

UPDATE from CAPRICORN CAVES

Ann Augusteyn

The highlight of the year to date was hosting the Savannah Guide School in April with approximately sixty attendees from Northern Territory and Queensland.

Keynote speakers were Dr Scott Hocknull, Senior Curator at Queensland Museum, and Dr Julien Louys, who has recently been assigned a post doc research project at the Capricorn Caves dig site. Scott presented a prototype video of the evolution of the earth with a focus on dinosaurs and mega fauna. This exciting media project would be a fantastic resource for all interpreters and educators. Julien enthralled us with his research report and site inspection of the dig site in the Colosseum Cave. Already the Capricorn Caves' education program and Geotour are benefitting from these projects and research.

We are proud to report that Capricorn Caves gained accreditation as a Savannah Guide Enterprise site and Amanda Jennings and Ann Augusteyn were accredited as Savannah Guide Interpreters. Two other staff members, Wes Barrie and Daley Norris passed their peer assessment with flying colours and now await the final process of accreditation as Savannah Guides.

Off-site visits included QPWS Cammoo site hosted by Scott Brook and Bat Cleft track led by Dianne Vavryn. The Mt Morgan site inspection was limited to the mine site and township as the clay caverns with the dinosaur footprints are closed due to safety concerns by the Department of Mines.



Left. Amanda Jennings receives Savannah Guide Interpreter badge from President Ben Humphries.

Right from top. Dr Scott Hocknull photographs marine fossils in Capricorn Caves.

Dr Scott Hocknull, Amanda Jennings, Les Sampson, Kelly Smith (QPWS).

Volunteer Janette Sands with palaeontologists in Colosseum Cave dig site.