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A NEW AUSTRALOPITHECUS ENDOCAST SKULL DISCOVERY AT LITHGOW, NSW.

by Dr [h.c.] Rex Gilroy PhD. Copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

Levery so often a major new fossil skull-type of pre-Aboriginal age comes to light from the on-going fieldwork of the Gilroys and their assistants, which adds to our knowledge of Australia's Old Stone-Age history and the identity of the TRUE FIRST PEOPLE to walk this land.

For too long Australians have been force-fed the 'politically correct' propaganda by sell-out politicians and Marxist-infiltrators of our education system, that our Aborigines are the 'first settlers' [aka the 'first Australians'], having entered this island continent from south-east Asia up to 65,000 years ago if current claims are true.

In previous Mysterious Australia newsletter articles and certain books by Rex & Heather Gilroy, we have presented evidence in the form of fossil hominin skulls and skull endocasts, fossil feet impressions in solid rock and other evidence, that our aboriginal people are but mere late-comers to our shores!

The evidence we have gathered over years of fieldwork is not acceptable to the left-wing university scientific fraternity, because it disputes the historical dogma as taught in their text books, that there were no other Stone-Age races inhabiting Australia before the arrival of the earliest Aborigines!

This indoctrinated theory is totally false in the light of Homo erectus skull-types found by the Gilroys since 1972. This evidence shows that the immediate ancestor of modern humans, Homo erectus, was present in Australia during Pleistocene times between 350,000 and 850,000 years BP [see our websites rexgilroy.com & mysteriousaustralia .com and also randhgilroy44 @ bigpond.com].

Furthermore, as our book "The Yowie Mystery – Living Fossils from the Dreamtime" [URU Publications] 2013 reveals, this continent was occupied by more than one race of Australopithecine, which demonstrates these primitive hominins were not confined to Africa, but 'walked' here via Asia & South-east Asia in Pliocene times.

The type-specimen of Australian Australopithecine skull-types was recovered outside Katoomba by me on Thursday 6th January 2005. A 'robust' form, it displays similarities to the Late Pliocene *Australopithecus robustus Broom* 1930 skull of South Africa, and also *A. boisei. Australopithecus robustus* lived 2.0 to 1.2 million years ago, whereas *A. boisei* who inhabited East Africa lived in Late Pliocene to mid-Pleistocene times, ie 2.3 to 1.2 million years ago. The Katoomba NSW skull has been named Australopithecus australis Gilroyii and dates to around 2.5 million years BP [Before Present]. It is now representative of a growing genus of Australian 'robusts'.

To give further weight to the pre-Aboriginal Old Stone-Age 'forbidden' history of primitive hominin Australian occupation, on Thursday 21st May 2009 outside Barraba NSW, my wife Heather and I recovered the endocast of a flat-cranium form of early Australopithecus with thick brow ridges and virtually no forehead as in later hominin skull-types [ie in these early Australopithecines the brain was situated behind the eyes. As the cranium evolved higher the brain likewise shifted to its present position in modern humans]. The fossil resembles other *Australopithecus australis* skull-types and is over 1.5 million years BP in age. We have named this fossil *Australopithecus australis type Barraba Gilroyii*.

The A. Australis line may date back much further than previously thought, with the discovery from Kanangra NSW of an A. australis in limestone deposits around 3 to 3.5 million years old. The skull-type

was recovered on Thursday 10th March 2016, and allowing for some missing brain case and crushed left eye brow ridge, the skull is similar to the 2006 Katoomba type-specimen discovery.

The earliest Australopithecine form found in Australia to date from our fieldwork, has been *Australopithecus winghamii Gilroy* 2009., whose features, despite its deteriorated appearance, is an 'archaic' flat cranium form of what we could describe as an 'ancestral robust' discovered on Wednesday 12th August 2009 in old Pliocene bank deposits of the Barnard River near Wingham, which suggests an age of at least 4 million years BP. The fossil measures 18.5cm in height by 12cm in length from mid-face to rear of remaining braincase, and 14cm width across the lower jaw area, 16.5cm width across the mid-face and 11.5cm width across the eye sockets. These measurements would have been wider but for a missing portion of the left temple. By its size, the skull would have belonged to a thickset creature of about 1.78cm [5ft 10 inches] height.

Being an endocast, what we have is an impression of the internal cavity of the skull Filled with mineralised sediment. This explains why there are never any zygomatic arches found on the outsides of these specimens.

