

# Barking gEcho

Summer/Birak edition 2017



## A New Year

Hello Young Nats old and new and welcome to another year of fun-filled events where I hope you will discover new and amazing things in our beautiful southern land.



King River Ramble

## In this issue

- Look back at 2016
- Program of events 1st Term 2017
- Photo Gallery 2016
- Museum Matters
- Wild Life Watch- the King Skink

Check the calendar of this term's events on page 2!



Emu Pt Netting

## Look back at 2016

Even though we only ran the club for 3 terms last year we managed a wide variety of events- night walks in Discovery bay; catching bats in Torbay; searching for macro-invertebrates; foraging for bugs in the Mt Clarence undergrowth; dragging nets at Emu Point to help Department of Fisheries; fungi hunting on Mt Melville; planting new growth at Lowlands beach; geocaching at Cosy Corner and photo expeditions in forests and rivers.



Going Batty



## Young Nat is an Award winning photographer!

Congratulations to our own Noah Gibson for his winning entry in the Junior section of the *I Love Albany Photography Competition 2016*. See Noah's and other Young Nats photos on page 3.

Young Naturalists Club Co-ordinator PETER PRITCHARD e: Peter.Pritchard@museum.wa.gov.au

# Feb

## Sunday 19th Salty Summer Touch Pool

Start: 11.00am

Location: Whalers Cove (AKA Fisheries Beach)

Get up close and personal with the rich marine life found at Whalers Cove, with Sheryn and Liz from SCNRM. Touch the wonderful creatures found on the reefs and in the sandy shallows. Bring your bathers and snorkelling gear.



## Sunday 26th Mini Wetlands World

Start: 1.00pm

Location: Lake Seppings

Create a wetland ecosystem in a jar. Discover who econauts, scavengers, recyclers and the cleaning crew are and how they all work together to sustain life.



# Mar

## Sunday 5th Clean Up Australia Day

Start: 1.00pm

Location: TBA

The annual **Clean-Up Australia Day** needs our help. Spend an hour or two at one of our Great Southern locations admiring the beauty while helping keep it that way- beautiful and rubbish free.



## Sunday 19th Water Water Water

Start: 1.00pm

Location: TBA

Water- have you really thought about how important it is? Let's reflect (pun intended) on **World Water Day** and take some photographs of water and play with the images using our **Pixlr** filters.



# Apr

## Sunday 2nd Emu Point Netting II

Start: TBA

Location: Emu Point

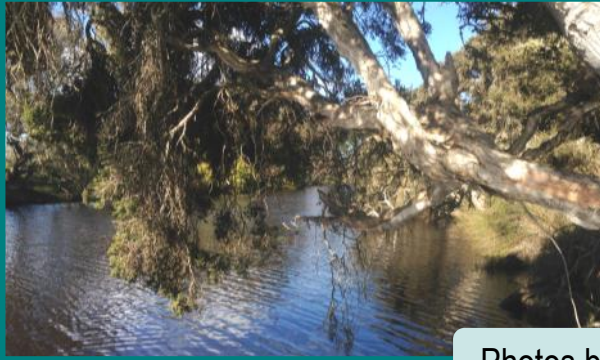
Meet us at Emu Point for part 2 of our survey of what creatures live in the shallows. Tahryn and Kylie from the Dept. of Fisheries will drag some nets and we will try to identify what they find. Don't forget to bring your bathers and some old shoes or reef walkers to wade in the water.



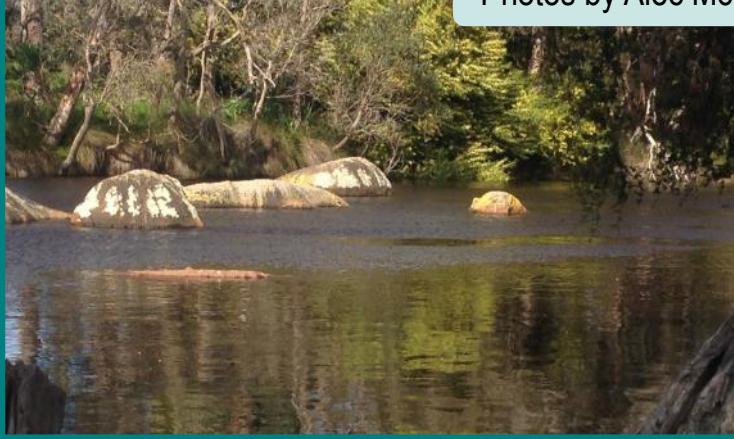
## ABOUT THE YOUNG NATURALISTS CLUB

The Young Naturalists Club is open to children in Albany and surrounding areas who are between 5 and 15 years of age.

