

# Mark Wong

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Oxford, OX1 3PS          Born 1990, Singapore citizen  
United Kingdom

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## Education

- 2017– **University of Oxford**  
DPhil (Zoology), Clarendon Scholarship  
Advisors: Prof Owen Lewis, Asst Prof Benoit Guénard
- 2014 **Australian National University**  
BSc Hons (Biology), 1st Class  
Advisors: Prof David Rowell, Dr James Woodman  
Examiners: Prof Craig Moritz, Prof Owen Atkin, Prof Scott Keogh
- 2013 **Australian National University**  
BSc (Forest Sciences), Top Graduate
- 2008 **Raffles Junior College Singapore**  
GCE A-Levels, 5As

## Selected Honours and Recognitions

- 2017 **Clarendon Scholar**  
University of Oxford
- 2017 **Explorer**  
National Geographic
- 2015 **Distinguished Scholar**  
Burton & Garran College, Australian National University
- 2014 **Young Explorer**  
National Geographic
- 2013 **Schlich Medal for Forest Sciences**  
Australian National University
- 2012 **Book Prize for Invertebrate Zoology**  
Australian National University
- 2011 **Undergraduate Overseas Scholar**  
National Parks Board Singapore

## Publications

### *Preprints*

- 2019 Wong MKL & Guénard B. In review. Subterranean ants. In: Starr C (Ed.). **Encyclopedia of Social Insects**. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

### *Journal Articles*

- 2018 Wong MKL, Guénard B & Lewis OT. Trait-based ecology of terrestrial arthropods. **Biological Reviews**. doi:10.1111/brv.12488
- 2017 Wong MKL, Woodman JD & Rowell DM. Short-range phenotypic divergence among genetically distinct populations of an Australian funnel-web spider. **Ecology and Evolution** 7: 5094–5102.
- 2017 Wong MKL & Guénard B. Subterranean ants: summary and perspectives on field sampling methods, with notes on diversity and ecology (Hymenoptera, Formicidae). **Myrmecological News** 25: 1–16.
- 2017 Yong GWJ, Wong MKL & Soh EJY. Surprising offshore diversity: A preliminary checklist for the ant genera of Pulau Ubin island from rapid opportunistic sampling (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). **Nature in Singapore** 10: 55–66.
- 2017 Wong MKL & Yong GWJ. Notes on the habitat and biology of the rare ant genus *Tyrannomyrmex* (Fernández, 2003). **Asian Myrmecology** 9: 1–4.
- 2016 Wong MKL & Guénard B. First confirmed record of the ant genus *Myrmecina* (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) from the Malay Peninsula: description of a new species and a key to *Myrmecina* species from Sundaland. **Journal of Hymenoptera Research** 50: 129–140.
- 2016 Wong MKL & Guénard B. *Aenictus seletarius*, a new species of hypogaecic army ant from Singapore, with an updated key to the *Aenictus minutulus* species group (Hymenoptera: Formicidae: Dorylinae) from Southeast Asia. **Annales Zoologici** 66: 35–42.
- 2016 Wong MKL & Guénard B. *Leptanilla hypodracos*, a new species of the cryptic ant genus *Leptanilla* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) from Singapore, with new distribution data and an updated key to Oriental *Leptanilla* species. **ZooKeys** 551: 129–144.
- 2016 Wong MKL, Woodman JD & Rowell DM. Temporal variation in venom yield of the Australian funnel-web spider *Atrax sutherlandi* (Hexathelidae: Atracinae). **Arachnology** 17: 7–9.