Had *A. winghamii* been a skull rather than an endocast skull, there would also have been thick projecting eyebrow ridges, giving the flesh and blood being a truly apeish appearance.

The latest pre-Aboriginal [ie Australoid] skull discovery, being that of a flat-cranium endocast of an 'archaic' Australopithecine, has been unearthed from late Pliocene deposits at Lithgow NSW by Gilroy field assistant Phil Whittaker.

The flat cranium form of 'archaic' Australopithecine skull is turning up in a number of finds made by this author since 2006. However, the latest 'flathead' endocast from was discovered by Phil Whittaker on January 4th 2018. The fossil measures 26cm tall by 19.5cm width across the top of the skull by 16 cm in length. A doliocephalic skull like all Australopithecines it is not considered to be a member of the genus Australis but appears to be another line of 'robust' entirely. Its age is surely older than that of the australis type specimen [2006] ie 2.5 million years [BP]. Its face does not project forwards as in other Australopithecines and I wonder if it is not a very early 'gracile' form of Australopithecine on the way to evolving into the earliest member of the genus Homo in Australia, which is not impossible. Tentatively I give it an age of at least 3 million years BP pending a close study of the geology of the site where Phil Whittaker recovered it.

I also named it in Phil's honour – Australopithecus whittakerii [2018].

Australopithecus whittakerii roamed a Late Pliocene Lithgow landscape of lush vegetation, sharing it with species of our then marsupial megafauna. A. whittakerii would not have been confined to the Lithgow area and others of his kind would have been able to extend their range onto the adjacent Blue Mountains and into the central west.

Australopithecus whittakerii stood around the same height as A. winghamii, ie 1.78 metres [5ft 10 inches] tall. It is interesting that there existed Australopithecus races in Australia that appear to have been larger than any presently known African forms.

Between 2005 and 2006 at a Bega district volcanic plug base site I unearthed the first of three endocasts, the doliocephalic [ie long-narrow] skulls having been filled with volcanic sediment]. Yet not only were the skulls those of a smallish race of ancestral hominin, but that they had been buried by [since worn away] a deposit of ash & mud from an eruption. ANU geologists who had earlier carried out research on this, and other plugs in the Bega district, declared that the last volcanic eruption of this plug in particular, had occurred 7 million years ago!

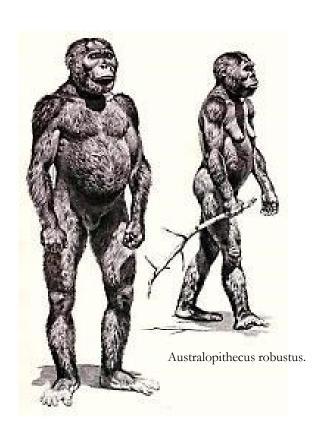
It was obvious to me that these fossils were 7 million years old!

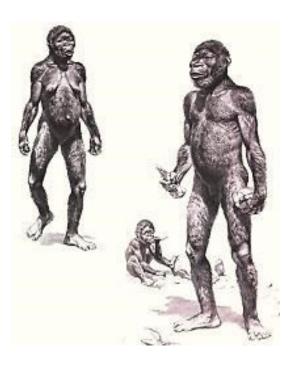
I saw them as a possible ancestral hominin that may have given rise to the Australian Australopithecines. Yet when I published my evidence in the local press, a wave of academic hostility resulted. There was even an attempt to claim the plugs were no older than a few thousand years – and this by university authorities who knew otherwise. The pre-Aboriginal age of these fossils was the principal cause of their hostility, and [so much for 'scientific enquiry'] apart from my initial media releases, these 'scientists' had the discovery suppressed!

Yet the truth cannot be suppressed forever and despite their denials of evidence for an Old Stone-Age for Australia [as in Africa] the true history of a pre-Aboriginal hominin Australia will inevitably come to be!

And, in the face of discoveries showing that our earliest hominin ancestors are older in Australia than Africa, the new cry must be "Out of Australia" rather than "Out of Africa"!



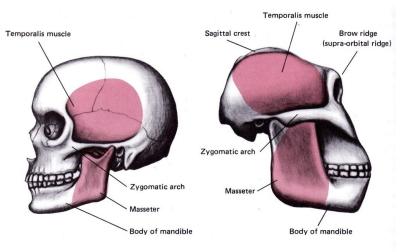




Australopithecus africanus

AUSTRALOPITHECINE RECONSTRUCTIONS.

