



2024 Series 1 Course B

- Title** **Fossil Treasures of Aotearoa New Zealand**
Revised 21 February 2024
- Date** **Tuesdays 20 February – 26 March 2024**
- Time** **2.15 pm – 4.15 pm**
- Venue** **Otago Golf Club, 125 Balmacewen Road, Dunedin**
- Convenor** Stuart Strachan
Email: sjstrachanz@gmail.com @gmail.com
Phone: 022 506 0772
- Developer** Honorary Professor Daphne Lee
Email: daphne.lee@otago.ac.nz
- Course fee** \$50 (please do not pay until you receive an invoice)

Otago and Southland possess a wealth of fossils hidden in the rocks beneath our feet. Fossil treasures range from plesiosaurs, whales and dolphins, sharks, fish and penguins, to leaves, flowers, fungi and a myriad of insects. The talks will highlight the history of the flora and fauna of southern Zealandia, from rainforests surrounding volcanic lakes, to rocky shores of ancient coastlines, to the teeming subtropical ocean that once covered much of the landmass. These remains of ancient plants and animals, most held in the Geology Museum collections at the University of Otago, provide evidence for past climates, changing life and diverse ecosystems that are a key part of our biological heritage.

All applications must be received by Thursday 25 January 2024. You will receive a response to your application by Monday 4 February 2024.

Please contact the Programme Secretary courses@u3adunedin.org.nz, phone 467 2594 with any queries.

Fossil Treasures of Aotearoa New Zealand

- 20 February** **Fossil treasures of Miocene Zealandia: Foulden and Hindon Maars and Lake Manuherikia**
-Honorary Professor Daphne Lee, Department of Geology, University of Otago
- 27 February** **Zealandia and the Oligocene “drowning” – the Pomahaka paleoestuary and Cosy Dell rocky shore**
-Dr Jeffrey Robinson, Daphne Lee and Mike Wu, Department of Geology, University of Otago
- 5 March** **Fragile flowers, ferns, leaves and fungi – revealing the secrets of ancient plants of Aotearoa**
-Jennifer Bannister, Research Associate, Department of Botany, University of Otago and Honorary Professor Daphne Lee, Department of Geology, University of Otago
- 12 March** **Charismatic megavertebrates – fossil preparation of everything from plesiosaurs and sharks to whales and dolphins**
-Sophie White, Paleontology Preparator, Department of Geology, University of Otago
- Fossil penguins of Zealandia – flying under the waves**
-Marcus Richards, Department of Geology, University of Otago
- 19 March** **Amber, araucarian forests and fossil insects**
-Honorary Professor Daphne Lee and Dr Mathew Vanner, Department of Geology, University of Otago and Jennifer Bannister, Department of Botany, University of Otago
- 26 March** **The Waitaki Whitestone Geopark – fossil treasures of North Otago**
-Marcus Richards, Sophie White, Dr Jeffrey Robinson, Dianne Nyhof, Department of Geology, University of Otago

During the course, we will arrange two visits to the Geology Museum on Saturday mornings at times to be arranged.