### *Academic Theses*

- 2014 Wong MKL. Phenotypic variation among genetically distinct populations of the funnel-web spider *Atrax sutherlandi* (Hexathelidae: Atracinae). **Honours Thesis, Australian National University, Canberra.**

*Selected Popular Science Writing*

- 2018 Wong MKL & Hoenle P. Photoblog: Ant Course. **Myrmecological News Blog**, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- 2018 Wong MKL. The Giant Forest Ant: Jewel of Southeast Asia. **Entomological Network of Singapore Blog**, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018
- 2017 Wong MKL. Illuminating the deep, dark world of subterranean ants. **Asian Scientist**, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

*Others*

- 2017 Wong MKL & Yong GWJ. Velvet worm (Onychophora) on Pulau Ubin. **Singapore Biodiversity Records** 2017: 125–126.
- 2015 Wong MKL. Investigating fine-scale geographic variation in a newly described Australian funnel-web spider (*Atrax sutherlandi*). **Australian Wildlife** 1: 43–44.
- 2015 Wong MKL. Investigating fine-scale geographic variation in the Australian funnel-web spider (*Atrax sutherlandi*) – brief introduction and current progress. **Newsletter of the Australasian Wildlife Management Society** 29: 8–9.

## Grants, Awards and Fellowships

- 2019 **Grant from Dean of Graduates Fund (£400)**  
Pembroke College, University of Oxford
- 2018 **Training and Travel Grant (£500)**  
British Ecological Society
- 2017 **Grant from Dean of Graduates Fund (£500)**  
Pembroke College, University of Oxford
- 2017 **Clarendon Scholarship (£107,667)**  
University of Oxford (Awarded to 1.7% of incoming grad students)
- 2017 **Hong Kong PhD Fellowship (£74,019; declined)**  
Hong Kong Research Grants Council
- 2016 **Explorers Grant 60-16 (£3,812)**  
National Geographic Society
- 2016 **Conservation Fund Research Grant (£2,773)**

Wildlife Reserves Singapore

- 2016 **Discovering the Ants of Singapore (£1,738 pledged)**  
Experiment.com public crowdsourcing for science
- 2014 **Young Explorers Grant CRE 9633-14 (£1,768)**  
National Geographic Society
- 2014 **Student Travelling Grant (£1,755)**  
Australasian Wildlife Management Society
- 2014 **University Research Grant (£585)**  
Australian Wildlife Preservation Society
- 2011 **Full Undergraduate Overseas Scholarship (£138,648)**  
National Parks Board Singapore

## Other Awards

- 2017 **Asian Scientist Writing Prize (£1,127)**  
Asian Scientist

## Scientific Meetings

- 2015 **Invertebrate Biodiversity and Conservation Conference by the Society of Australian Systematic Biologists, Fremantle, Australia**  
Rowell DM, Wong MKL & Woodman JD. Independent morphological evolution among genetically distinct parapatric populations of the Australian funnel-web spider *Atrax sutherlandi*. (Oral Pres.)
- 2014 **Annual Conference of the Australian Entomological Society, Canberra, Australia**  
Wong MKL, Woodman JD & Rowell DM. Exploring phenotypic variation in populations of the funnel-web spider *Atrax sutherlandi*. (Oral Pres.)

## Manuscript Reviewer

Asian Myrmecology, Ecological Entomology, Ecology Letters, Functional Ecology, Science of the Total Environment

## Teaching

- 2018 **Demonstrator, Biodiversity Survey and Analysis (2<sup>nd</sup> year course)**  
University of Oxford
- 2014 **Tutor, Invertebrate Zoology (2<sup>nd</sup> year course)**  
Australian National University
- 2014 **Demonstrator, Ecology (1<sup>st</sup> year course)**  
Australian National University

## Seminars and Presentations

- 2018 **Ant diversity through form and function**  
National Geographic Explorers Festival, Asia Society, Hong Kong
- 2018 **Functional insights to species coexistence from ant community invasions**  
DPhil transfer seminar, Department of Zoology, University of Oxford
- 2018 **Subterranean ants: the final frontier**  
Student presentation, Ant Course 2018, Nouragues Research Station, French Guiana
- 2016 **The trilobite beetle from Singapore**  
Studio interview for BBC Newsday, broadcast live to global audiences of BBC Television
- 2016 **Ants of Singapore: Diversity in an urban metropolis**  
Parks Festival, Singapore
- 2016 **Feared and Ignored: Studying deadly spiders Down Under**  
National Geographic Explorers Workshops at National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University
- 2016 **Exploring uncharismatic creatures**  
National Geographic Young Explorers Meetup at National Geographic Headquarters, Washington DC