Based upon reconstructions from skeletal remains, scientists are able to create a reasonable picture of what these two forms of Australopithecines looked like *A. Robustus* for example, was a strong, big-boned creature, weighing around 54kg [120 lbs] possessing a small Chimpanzee-size brain. The female was shorter and slighter in body proportions, *A. Africanus* was slender and weighted under 7 stone. The jaws of these hominins projected forward due to big front teeth and walked with a swaying motion. In physical appearance Australia's *Australopithecus australis* would have closely resembled African *Australopithecus robustus*. Illustrations courtesy TIME-LIFE BOOKS.



Modern human East African robust

Head musculation comparisons between Modern Humans and

Australopithecines.



Skull of Australopithecus robustus Broom 1930. There are similarities between this South African fossil and the skull of the 'robust' Australopithecus australis gilroyii 2006.



The East African 'robust' Australopithecus boisei 1959. It also shares similarity with the Australian A. australis skull.



The type specimen Australopithecus australis skull. Now turned to ironstone, besides distortions it bears extensive signs of an earlier period of long-time surface exposure, as shown by excessive, deep pit-marking. A worn sagittal crest is still recognisable. The originally doliocephalic braincase was partly crushed flattish due to sediments not having sufficiently filled it to otherwise provide some resistance to distortion in the early stages of burial. This to right side view of the skull shows the face projected outwards with the right, badly worn brow ridge having been thick and projecting. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The Australopithecus australis skull, frontal view. Note the weathered pointed sagittal crest. Although no lower jaw has survived, the dental arch [not visible here] shows faint outlines of several teeth sockets. Note how the brow ridges project outward. Outward projecting brow ridges is a feature of archaic skull types from Asia and Africa. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Rex with the skull of Australopithecus type Kanangra [Gilroy] [actually an endocast], just after removing the fossil from the ground. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

Close-up of the slightly distorted and incomplete skull. It is believed to be an earlier form of the Katoomba NSW fossil skull now known as Australopithecus australis gilroyii, the type-specimen of this Australian 'robust' genus, and the first Australopithecine skull recovered outside Africa!

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The rear of the braincase showing the flattened appearance of the nuchal plain. When intact, the skull would have been doliocephalic [ie long and narrow].

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The skull endocast beside the hole where it had previously been embedded. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.





The Australopithecus australis barraba gilroy skulltype, recovered from old Pleistocene gravels eroded away by a recent flood from a section of ancient river bank. Its age is around 1million years BP. It is 22.5cm long from face to rear of skull, 22.5cm wide across the brow ridge area and 15cm deep. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The A.australis barraba gilroy skull endocast, left facial view. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



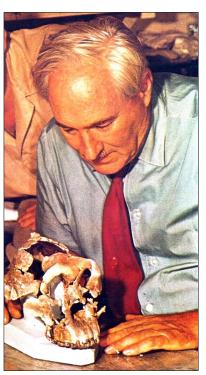
A wide bed of gravels at a location on the Horton River. The gravels have been washed from ancient bank deposits containing evidence of Australopithecus australis Barraba gilroy occupation of the Horton Valley dating back at least 1 million years BP. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



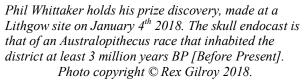
The distorted skull endocast of Australopithecus winghamii Gilroy [frontal view]. The eye sockets and fused jaw outlines have been highlighted with chalk. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



A. winghamii, right profile. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Dr Louis B Leakey at work on the 1959 Olduvai Gorge skull which he named at the time Zinjanthropus boisei, but which was later re- named Australopithecus boisei. Photo courtesy "The Quest for Man" by Vanne Goodall. Phaidon Press Ltd 1975.





A.winghamii, left profile. The hole at the top left of the skull is not an eye socket.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



This more intact fossil skull of A. boisei was discovered in 1969 at Lake Turkana, Kenya by Richard and Meave Leakey.

Photo courtesy "The Making of Mankind" by Richard Leakey.

Abacus Books 1981.





The specimen has been named Australopithecus whittakerii by Dr[hc]Rex Gilroy PhD.
Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2016.



A. whittakerii, right profile. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2016.



A. whittakerii, left profile. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2016.



The first of the Pliocene ancestral hominins discovered at the base of a volcanic plug in the Bega District, far south coastal New South Wales on Monday 13th June 2005 by Rex Gilroy, this little endocast was recovered from volcanic [mineralised] ash, which has also originally filled the skull cavity to form the endocast, the bones having long ago disintegrated. The fossil was a lucky find, Rex Gilroy chancing to see it exposed from among mineralised ash rubble. The volcanic plug belongs to a group of volcanoes forming the 'South-Eastern NSW Volcanic Sequence', all of which were dormant by 7 million years ago. There can be no doubt as to its age. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The Bega, New South Wales district skull endocast, left view. The fossil is evidence that a race of ancestral hominins evolved in Australia from tree-dwelling primates that had to have left the trees up to 2 million years before their African cousins!

