

Christopher Keneally, Microbial Ecologist

Adelaide, SA, 0481366633, cckeneally@gmail.com

Driving license

Class C Driving, SA Boat Licence (Rec.)

LINKS

[Website \(Github Pages\)](#), [Researcher Profile](#), [Github](#), [Google Scholar](#)

PROFILE

Experienced and passionate researcher in microbial ecology. Expertise in remote ecological fieldwork, bioinformatics, and data analysis. Skilled in team leadership and research.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Feb 2021 — Present

Teaching, The University of Adelaide

Adelaide

Casual Teaching contracts across Freshwater Ecology III, (2021-23) & Molecules Genes & Cells (2022-23). Received overwhelmingly positive student evaluations from undergraduates.

- Delivered lectures on microbiology to ecology students.
- Demonstrated field-based experiments in Freshwater Ecology and lab-based experiments in Molecular Biology.
- Enhanced student learning in each settings through effective demonstration.

Jan 2021 — Present

Laboratory Supervisor, The University of Adelaide

Adelaide

Volunteer role with *ad hoc* casual contracts during university-wide lab audits. Achieved efficient lab operations and safety compliance across two labs: i) a limnology lab, and ii) a plant/microbial genetics lab.

- Facilitated researcher inductions and lab-based student mentoring
- Managed chemical safety and Chemwatch register
- Implemented first aid and hazard management protocols.
- Conducted laboratory maintenance to ensure cleanliness and proper functioning of laboratory equipment

Jul 2020 — Jun 2021

Graduate Research Assistant, The University of Adelaide

Lower Murray-Darling

Led zooplankton sampling projects in the Lower Murray-Darling Basin. Coordinated teams for remote fieldwork, contributing to the SA DEW (Department of Environment & Water) environmental initiatives through detailed data management and reporting alongside a DEW steering committee.

Jul 2019 — Feb 2020

Undergraduate Research Assistant, The University of Adelaide

Lower Murray-Darling

Supported field-based water quality research in the Murray-Darling Basin as part of a Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder-led project on spring pulses of environmental water. Prepared and calibrated field equipment, and undertook multi-day sampling campaigns to ensure accurate data collection in remote areas.

Nov 2012 — Jul 2019

Retail Supervisor, Rivers Australia

Adelaide

Balanced part-time retail supervision with undergraduate academic studies. Enhanced customer experience, managed budgets, and organised team operations and rosters efficiently.

EDUCATION

Nov 2020 — Present

Doctor of Philosophy, University of Adelaide

Adelaide

Research focus on microbial ecology in Coorong Lagoon, South Australia. Research summary video available [here](#).

Jul 2019 — Jul 2020

(First Class) Honours Degree of Bachelor of Science (Ecology & Environmental Sciences) , University of Adelaide

Adelaide

Thesis entitled: "Towards Recovery of the Coorong: A Framework for Investigating Denitrification, Diversity & Other Functional Roles of Microbial Communities in Hypersaline Sediments" is available on request.

Feb 2015 — Dec 2018

Bachelor of Science (Microbiology & Immunology), University of Adelaide

Adelaide

PUBLICATIONS	<p>Brookes, J., Brendan Busch, Phill Cassey, Daniel Chilton, Sabine Dittmann, Tyler Dornan, George Giatas, Bronwyn M. Gillanders, Matt Hipsey, Peisheng Huang, Christopher Keneally, et al. "How well is the basin plan meeting its objectives? From the perspective of the Coorong, a sentinel of change in the Murray-Darling Basin." <i>Australasian Journal of Water Resources</i> (2023)</p> <p>10.1080/13241583.2023.2241161</p>		2023
	<p>Huang, J., David Welsh, Dirk Erler, Angus Ferguson, Justin Brookes, Christopher Keneally, et al. "Coorong nutrient cycling and fluxes." Goyder Institute for Water Research Technical Report Series 22/07 (2022).</p>		2022
	<p>Keneally, C., Matilda Southgate, Daniel Chilton, Tyler Dornan, Justin Brookes, "Sediment microbial ecology and methane dynamics during resuspension events in a hypersaline coastal lagoon", Conference Poster (SIL 2022, Berlin)</p>		2022
	<p>Priestley, S., et al. "N and C isotope variations along an extreme eutrophication and salinity gradient in the Coorong Lagoon, South Australia." <i>Frontiers in Earth Science</i> 9 (2022): 1345.</p> <p>10.3389/feart.2021.727971</p>		2021
SKILLS	Project Management & Organising Teams in Challenging Remote Environments	Advanced Lab-based Molecular Biology and Microbiology Skills	
	Expertise in Scientific Writing and Reporting	Geographic Information Systems (QGIS)	
	Proficiency in R, Python & Bash for Bioinformatics & Ecological Data Analysis	Interpersonal & Leadership Skills	
EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES			
Nov 2022 — Present	<p>President, Biology Society of South Australia</p> <p>Leading a non-profit in promoting biology studies, managing funds, and fostering conservation research in South Australia.</p>	South Australia	
Mar 2023 — Apr 2023	<p>Cystic Fibrosis Hackathon, Flinders University Accelerator for Microbiome Exploration (FAME)</p> <p>Inter-University collaborative project exploring microbial ecology of a large Cystic Fibrosis patient cohort in South Australia. Developed bioinformatics skillset with the guidance of experienced computational biologists and collaborated directly with clinical physicians.</p>	Adelaide	
Jul 2021 — Nov 2022	<p>Chief Fire Warden, Benham Laboratories (UoA)</p> <p>Oversaw emergency procedures, developed evacuation plans, and ensured safety compliance. Underwent Floor and Chief Warden training.</p>	Adelaide	

Jan 2020 — Nov 2022	Secretary, Biology Society of South Australia Managed secretarial duties, administrative tasks, website design, and podcast technical support for the society.	South Australia
Feb 2016 — Nov 2018	Senior Peer Mentor, University of Adelaide Facilitated transition for first-year students into university life through mentoring and support.	
Feb 2003 — Jan 2015	Scout Member A longstanding member of Scouts Australia from a young age, Activities ranged from sailing, bush-craft and survival skills to first-aid and leadership development. I was also involved with many fundraising and community engagement initiatives.	Brisbane, Darwin, Adelaide

INTERNSHIPS

Nov 2018 — Feb 2019	Summer Research Intern, University of Adelaide Investigating nitrogen flux in the Coorong lagoon, included: - On-site fieldwork (sediment core sample collection) - Laboratory processing, with experience of DNA/RNA extraction and purification, qPCR and associated lab techniques - Data analysis and scientific writing	Adelaide
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HOBBIES

Guitar and music, cycling, hiking, and reading science fiction.

REFERENCES

References available upon request