

Facts and Figures

- The Westpac Long Gallery measures 31 metres x 11 metres. The three-storey gallery is about 16.5 metres tall.
- There are **more than 350 objects on display** on the ground floor of the Westpac Long Gallery, not including every butterfly in the Lamond Collection or crab from Mel Ward's total collection of about 25,000 crabs.
- **Heaviest** object in the exhibition: Canowindra fish fossil rock slab, weighing 350 kilograms.
- **Smallest** object in the exhibition: larval fish collection, measuring about 2 millimetres each.
- **Newest** object in the exhibition: Asaro mud men *Holosa* (spirit) masks, made by the Komunive community from the Asaro Valley, in the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea. The masks were acquired by the Australian Museum in 2016.
- **Oldest** object in the exhibition: Canowindra fish fossils, which are Upper Devonian in age (about 370-360 million years old).
- **Sharpest** object in the exhibition: "Shirase" sword, made in 1644-48 by Mutsu no Kami Kaneyasu, one of the highest ranking and most respected swordsmiths of the 17th century.
- **Unusual** object: The Australian Lungfish, which breathes air by coming to the surface when water is stagnant or of low quality, is unique in having only a single lung. Former Australian Museum curator Gerard Krefft discovered the new species when a specimen was served to him at a dinner party. He named it *Ceratodus forsteri* in 1870 in honour of his friend William Forster, who brought the fish to his attention.
- **Dangerous** object: the exhibition includes the Sydney Funnel-web Spider that was responsible for the first recorded human death by this species. In 1927, a toddler sitting on the laundry steps of a house in Thornleigh was bitten on the little finger.
- **Significant scientific treasure:** The Tasmanian Tiger pup preserved since 1866 is among the Australian Museum's most significant scientific treasures. The young female was sent to the museum in 1866 – 70 years before the last-known Thylacine died in Hobart Zoo in 1936.
- The exhibition includes **Australia's oldest surviving natural history diorama**, depicting nesting birds on a rocky outcrop on Lord Howe Island. Specimens, photographs and other information for the diorama were collected by Australian Museum scientists in 1921, during one of the first expeditions of its kind undertaken anywhere in the world.

- There are **more than 1500 images in total on display** of the “100 people” treasures on the first floor of the Westpac Long Gallery.
- The **100 people treasures** include 14 Indigenous Australians, 14 scientists, 12 politicians (including 7 former Australian prime ministers), 5 sportspeople, 3 architects and 1 music guru.
- There are **36 glass display cases** on the ground floor and first floor of the Westpac Long Gallery, all of which were designed, built and installed by Italian company Goppion. The Milan-based company’s cases are also responsible for protecting the Mona Lisa, the Shroud of Turin and Crown Jewels in the Tower of London.
- The glass display cases on the ground floor of the Westpac Long Gallery **weigh about 600 kilograms each**. The glass display cases on the first floor of the gallery weigh about 500 kilograms each.