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

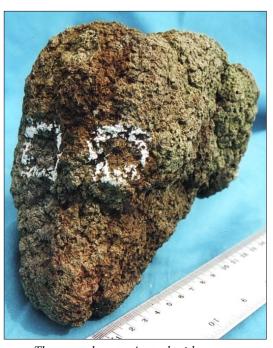


The Bega, New South Wales district skull endocast, frontal view. The evidence is clear. Our earliest Homo ancestors evolved, not in Africa but in Australia by at least 7 million years ago! It now bears the scientific name proto-Australopithecus gilroyii. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



On Saturday 11 March 2006, Rex Gilroy discovered this large hominin endocast at the Bega district NSW volcanic plug site. The specimen was photographed in situ. The eye socket impressions were outlined in chalk for clarity.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The second proto-Australopithecus gilroyii skull endocast, found at the volcanic plug site on Saturday 4th
October 2006.
Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



A downview of the second adult skull endocast. Note the long, narrow [doliocephalic] brain case. The facial area is at the top of the photo.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The second adult skull endocast, left profile. Note the projecting face and high forehead. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The large adult homining and east discovered by Par

The large adult hominin endocast discovered by Rex Gilroy at the Bega NSW volcanic plug site on Saturday 11th March 2006. It resembles the smaller endocast skull found at this site on Monday 13th June 2005. The fossils are believed to represent a definite race of ancestral hominin and have been given the scientific name of proto-Australopithecus gilroyii. Note the chalked in faint outlines of the jaw, nasal passage and eye sockets.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

Frontal view of the skull, now known as proto-Australopithecus gilroyii. The 13 June 2005 endocast, that of a juvenile, now becomes the type specimen. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

SMALL DINOSAURS OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS.

by Dr [h.c.] Rex Gilroy PhD. *Copyright* © *Rex Gilroy 2017*.

Recent issues of our "Mysterious Australia" newsletter have published more new finds of dinosaur fossils found on the Blue Mountains and Wollemi region. These fossils are of small reptiles, with the exceptions of the Theropod dinosaur shearing tooth, found at a North Katoomba bushland site on Monday 23rd October 2017. Who knows, it might have belonged to a *Bullaburrasaurus gilroyii* 2014! There has also been the Thursday 2nd November 2017 discovery of the head and some neck vertebrae of a plesiosaur species [*Wollungosaurus glendowerensis*?] at a Rylstone location. On this occasion I was assisted by Phil Whittaker and Graham Merrick of Lithgow.

The skeletal remnants were embedded in solid rock. The head displayed a faded eye socket, its open jaws being 4cm thick [top] and 2.5cm [bottom], with the head being 7.5cm in depth and 15cm in length. With the long neck outline and few remaining vertebrae added the entire specimen was 1.52 metres in length. It dated to Cretaceous times around 144 million years ago.

Then on Wednesday 20th December 2017 on a North Katoomba fire trail, I was walking Andy when I chanced to pick up the small ironstone fossil skull of a Theropod dinosaur! It measured 11.5cm length by 3.5cm width and 7.5cm at the rear of the skull. The front of the jaws had broken away long ago, these being fused together. Fine teeth can be detected. The depth of the jaws was 5cm.

My good luck with dinosaur fossils began on New Years Day [Monday] 2018, with a trip to Blackheath to walk 'Andy' on a fire trail. Here I picked up from among trackside rubble exposed by recent heavy rains, a flattened specimen of a Coelurosaur skull 9cm in length by 7cm in depth behind the jaws by 3.5cm width. Three or four teeth survived all turned to ironstone like the rest of the fossil. This fossil was also of Cretaceous age [65 to 144 million years ago].

