Toker, K.L., Mahony, M.J., Kelly, O.W., Wallace, S.L., Stock, S.E., Weston, C.J., Volkova, L., Black, D., Gibb, H., Grubb, J.L., McGeoch, M.A., Murphy, N.P., Lee, J.S., Dickman, C.R., Neldner, V.J., Ngugi, M.R., Miritis, V., Köhler, F., Perri, M., Denham, A.J., Mackenzie, B.D.E., Reid, C.A.M., Rayment, J.T., Arriaga-Jiménez, A., Hewins, M.W., Hicks, A., Melbourne, B.A., Davies, K.F., Bitters, M.E., Linley, G.D., Greenville, A.C., Webb, J.K., Roberts, B., Letnic, M., Price, O.F., Walker, Z.C., Murray, B.R., Verhoeven, E.M., Thomsen, A.M., Keith, D., Lemmon, J.S., Ooi, M.K.J., Allen, V.L., Decker, O.T., Green, P.T., Moussalli, A., Foon, J.K., Bryant, D.B., Walker, K.L., Bruce, M.J., Madani, G., Tscharke, J.L., Wagner, B., Nitschke, C.R., Gosper, C.R., Yates, C.Y., Dillon, R., Barrett, S., Spencer, E.E., Wardle, G.M., Newsome, T.M., Pulsford, S.A., Singh, A., Roff, A., Marsh, K.J., Mcdonald, K., Howell, L.G., Lane, M.R., Cristescu, R.H., Witt, R.R., Cook, E.J., Grant, F., Law, B.S., Seddon, J., Berris, K.K., Shofner, R.M., Barth, M., Welz, T., Foster, A., Hancock, D., Beitzel, M., Tan, L.X.L., Waddell, N.A., Fallow, P.M., Schweickle, L., Le Breton, T.D., Dunne, C., Green, M., Gilpin, A.-M., Cook, J.M., Power, S.A., Hogendoorn, K., Brawata, R., Jolly, C.J., Tozer, M., Reiter, N. and Phillips, R.D. 2024. Biodiversity impacts of the 2019–2020 Australian megafires. Nature, 635: 898– 905. DOI 10.1038/s41586-024-08174-6

Edwards, J.P., Martin, A.J., **Parker, W.M.G.,** Lowery, M., Dodla, A., Giergiel, M., Gassner, C., Wood, B.R., **Rich, T.H., Evans, A.R.** and **Vickers-Rich, P.** 2025. Earliest trace fossil evidence of wood-eating termites (Isoptera) and mites (Oribatida) in circumpolar environments of Australia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 675: 113059. DOI 10.1016/j.palaeo.2025.113059

Eichler, J., Hall, B., **Farrelly, C., Falconer, A.** and **Poore, G.C.B.** 2024. The New Zealand *Pagurus traversi* (Filhol, 1885) (Crustacea: Decapoda: Anomura: Paguridae) in Australia, first record of a translocated hermit crab. *Memoirs of Museum Victoria*, 83: 317-323. DOI 10.24199/j.mmv.2024.83.04

Farquhar, J.E., Mulder, J.A., Russell, W., **Haines, M.L.,** Anangu Rangers, and Chapple, D.G. 2024. A new species of rock skink (Scincidae: *Liopholis*) from the Central Ranges bioregion of arid Australia. *Zootaxa*, 5536(1): 153-177. DOI 10.11646/zootaxa.5536.1.6

Fenker, J., Melville, J. and Moritz, C. 2024. Dragons in the tropics: phylogeography and speciation in *Diporiphora* lizards and common geographic breaks in co-distributed taxa. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 197: 108090. DOI 10.1016/j.ympev.2024.108090

Garland, K.L.S., Hay, E.M., Field, D.J. and **Evans**, **A.R.** 2025. Common developmental origins of beak shapes and evolution in theropods. *iScience*, 28(4): 112246. DOI 10.1016/j.isci.2025.112246

Glasby, C., Biriukova, O., Martin, P., Dyne, G., Utevsky, S. and **Wilson, R.** 2024. Annelida: diagnoses, descriptions and keys to family level taxa. *ARPHA Preprints* (published online, 27 September 2024, DOI 10.3897/arphapreprints.e137961).