## Science Outreach and Initiatives

- 2016 **Founding Member, Entomological Network of Singapore**  
The first society in Singapore dedicated to the promotion of entomology
- 2016 **Entomological Consultant, Hideaways – Creating with Nature**  
Art installation at Playeum Children’s Centre for Creativity, Singapore
- 2016 **Survey Leader, BioBlitz**  
Citizen science surveys at Pasir Ris Park, Pulau Ubin island, and Kent Ridge Park, by National Parks Board Singapore
- 2016 **Demonstrator (Invertebrates)**  
Regional Outreach and Open Day programs by Australian National University

## Community Service

- 2016 **Voluntary English Teacher and Builder**  
Saviour Children’s Foundation, Kasoa Town, Ghana
- 2015 **Voluntary English Teacher**  
Madagascar Research and Conservation Institute, Nosy Komba, Madagascar

- 2014 **Sailing Partner for Adults with Special Needs**  
Sailability, Hong Kong
- 2014 **Vocational Trainer for Adults with Special Needs**  
The Nesbitt Centre, Hong Kong

## Selected Media Cover

### *Ants*

- 2017 **Extremely Rare ‘T. rex’ Ant Found Alive for First Time**  
National Geographic  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/05/ants-trex-alive-rare-species-animals/>
- 2016 **100 Best Science Photos of the Year: *Myrmecina magnificens***  
Live Science  
<http://www.livescience.com/57301-best-science-photos-of-the-year.html>
- 2016 **‘Fearsome Raisin’ Ant Sports Striking Fingerprint Pattern**  
Live Science  
<http://www.livescience.com/55263-fearsome-raisin-ant-has-fingerprint-whorls.html>
- 2016 **Itching to discover new species**  
The Straits Times  
<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/itching-to-discover-new-species>

### *Funnel-web Spiders*

- 2015 **An Arachnid Dracula? Rare, Red-Fanged Spider Is Uncovered**  
Live Science  
<http://www.livescience.com/52101-rare-red-fanged-spider-found.html>
- 2015 **Mysterious Spider With Blood-Red Fangs Found in Australia**  
National Geographic  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/09/150902-spiders-animals-australia-science-world/>
- 2015 **Explorer Moment of the Day: Taking venom from spiders**  
National Geographic  
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/explorers/explorers-week/explorer-moment-mark-wong-spider/>

### *Other Topics*

- 2016 **Meet a bizarre and rare beetle you’ve never seen before (>11 million views)**  
National Geographic

<https://www.facebook.com/natgeo/videos/10154087820318951/>

- 2016 **Bizarre-Looking Beetle Has an Even Weirder Sex Life**  
National Geographic  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/10/rare-weird-insect-trilobite-beetle/>

*Profiles*

- 2018 **Explorer Mark K. L. Wong**  
National Geographic  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/find-explorers/mark-kl-wong>
- 2016 **Singaporean discovers new ant species (in Mandarin)**  
Channel 8 News Singapore  
<http://www.channel8news.sg/news8/ca/morningexpress/episodes/20160412-me-sgsurprise/2687596.html>
- 2016 **Mark Wong: From the Urban Jungle to Forest Science**  
Australian National University  
<http://science.anu.edu.au/whats-on/profiles/urban-jungle-forest-science>
- 2016 **Ant-man shares love for ants on Instagram**  
The Straits Times  
<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/ant-man-shares-love-for-ants-on-instagram>

## Professional References

**Prof Owen Lewis**

Department of Zoology, University of Oxford  
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**Asst Prof Benoit Guénard**

School of Biological Sciences, University of Hong Kong  
bguenard@hku.hk

**Prof David Rowell**

Research School of Biology, Australian National University  
David.Rowell@anu.edu.au

**Dr James Woodman**

Australian Government Department of Agriculture  
James.Woodman@agriculture.gov.au