On Wednesday 10th January another walk with our dog, Andy, resulted in my finding three more fossils of Cretaceous times. One was a 'coprolite', ie a piece of Dinosaur excrement 10 cm in length by 4cm width and 3.5cm in depth. The other two fossils were important finds, one being the head and neck of a pterosaur12.5 cm in length by 3cm in width and 4.5cm in depth. The next specimen to be picked up, half-exposed by the recent rain, was a section of dinosaur rib bone from a small species of Coelurosaur-size. I measured it to be 13.5cm length by 3cm width and 2.2cm in depth. Then came another surprise, when I spotted a slab of ironstone containing the top and bottom joints of a small, three-clawed chicken-size pterosaur! It was 9.2cm in length by 1cm width at the top, the claws were spread out, being 2.5cm width.

For the past 45 years I have noticed the wealth of small dinosaur fossils to be had on the Blue Mountains, more so than in the Sydney district. Thus I have learnt to keep my eyes open and focused upon the ground. I wonder what my next fossil find will be?



Ae Theropod dinosaur shearing tooth [frontal view] recovered from the North Katoomba bushland site in situ. Found by Rex Gilroy, it dates to Cretaceous times [66 – 144 million years BP]. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The curved shearing tooth minus its roots, broken away long ago. [left view].

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The shearing tooth, rear view.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



On Friday 15th August 2014 at a north Bullaburra bushland location, Rex Gilroy recovered a deteriorated dinosaur skull. The teeth had all fallen away and the nasal passage is exposed. The fossil is embedded in a large, heavy 24cm deep slab of sandstone, its 11cm by 5.5cm eye socket [1.5cm deep] being located towards the rear of the skull. The jaws are open, being 15cm wide at the front. The specimen displays great deterioration as the result of having been exposed to ages of weathering. The skull would have become detached from the rest of the body, whose bones subsequently became scattered and in time disintegrated.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2017.



The skull, photographed later at home by Rex. The species to which it belonged has been tentatively named Bullaburrasaurus gilroyii 2014. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The skull is that of a species of Theropod dinosaur, making it a carnivorous biped. Based upon the size of the skull Rex Gilroy estimated a reptile of 5 metres length from head to tip of tail when extended rigid in a running position. Rex wonders if the Theropod dinosaur tooth displayed in this article, might not have belonged to a Bullaburrasaurus. Sketch reconstruction by Rex Gilroy.

Sketch copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The mineralised head and four neck vertebrae of a Plesiosaur, discovered by Rex Gilroy and his field assistant Phil Whittaker, in a Cretaceous deposit. Might it be remains of a species of long-necked plesiosaur species called Wollungosaurus glendowerensis which existed in early Cretaceous times around 144 million years ago? The surviving portion of long shrunken neck has been chalk-outlined. The remaining fossil measures 1.52 metres length. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The plesiosaur head and neck vertebrae fossil remains, found on Thursday 2nd November 2017 in the Rylstone area. In Cretaceous times the ocean had invaded the land into what became the Blue Mountains and Newnes district, and elsewhere hereabouts. Perhaps more marine dinosaur fossils yet await discovery in the vicinity of the Blue Mountains and beyond. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



A close view of the head. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

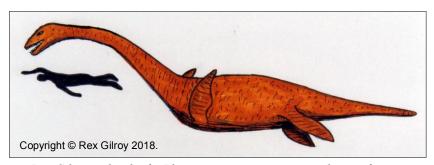


Graham Merrick [left of photo] and Phil Whittaker study the fossil. Note the two chalk lines outlining a faint impression of the tail beyond the vertebrae.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Dr [hc]Rex Gilroy PhD, about to make intricate measurements of the fossil.
Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Rex Gilroy's sketch of a Plesiosaur in comparison to a human figure. Sketch copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



On Wednesday 20th December 2017, on a North Katoomba fire trail, Dr Gilroy recovered this small Coelurosaur Theropod dinosaur skull, now turned to ironstone. It dates to Cretaceous time between 65 and 144 million years ago.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

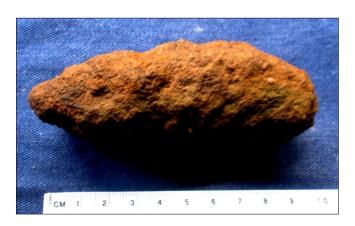


Illustration of Coelurosaurs in a running position.
Incomplete fossil remains are all that are available from Australia at present, but it is certain they lived here in Cretaceous times.
Illustration from Dinosaurs by David Lambert.



Dr Gilroy's New Years Day 2018 deteriorated small fossil skull discovery, of a Coelurosaur, recovered on a North Katoomba fire trail.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The coprolite of a small Cretaceous dinosaur, found by Rex on a Blackheath fire trail on Wednesday 10th January 2018. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.