Goodall, R. and **Webster, H.** 2025. Showing our metal: identifying and managing hazardous substances in book covers in the Museums Victoria Library. *Studies in Conservation* (published online, 20 April 2025, DOI 10.1080/00393630.2025.2490884).

Hand, S.J., Wilson, L.A.B., López-Aguirre, C., Houssaye, A., Archer, M., Bevitt, J.J., **Evans, A.R.,** Halim, A.Y., Hung, T., **Rich, T.H., Vickers-Rich, P.** and Beck, R.M.D. 2025. Bone microstructure supports a Mesozoic origin for a semiaquatic burrowing lifestyle in monotremes (Mammalia). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 122(19): e2413569122. DOI 10.1073/pnas.2413569122

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Horner, J. and **Hill. T.** 2024. Not one, but two meteor showers are about to peak – here's how to catch the stellar show. *The Conversation* (published 26 July 2024, online at: https://theconversation.com/not-one-but-two-meteor-showers-are-about-to-peak-heres-how-to-catch-the-stellar-show-235176).

Kotevski, J. and Poropat, S. 2025. Carnivorous dinosaurs thrived in Australia 120 million years ago, new fossils show. *The Conversation* (published 20 February 2025, online at: <a href="https://theconversation.com/carnivorous-dinosaurs-thrived-in-australia-120-million-years-ago-new-fossils-show-242290#:~:text=Our%20newly%20described%20fossils%20show,toothed%20lizards%E2%80%9D)%20in%20Australia).

Simkin, J. 2024. Curious kids: Why do I need to yawn when someone else yawns? *The Conversation* (published online, 9 August 2024, at: https://theconversation.com/curious-kids-why-do-i-need-to-yawn-when-someone-else-yawns-235040).

Webster, H. 2024. The Return of Mary Anning's Book. *INCITE*, 44 (4).

Lectures and Presentations

* **Bold** denotes Museums Victoria staff and associates.

Conference Presentations

Ammresh, Melville, J., Evans, A. and Sherratt, E. 2024. Segmentation: Using geometric morphometrics to study regionalisation in elapid snakes. 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Camaiti, M., Hutchinson, M.N., Hipsley, C.A., **Aguilar, R.,** Black, J., Chapple, D.G. and **Evans, A.R.** 2024. *Patterns of girdle shape and their correlates in limb-reduced skinks.* 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Carland, R. 2025. *Blandowski expedition and First Peoples collaborators*. Berlin's Australian Archive – On-Country Workshop (Euston Club, Euston, NSW, 22 March).

Carland, R., So, S., McLaren, J. and Kyi, A. 2024. (*Re*) dressing history: Creative practice at the intersection of heritage collections, public art and memory. Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) National Conference (Ballarat, Vic, 20 September).

Farquhar, J., Wotherspoon, L., Carlesso, A., Graham, K., **Pili, A.,** Appuhamy, M., Porter, H., Gale, N., **Haines, M.** and Chapple, D. 2024. *A multifaceted approach to studying data deficient species: A case study of the Glossy Grass Skink (Pseudemoia rawlinsoni)*. 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Fenker, J. 2024. Evolution and diversification of the neotropical herpetofauna: Unveiling the history. 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Fenker, J., Sumner, J., Hogg, C. and Melville, J. 2024. Cryptic dragons down under: Unravelling evolutionary histories and conservation challenges of Australian Earless Dragons (Tympanocryptis). 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Hall, M., Vickers-Rich, P., Swinkels, P. and Rich, T. 2024. Building a depositional model and life that inhabited it. Annual Meeting, German Geological Society / Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft – Geologische Vereinigung (Dresden, Germany, 23–26 September).

