

SCIENCE FOR LIFE!

SHOWCASING QUEENSLAND MUSEUM SCIENTISTS, THEIR CAREERS AND CURRENT RESEARCH

CHRIS LAMBKIN

CURATOR OF ENTOMOLOGY – INSECTS



HOW I GOT HERE!

After completing a **Bachelor of Science** with a major in **Entomology** and **Diploma of Education at University of Queensland**, I taught in Sydney and Brisbane. I became a **professional artist** which led to work as a **scientific illustrator** at Queensland Museum. I returned to UQ, completing **Honours** and a **PhD on the taxonomy and evolution of beeflies** (Bombyliidae) in 2001. During a **Postdoctoral Fellowship at CSIRO Entomology Canberra**, I worked on stiletto flies (Therevidae) for the American National Science Foundation Partnerships Enhancing Expertise in Taxonomy TherevidPEET project.

I am now a **Curator of Entomology**, responsible for Queensland Museum's collections of Diptera (flies), Coleoptera (beetles), Orthoptera (grasshoppers), Hemiptera (bugs), Phasmatodea (stick insects), and several smaller insect orders.

WHAT I AM WORKING ON!

I am currently involved in a number of **projects**:

- Encouraging school students to understand their environment and insects through the **Backyard Explorer project**.
- Examining changes of **fly biodiversity** along an altitudinal gradient in Lamington NP for the IBISCA Queensland Project.
- Systematics, evolution, and biodiversity of Flies
 - combined molecular and morphological phylogenetic analyses
 - monographic revisions of Australian beeflies and stiletto flies
 - estimate the divergence times of radiations in the Australian stiletto flies
 - on-line Australian Faunal Directory of Australian Therevidae.
- FLYTREE, Assembling the Dipteran Tree of Life
 - developing and analysing the first morphological character set and matrix for all fly families
 - Providing a phylogeny for Diptera for testing evolutionary hypotheses in studies of development, behaviour, genomics, and neurobiology.