

Retiring, but not stuffed yet

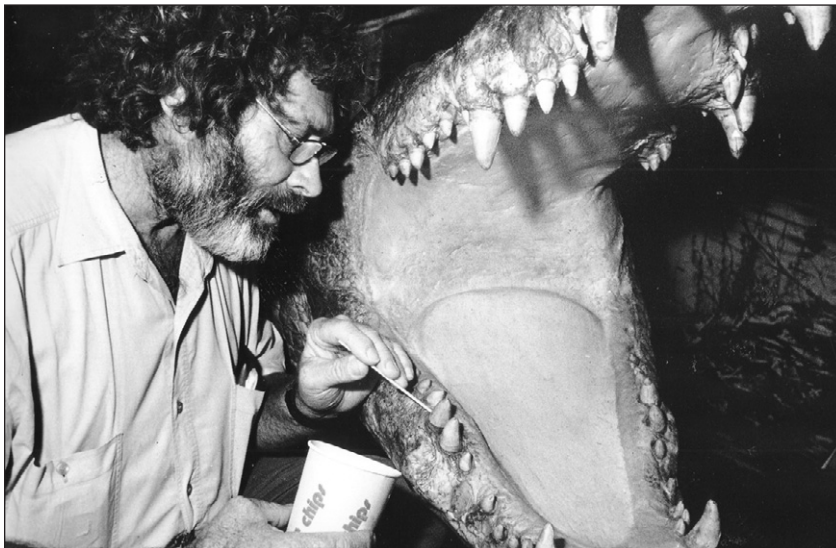
THE man who stuffed the Territory's most famous crocodile, Sweetheart, has retired after 31 years in the Territory public service.

Taxidermist Ian Archibald may be hanging up his brushes and bone cutters, but his work to shape and preserve Northern Territory history is a legacy that can not be stuffed according to Museums Minister Gerry McCarthy.

"Ian Archibald is a living Territory treasure whose work will live on for decades to come," Mr McCarthy said.

Mr Archibald was tasked with the preparation and lifelike mounting of the iconic Sweetheart, a 5.1m saltwater crocodile, weighing 780kg, that was caught in the Finnis River, only weeks after he started work as a taxidermist at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) in 1979.

Sweetheart is arguably the most popular permanent attraction at



Taxidermist Ian Archibald at work touching-up Sweetheart before it went on a national tour around the country in the mid 1990s

MAGNT with thousands of visitors having their photos taken next to monster croc each year.

Mr Archibald was a key organiser in the preparation of displays for the opening of MAGNT in

1981, the Spencer and Gillen Museum and the Museum of Central Australia in Alice Springs.

He also did fieldwork and specimen collection throughout the Territory including the flensing of a

40 tonne sperm whale that washed up on Casuarina Beach in 1991.

Taxidermy obviously runs in the blood with Mr Archibald. His son Jared followed his father into the trade also.

Census job offer

THE Australian Bureau of Statistics is seeking 25 community-minded part-time area supervisors, for every corner of the Darwin region, in the lead up to Census 2011.

Area supervisors will oversee the distribution and collection of census forms to local households.

Darwin district manager Huw Brokensha said that area supervisors are crucial to the quality of the data produced and the overall success of the

census by managing collectors.

"The data we collect allows quality planning for the future," he said.

"It is important we also receive applications from people with diverse ethnic or indigenous backgrounds to help the census reach every community in the Darwin region."

More information about applying is available online at www.abs.gov.au/census

Recruitment of census collectors starts in April.

Calling for a lost winner

A LOST lottery winner is being sought by Darwin Quota Club.

The club ran a fundraising lottery before Christmas, but organisers are having problems locating the second prize winner. The name on the ticket for the unclaimed prize was Aidan Oakley, but the name or phone number is thought to have been written wrongly.

Contact Jeannie on 0409 281 787 if it's you.

2011 Census Area Supervisors needed in your community. Apply now.

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Volunteers help out

NORTHERN Territory Emergency Service Volunteers have again responded to Queenslanders in need.

Last month NTES volunteers gave up their time to help flood victims.

Ten NTES volunteers flew to Queensland on Sunday, this time to cleanup after the damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Yasi.

Full-time NTES employee Tracy Rowe led the team of volunteers that were

deployed too Townsville to work alongside Emergency Management Queensland and the Queensland SES.

The volunteers come from Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine and Maningrida.

All 10 volunteers are storm damage specialists and were to be assisting both private residences and businesses in Townsville and surrounding districts during their five-day deployment.

Greening Australia

'MEGA' NATIVE TREE SALE

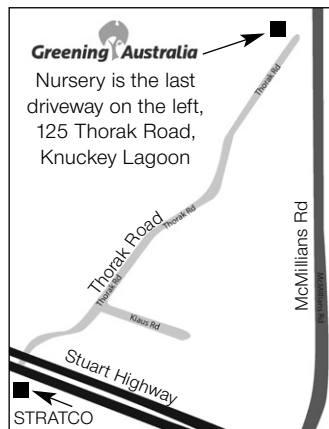
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