Harris, J., Chapple, D.G., **Melville, J.** and **McLean, C.A.** 2024. *Shifting shades: Assessing lizard camouflage in post-fire landscapes.* 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Henry, D. 2025. *Out of the vaults.* 79th Annual Federal Conference, Gemmological Association of Australia (Gemmological Association of Australia – Victorian Branch, 1–4 May).

Howden, M., Bluett, K., Gordon, I., Hill, R., **Stevenson, M.,** Visoiu, M. and Van Wamelen, C. 2024. *Panel Discussion. Climate change risk mitigation.* World Heritage Forum, organised by the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (Online, 11 November).

Kennedy, B., Stranks, T. and Morey, S. 2025. *The art of carrying language: sophisticated species-level word lists recorded on scientific illustrations.*Berlin's Australian Archive – On-Country Workshop (Euston Club, Euston, NSW, 22 March).

Lal, R. (presenter), **Liu, M., Martin, C.** 2024. *Second wind: redeveloping Air Playground.*Australasian Science & Technology Engagement Network (ASTEN) Conference (Scienceworks, Melbourne Museum, Melbourne, Vic, 10–11 October).

Lindenmayer, O. 2024. Making Museums Victoria's mineralogy and petrology collections digitally accessible on AusGeochem, Australia's FAIR geochemical data platform. Mineralogy and Museums 10 Conference (Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales, Cardiff, Wales, 12–13 August).

McFadzean, M. 2024. Keynote presentation. Finding common ground: engendering a sense of belonging in museum exhibition spaces. Museums and Galleries Queensland 2024 Conference (The Empire Theatres, Toowoomba, Qld, 9–11 October).

Marchant, R. 2024. Slow recovery of stream invertebrates on subantarctic Macquarie Island after eradication of rabbits. Annual Conference, Australian Freshwater Sciences Society (Albury Entertainment Centre, Albury, NSW, 2–6 December).

Mullett, K. 2024. *Keynote address. Authentic collaboration in cultural heritage management.* 2024 Gippsland New Energy Conference (Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon, 3–4 September).

Nicholls, G. and **Stranks, T.** 2025. *Unravelling the Cumbungi story along the waterway.* Berlin's Australian Archive – On-Country Workshop (Euston Club, Euston, NSW, 23 March).

Rich, T., Vickers-Rich, P., Hall, M. and Kool, L. 2024. North to South or South to North: The dispersal direction of major mammal groups. 2024 Annual Meeting, German Geological Society (Messe Dresden, Germany, 23–26 September) (poster presentation).

Sumner, J. 2024. *Museum biobanks can play a vital role in the conservation of wildlife*. 10th World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Sumner, J., Hetz Rodriguez, J., Melville, J., Rowe, K.C. and Pask, A. 2024. *Museum biobanks play a vital role in the conservation of wildlife.* 10th
World Congress of Herpetology (Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, 5–9 August).

Thorpe, K. 2024. Successes and challenges since the proclamation of the Tandaya-Adelaide Declaration in 2019. Forum of National Archivists (FAN) Virtual Colloquium on Archival Matters (Online, 5 September).

Thorpe, K. and Vrdoljak, A.F. 2024. *Keynote speakers. Libraries and access to information as a common public good.* Information Futures Summit, organised by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Qld, 30 September – 3 October).

Tout-Smith, D. 2024. *Museums Victoria's* architectural models collection. International Confederation of Architectural Museums (ICAM) Australasia 2023 Meeting (RMIT University, Melbourne, Vic 3–4 October).

Tout-Smith, D. 2025. Partnerships in the Pacific: Opportunities in a vast region. International Council of Museums Regional Alliance of Asia-Pacific Countries (ICOM ASPAC) Symposium on Sustainable Museum and Rapidly Changing Communities (World Expo, Osaka, Japan, 25 May).