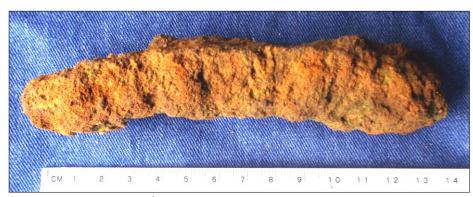


'Gilroy's luck'! On Wednesday 10th January 2018 Dr Gilroy found this head of a small pterosaur at the Blackheath fire trail that flew Blue Mountains skies in Cretaceous times. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Pterosaur fossils lately coming to light at upper Blue Mountains locations through the investigations of Dr Rex Gilroy, suggest there were more than a couple of species present here going back 100 million years or so.

Wikipedia image.



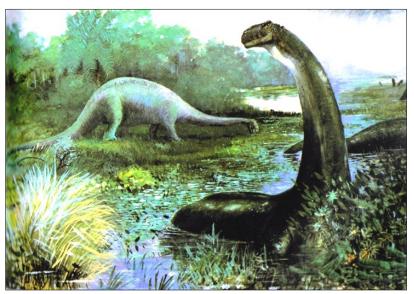
Another Wednesday 10th January 2018 fossil find at the same location, was this fragment of the rib bone of a small dinosaur species of Coelurosaur-size.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



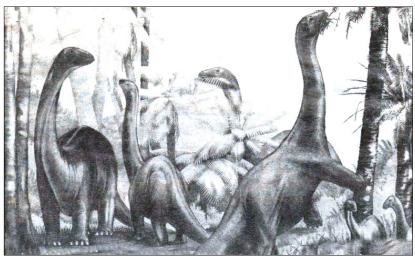
Wednesday 10th January 2018 will be a day to remember for Dr Gilroy, for it was at the same spot as the rib bone described above, that he also found this small pterosaur leg and foot described in the text.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Sauropods wade in a primordial swampland 144 million years ago. Fossil evidence is showing such scenes were commonplace on what became the Blue Mountains.

Illustration courtesy 'Dinosaurs – An Illustrated History' by Edwin H Colbert, Maplewood, N.J. 1983.



An artist's depiction of four Rhoetosaurus brownie foraging in a Queensland Jurassic forest 180 million years ago. These sauropods reached 12 metres or more in length, with a body length of around 20 tonnes. Photo Daily Telegraph, Saturday 30th November 1985.



On Friday 30th September on a clifftop, Rex Gilroy stumbled upon this 40cm long by 37cm wide larger Sauropod fossil track. It has tentatively been given the species name Montanosaurus Gilroyii [Mountain saurian]. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



A large ironstone slab containing the fossilised three-toed foot impression of a bipedal dinosaur, discovered on June 21st 1971 by Rex Gilroy on the side of Mt York Road, outside Mt Victoria, Blue Mountains NSW. After wrapping the fossil in a chaff bag tied with rope, he dragged it along the road for 2km to his then Mt York Natural History Museum.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Rex Gilroy discovered this 40cm long by 60cm wide bipedal dinosaur track in January 2002 in a Cretaceous Period [66-144 million years BP] mudstone shoal outside Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains. The track had originally been covered by volcanic ash from a nearby eruption, which had baked and preserved it. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



A closer look at the Wentworth Falls, NSW bipedal dinosaur fossil track.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2017.

New Turkey-sized Plant-eating Dinosaur Identified after Fossils found at Cape Otway.

ABC News, January 15, 2018.



<u>Photo:</u> The Diluvicursor pickeringi, which scientists identified from fossils found in Victoria 12 years ago. (Supplied: University of Queensland)

More than 10 years after finding foot and tail fossils in Victoria's south-west, scientists have identified a new dinosaur that roamed what has been described as Australia's "lost world".

The fossils were found in 113-million-year-old rocks that form a sea platform near Cape Otway in 2005 by a volunteer prospector.

University of Queensland's School of Biological Sciences alumnus Dr Matt Herne said scientists have now figured out the bones belonged to a turkey-sized herbivore, which lived in the Australian-Antarctic rift valley.

"It's taken quite a while to ... work out exactly what the skeleton is, and what the skeleton's evolutionary relationships are," he said.

"It takes time and very careful and detailed examination, so that's partly why it's taken so long to get out to now."

The dinosaur has been named Diluvicursor pickeringi, meaning Pickering's flood-running dinosaur, after the late David Pickering, who was Museums Victoria's collection manager for vertebrate palaeontology.

