



CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Menindee Megafauna display to become 'statement piece'

Central Darling Shire Council is pleased to report that the much-anticipated experience project known as the Menindee megafauna model will be on display at the Menindee Tourist Information Centre in time for the upcoming school holidays.

The interpretive display case for the diorama art piece is completed. Both the megafauna model and display case have arrived in Menindee via Sydney and Newcastle. Work on setting up the display is happening this week.

University of Newcastle students created the unique large-scale diorama based on the paleo-landscape and extinct megafauna species that once resided in the Menindee region. Two key students involved with the project were Louise Wills and Dominic Lindus. The students consulted with numerous specialists to make the model as accurate as possible.

Central Darling Shire Council applied for and received a \$10,000 grant to build the interactive display case and to relocate both the display case and the diorama to Menindee. The funding came from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, which supports the arts in regional and remote Australia.

Menindee Tourism Association President, Rob Gregory, said he was looking forward to the display being showcased at the Menindee Tourist Centre and expected it would become a statement piece.

"Local people and visitors to our district will be able to learn about the ancient history of Menindee through this art piece," Mr Gregory said. "It will also provide opportunities for school students to learn about the Menindee region."

It is anticipated that the diorama will be another tourist attraction for the area. "It will be another reason for people to come and visit our beautiful part of the world, and anything which increases visitor nights is very positive for our local businesses and community," Mr Gregory said.

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