Tout-Smith, D., Ward, E., Thorpe, K., Jones, M., McDonald, I. and Woo, C. 2024. *ICOM Ethics Plenary Panel*. Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) National Conference (Ballarat, Vic, 18 September).

Webster, H. 2024. Layers of time: unearthing provenance in Mary Anning's copy of JS Miller's A Natural History of the Crinoidia. Bibliomania: Stories from Inside and Outside the Book Conference. Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand (BSANZ) (National Library of Australia, Canberra, 4–5 December.)

Educational Presentations

Bailey, L. 2025. In Conversation: Reimaging Museums, Cultural Institutions and the Arts Through a Lens of Play. IPA Asia Pacific 2025 Play Conference, International Play Association. (Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Southbank, Vic, June).

Bailey, L. 2024. How STEM sets children up to succeed through play! ASTEN 2025 Conference – Play! Australasian Science and Technology Engagement Network. (Melbourne Museum, Carlton, Vic, 10 October).

Borg, B., Eastaugh, J., Graham, S., Kearney, N., McGrath, N., Minero, S., Webster, H., Whittaker, N. 2025. *Charles Sturt University Study for Information Studies Students* (Melbourne Museum, Melbourne, Vic, 1 August 2024 & 1 April).

Kaur, G. 2024. *Objects based learning in the History Classroom.* History Teachers Association of Victoria (Melbourne, Vic, 1 August)

Oakes, S. 2024. *It Takes a Spark Conference*. The Knox School (Wantirna South, Vic, 24 October).

Privett, H., Singh, R. 2024. *Exhibitions and Experiences at Museums Victoria*. Regional Arts Victoria Members Q&A Session (Online, 28 November)

Tkachenko, N. 2024. *Tackling tough topics:* authentic learning experiences at the Immigration Museum ICOM-Committee for Education and Cultural Action - Museum Education Conference (Athens, Greece, 18 November)

Whittaker, N. 2024. Reparative Description: What is it and how can I use it? Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Victoria Special Interest Group. (Published online 30 March 2025 https://youtu.be/1k3-1vepBPU?feature=shared)

Lectures

Angeles Penangke, S., Lyons, J., Ah Kit Jakamarra, W. and Plummer Jabarula, C. 2024. *Indigenous Australian Cultural Repatriation. Panel Conversation.* Fowler Museum, University of California at Los Angeles (California, USA, 23 July).

Babister, S. 2025. Exhibition conservation at Museums Victoria: planning and management. Guest lecture to Master of Arts Cultural Materials Conservation, CUMC 90029: Preventive Conservation, University of Melbourne (Melbourne, Vic, 17 April).

Boffa, D. 2025. *Ten years from now.* Future careers seminar. Thornbury High School (Thornbury, Vic, 21 May).

Carland, R., Haby, G., Jennison, L., Kean, J. and **Rowe, K.M.C.** 2024. *Birds eye view: Perspectives on the art of science. Panel discussion.* Rare Book Week. Melbourne Museum Theatre (Melbourne, Vic, 20 July).

Clarke, M. 2025. *Artist talk.* 'Kaiela Arts Editions' project. Shepparton Art Museum (Shepparton, Vic, 5 March).

Cramer, L. 2024. Setsutaro Hasegawa and Ichizo Sato: wearing and working with wool. Geelong Design Week. National Wool Museum (Geelong, Vic, 29 November).

Fitzgerald, E. 2024. Surf Coast and Geelong, long ago: Rosetta Stone for 15 million years of marine megafauna evolution. General meeting, Geelong Field Naturalists Club (Geelong, Vic, 12 November).

Fitzgerald, E. 2024. Prehistoric birds and beasts of Bayside. Birdlife Bayside. Highett Neighbourhood Community House (Highett, Vic, 20 November).

Fitzgerald, E., Carrano, M. and **Phillips, K.** 2024. The rise and fall of *T. rex* and *Triceratops. Public lecture for Museums Victoria's National Science Week program.* Melbourne Museum Theatre (Melbourne, Vic, 14 August).