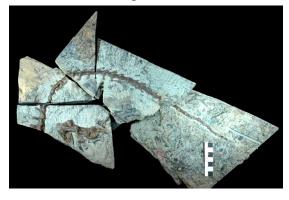


Photo: The fossil preserved most of the tail, along with the right ankle and foot. (Supplied: Steve Poropat/Museums Victoria)

Dr Herne said it took a team of people doing field trips to work out what the dinosaur was like and the kind of environment it lived in.

"From what we can tell, even though it's only preserved a tail and a foot, from those bones, we can talk from similarly related things, that it was a biped, so it ran around on its two strong hind legs," he said.

"The size of its leg bones and its tail do indicate its size, and it was probably the size of a turkey."

This particular dinosaur probably weighed between 3 or 4 kilograms, but its species have grown to a size of 2.3 metres in length, and up to 17kg.

Unlike the turkey, it was probably scaled, rather than feathered, with a beak and grinding teeth for eating vegetation.

The team's research also involved a detailed analysis of what the Australian-Antarctic rift would have been like when it was inhabited by dinosaurs.

"The environment that they lived in is really exciting, because it was in fact a big rift valley that existed between Australia and Antarctica," Dr Herne said.

"And on the eastern margin of it was a massive volcanic mountain range, possibly akin to the Andes, and of course this all gone now.

"So what we're looking at is a lost world, basically Australia's lost world ... the only rocks that we can actually visit and look at this lost world are on the south coast of Victoria."

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LITHGOW'S HIDDEN HISTORY OF OLD URU.

by Dr [h.c.] Rex Gilroy PhD. *Copyright* © *Rex Gilroy 2017*.

For some years now the Lithgow district has been yielding up remains of ancient Uru culture. This has included the Lost City of Ikaria, the name meaning "Soul of the Sun", which arose some 15,000 years ago and was abandoned around 8,000 years ago in the wake of environmental changes and also the depredations of the savage growing Aboriginal population.

Readers can learn more about this Stone-Age metropolis in the Gilroys' book "The Jaguar and the Serpent" [URU Publications 2016]. Thanks to the archaeological detective work of Gilroy field assistants Phil Whittaker and Graham Merrick, a number of important relics are coming to light, which are revealing Ikaria as a culture centre, particularly in astronomy.

It appears that the remains of Ikaria lie buried beneath much of modern Lithgow, although other stoneworks stand in ruins in the surrounding hills. Fragments of Uruan stone carving suggest the city's inhabitants lived in well made dwellings of stone and wood and they would certainly have had to have been waterproof. From what is being uncovered by us at Kanangra in the 'lost' megalithic City of I-ula [ie "City of the Sun"], it is obvious that the Uru not only knew how to direct fresh water from creeks through excavated channels into the midst of villages, and that they had also devised an advanced underground sewerage system which employed water in flushing. Today the soil overlay has vanished in some areas to reveal this system. Also, the fresh water channels, lined with stone, were wide enough in some sections of I-ula to carry large amounts of water.

The Uru appear remarkable today for a number of their cultural developments, such as their crude flight technology, which involved hang-glider and hot air balloon flights; and there was also their astronomical science of which we still have much to learn.

A search of an area of Lithgow by Phil & Graham on Monday 17th April 2017 resulted in the unearthing an ironstone slab which was obviously a fragment of a much larger stone, due to the strange engraving upon it. The stone measured 37cm length by 33cm width and 50cm in depth. The fragment of carved surface shows that the complete stone once contained a large example of Uruan art whatever it was.

On Sunday 23rd April 2017 the boys made another discovery at a Lithgow area location, in the form of two stone slab fragments containing finely engraved circles about 1cm in depth. The smaller of the two slabs bore the fragmentary remains of two circles, the stone being 39.5cm length by 21.5 cm width and 6cm in depth. The better of the two slabs contained five complete circles and measured 60cm length by 29cm width and 10cm in depth.

The circles measured 9.7 cm by 9.7cm, 10cm by 10cm, 9 by 9cm, 10 by 10cm and 8 by 9.5cm. Once again a fragment of a larger stone which probably contained more of these circles, perhaps even script or other carvings. It appears these circles depict stars and or planets. The complete relic would have contained more heavenly bodies, being a star map of some importance to the Uru astronomers. Obviously an astronomical observatory once stood hereabouts, which a future search might locate.

