



The Royal Society
of Western Australia

RSWA Talk

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**Travel across the world for bandicoot treasures:
results of a Churchill Fellowship trip**
presented by Dr Kenny Travouillon (Western Australian Museum)

Monday, 21st May 2018

5.30 pm Kings Park Administration Building, Fraser Avenue

Free admission

To register online via Eventbrite click [here](#)



Pig-footed bandicoot – extinct since 1950s

Museum collections often house some hidden treasures. New species are sometimes found amongst specimens of another, unnoticed for decades. Though specimens can often be scattered across several museums, in different states or countries, making it difficult and expensive to access and study them properly. The Churchill Fellowship, supported by the Churchill Trust, gives a unique opportunity to travel to multiple museums in multiple countries, to undertake such study. This journey aimed to study closely all museum specimens in the order Peramelemorphia (bandicoots and bilbies), to review type specimens, historical specimens (collected in the 1800s), and even fossil specimens (as old as later Oligocene in age), to uncover new species, revise current species, and uncover the evolutionary history of this group. The results of this journey, undertaken in April and May 2017, will be presented, providing a unique insight and highlight future research that can help continue broadening our understanding of this order of mammals.

Further reading

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27853588>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-06/mysteries-of-the-pig-footed-bandicoot/7907806>

<http://rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/royopen/3/8/160089.full.pdf>