Hadfield, J. 2025. Frock-a-whanaungatanga: Pacific Sisters, art of Oceania at Monash University / Te Rā Māori sail - a 300 year old sail housed at the British Museum. Auckland Museum, New Zealand (Online, 16 March).

Jocic, L. 2025. *Australian fashion matters.*Australian Fashion Matters Workshop. Australian Catholic University (Melbourne, Vic, 31 January).

Jocic, L. 2025. *Dress and domesticity in nineteenth century Victoria: The Henty letters.* The Johnston Collection (East Melbourne, Vic, 20 February).

Jocic, L. 2025. Alterations as evidence of garment life cycles: Wedding dress 1875/1943. Material Histories at Old Treasury Building (Online, 28 February).

Jocic, L. 2025. Reading the Henty letters: Domestic arrangements and dress in nineteenth century Victoria. Textiles and Fashion Research Group. University of Melbourne (Parkville, Vic, 2 April).

McFadzean, M. 2025. Book launch speaker, *The Old Reliable Firm, Good Workmanship Guaranteed: A Chinese Australian Story of Family, Migration and Entrepreneurship*, 2024, by Dr Sophie Couchman with Leong-Lim families. Chinese Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 30 January).

McFadzean, M. (host), Johnson, P., Bolatagici, T. and Cai, S. 2024. *Art, Identity and Place: Perspectives from Re-Orient. Panel Session.* Immigration Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 10 August).

McFadzean, M., Perkins, H., Price, M. and Lal, R. 2025. *Collections and exhibitions workshop for Queenscliff Museum volunteers*. Immigration Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 30 May).

McKinty, J. and Beed Davey, G. 2025. Proposed June Factor scholarship in the play culture of childhood. Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies Advisory Board. Deakin University (Burwood, Vic, 23 May).

Measday, D. 2024. Workshop on taxidermy conservation and recolouring for the Australian Museum Research Institute and Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery's Conservation and Preparation Staff. The Australian Museum (Sydney, NSW, 7 November).

Measday, D. 2024. George Alexander Fellowship: Investigating best practice treatment and recolouring for historic taxidermy. 'Off the Record' Lecture Series. Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material (AICCM) Victorian Division (Melbourne, Vic, 11 November).

Moulton, K. and Baum, T. 2024. Looking Back As I Walk Forward: The axis of re-spiriting collections, contemporary practice and the global. Keynote speakers. 2024 Conference, Art Association of Australia and New Zealand. Australian National University (Canberra, ACT, 4–6 December).

Moulton, M., James, A., Thorpe, W. and Hurst, J. 2025. *Panel conversation*. Country, Culture and First Nations knowledges. Melbourne Theatre Company. Southbank Theatre (Melbourne, Vic, 22 May).

Moulton, K. and participating artists. 2025. *In Conversation. TarraWarra Biennial 2025: We Are Eagles* exhibition opening. TarraWarra Museum of Art (Healesville, Vic, 29 March).

Perkins, H. 2024. The atmosphere as raw material: The sky above Melbourne and the Grimwade Collection. Miegunyah Student Project Award Presentation. The University of Melbourne (Parkville, Vic, 22 August).

Roginski, A. 2025. *Museums, ethics and history today: A conversation.* Guest lecture for 'Making History' capstone unit in the History major at La Trobe University (Online, 12 March).

Rowe K.C. 2024. The value of natural history collections to contemporary discovery and innovation. Three invited presentations at: The Natural History Museum (London, UK, 29 October), University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (Czech Republic, 5 December), and Brno University of Technology (Brno, Czech Republic, 6 December).

Rowe, K.M.C. 2024. The 'Forest Health Monitoring' program, a collaboration among Museums Victoria, Nillumbik Shire Council and Nillumbik Landcare Group. Nillumbik Shire Council (Greensborough, Vic, 11 July).

Rowe, K.M.C. 2024. The challenge and opportunity to grow bird collections from 'born digital' soundscape recordings. European Bird Curators Meeting. World Museum (Liverpool, UK, 29-30 October).