There was one other, incredible find made by Phil & Graham at a Lithgow location, on Tuesday 24th January 2017, in the form of a crude sandstone slab upon which had been engraved intricate imagery. The stone measured 60cm length by 50cm width and 9cm in depth. There was a tall long necked bird's head, beneath which lav a curled image of the Sun-snake whose tail touched a Sun-disc beside which was a smaller disc of the Moon, but which was within the mouth of the Uruan Moon-snake, Za, and whose body extended beneath the Sun-disc to the left following the base of the flat surface of the stone. To the left of the Moon-Snake two small snake heads and the bodies of four snakes curved 'U' style, and behind the bird's neck was an image of the Universal Egg, enclosed protectively by the right wing. It was immediately obvious to me when I first inspected this relic on Saturday 13th January 2018, that the bird image was that of I-na, the Eagle protector deity of the Sun-God, Nim. Beneath the neck of I-na lay the image of the snake, its tail touching the Sun-disc. Here was Nim the Sun-God in serpent form, which symbolised the curative powers of the Sun as the great life-giver. Immediately to the left of the Sun is the smaller Ara Moon-Goddess, her disc held within the mouth of the Moon-Serpent Za, which symbolised her light and fertilising powers. The little serpent images symbolised the Sun-worshipping 'children', ie followers of the great Sun-God, the Sun-worshipping masses protected by their God. I-na's right wing encloses the great egg, the egg within which the Universe is protected. The egg is eternal in size.

Nim the Sun was symbolised as a snake, and this symbolism was carried beyond Australia [ie the Land of Uru] out into the Old World, where from India to the Near and Middle-East, where 'he' was called 'Ra' by the Egyptians. This name is not Egyptian, for the Sun-Snake of old Uru was called Ra-na, ie "of Ra". Ra was a most Ancient name for the Sun-God in early Uruan times. Both names survived, Ra-na symbolised the Sun-God's powers, whereas the name 'Nim' symbolised the Universe, lit with the light of the God by day, and his sister Ara by night.

There was also another philosophic meaning to the Uruan Universal Egg image, for Nim was also symbolised as egg-shaped, ie an egg-shaped Sun, for the Sun in the time of Mun, the Lizard deity, [which was the original image of Nim before philosophies of the early Uru saw Nim change from lizard to sun], was seen as the guardian of the great mystical Temple of Light [symbolised as an egg] wherein all Knowledge was kept, ie the knowledge of the Universe.

In the course of time Nim took the form of the Serpent, His emblem as the God of the Sun, and the dual image of the great Lizard symbolising his guardianship of Knowledge. Yet Nim realising that his great role was to impart his life-giving warmth upon his world and its people, he called the koala Nos from his food tree and declared that he would hence become the God of Knowledge and wisdom, and that his home was now the Tree of Knowledge, its leaves symbolising the food of Knowledge. The Uru always considered the Koala a very wise animal.

Thus it can be seen that the 'I-na' -Universal Egg stone contains a unique philosophic meaning which, until now had only been found in separate parts in many other inscriptions, but which this stone and its unknown engraver, thousands of years ago, brought together in one whole.

Phil and Graham's discovery is of great importance in the research of the 'lost' civilisation of Uru, whose former existence, its people and their achievements are now being re-discovered and given new life.



Graham Merrick holding the stone slab containing an incomplete image. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The stone slab fragment containing remnants of an Uru star map.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Another fragment of the star map recovered at Lithgow by Phil & Graham.

Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The large sandstone slab containing an image of I-na, the 'Eagle of the Sun' and his wing enclosing the Universal Egg. The engraved images hold sacred philosophical meanings of the Uru. Its faded condition required chalk-outlining for photographic purposes. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



The boys and their important relic. Photo copyright © Rex Gilroy 2018.



Rex Gilroy considers the 'I-na Stone' one of the most important Uru relics so far uncovered in the on-going research of this 'lost' Australian megalithic civilisation.

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<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> The next meeting will be held on 17th February, 2018, same time, same place.

Our previous meeting was a good one and we look forward to seeing you at our next one. There should be some good Skywatches ahead of us up here at Katoomba weather permitting. Meanwhile, there is a lot happening 'up there' at present so –until our next meeting –Keep safe and

'Watch the Skies'!



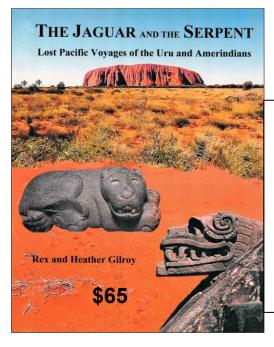
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