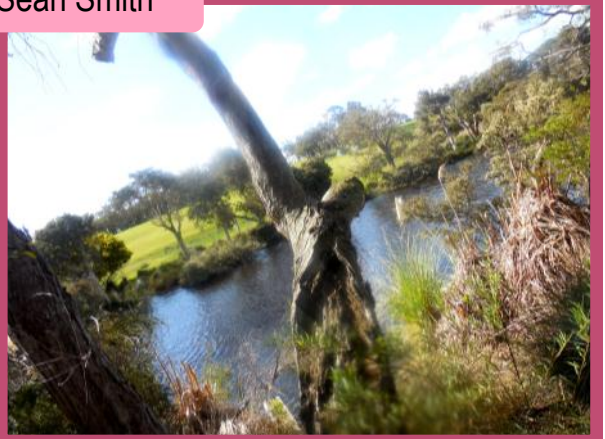
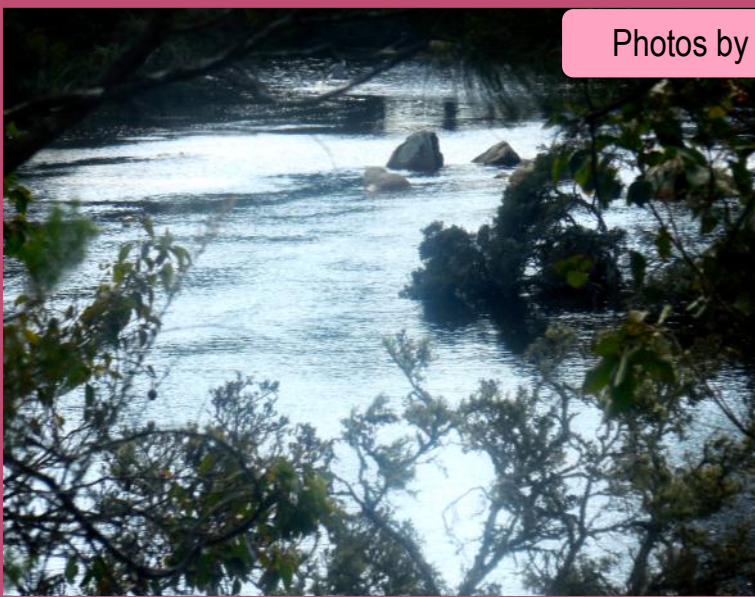
Our club is about building awareness of our local environment through hands-on activities with the guidance of experts and passionate helpers. *We are about nature.*



Photos by Alec McDonald



Photos by Sean Smith



Photos by Noah Gibson



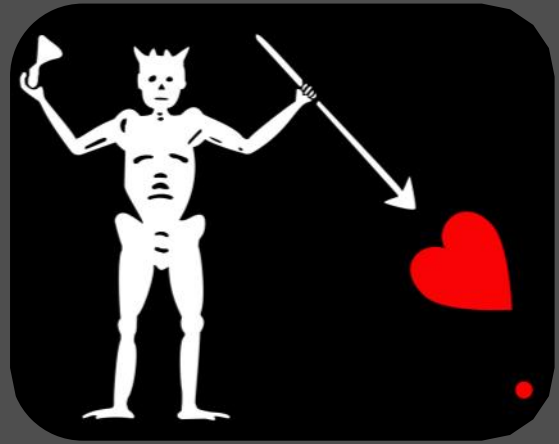
## Museum of the Great Southern Discovery Centre

Ahoy there, me hearties! Set sail for adventure on the high seas these school holidays and discover what life as a pirate was really like.

Explore the surprising history behind Pirates, Buccaneers and Privateers. Could you live up to their lore's and codes? What makes the perfect pirate pet? Find out why parrots were a favourite choice. Why are so many pirates pictured as having peg legs?

11am–4:00pm until Term 1 holidays  
Discovery Centre Museum of the Great Southern

## Pirates, Peg Legs and Parrots



## ROUGH MEDICINE

LIFE & DEATH IN THE AGE OF SAIL

A free exhibition | 3 December 2016 – 26 February 2017  
Western Australian Museum – Albany

## Yurlmun

Mokare Mia Boodja

Exhibition of  
significant Menang  
objects

Pop Up Gallery  
Museum of the Great  
Southern until April 19

## Wildlife Watch– King Skink (*Egernia kingii*)



The King's Skink is very common around Albany and the Great Southern. They can be spotted sunning themselves on rocks, roadsides or pathways.

It is fast moving and you can hear them scuttling away to hide in the bush.

King's Skinks live in small family groups. They shelter in rock crevices and dead logs and will sometimes dig their own burrow.

They will eat insects, plants, eggs, small mammals and snakes.

### DID YOU KNOW?

A skink will drop its tail if threatened, in the hope the wriggling tail will distract a predator and it can escape.