Rowe, K.M.C. 2025. A retrospective of more than a decade of eco-acoustics research at Museums Victoria (and what comes next). Bird Group Meeting, Geelong Field Naturalists (Online, 20 February).

Rowe, K.M.C. 2025. *Ecoacoustics*. Guest lecture for Australian Wildlife Biology course (ZOOL20004), University of Melbourne (Parkville, Vic, 16 April).

Rowe, K.M.C. 2025. Leveraging ecoacoustic data to better understand how birds respond to fire. 2025 Open Ecoacoustics Webinar Series, presented by the Australian Research Data Commons (Online, 22 May).

Sculthorpe, G. 2024. *Keynote speaker. Seminar Internasional: Australia - Indonesia Museums (AIM) Project.* Penelitian Provenans, Restitusi, dan Komunitas: Perspektif dari Indonesia dan Australia (Jakarta, Indonesia, 6 August).

Stevenson, M. 2024. *Royal Exhibition Building updates.* Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens Public Information Session. Museums Victoria and City of Melbourne. Melbourne Museum Theatre (Melbourne, Vic, 27 August).

Stevenson, M. 2024. *Royal Exhibition Building as a World Heritage Site*. World Heritage Unit for Masters of Cultural Heritage, Deakin University. Royal Exhibition Building (Melbourne, Vic, 10 September).

Stevenson, M., Crow, J., Blake, D., Loustau, C. and Buckley, K. 2025. *Rare trades and lost arts.* Notre Dame de Paris expert talks. Immigration Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 6 March).

Stevenson, M., Tout-Smith, D., Pallot, E. and Gray, K. 2025. *The ethics of restoration: the everyday versus the unexpected.* Notre Dame de Paris expert talks. Immigration Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 15 May).

Sumner, J. 2024. *Transforming museum industry to cryopreserve Australia's diverse wildlife.* Three presentations at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, California, USA (27 June), Edinburgh Zoo, Scotland (2 July), and Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin, Germany (9 July).

Thorpe, K. 2024. *Keynote speech.* 2024 Research Support Community Day. Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato - University of Waikato. (Hamilton, New Zealand, 6–8 August).

Tout-Smith, D. 2024. *ICOM and the* Love & Sorrow *exhibition*. Museums Heritage and Society course lecture. Deakin University (Burwood, Vic, 5 August).

Tout-Smith, D. 2024. *Museum Victoria's Glen Eira collections.* 2024 Glen Eira Seniors Festival Program (Carnegie Library and Community Centre, 3 October).

Tout-Smith, D. and **Gay, C.** 2024. *Embroidery in Museums Victoria's Collection*. Embroiderers' Guild (Malvern, Vic, 13 July).

Tout-Smith, D., Cook, B., Doyle, H., Holt, S., McKew, M., Musgrove, N., Oldfield, T. and Sheedy, K. 2024. *Careers Panel.* Public Records Office Victoria (North Melbourne, Vic, 11 September).

Tout-Smith, D., McKay-Scollay, R., Freund, P. and Vardy, S. 2025. *Curtains up: Preserving theatrical material and community heritage*. Eureka Centre (Ballarat, Vic, 17 May).

Walker, C. 2024. *The Copland Foundation Alex Copland Attingham Lecture.* Melbourne Museum (Melbourne, Vic, 7 October).

Webster, H. 2025. *Beautiful Botanicals: Treasures from Museums Victoria's Rare Book Collection.*Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (Melbourne, Vic, 27 March).

Whittaker, N. 2025. ALIA Rare Cataloguing Catchups: Encountering different types of rare. Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Rare Books & Special Collections Special Interest Group. (Online 29 April https://tinyurl.com/5bep2nrn).

Whittaker, N. 2025. ALIA Rare Cataloguing Catchups: Defensive cataloguing for rare materials.
Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Rare Books & Special Collections Special Interest Group. (Online 24 June).



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