



Barking gEcho

Winter/Kambarang edition 2016

Young Naturalists Club

Night critters, creepy crawlies and fab fungi

Term 2 Highlights

The Young Nats who braved a wintry night to walk through the Wildlife park at Discovery Bay were treated to curious quolls, bustling bandicoots and feisty fruit bats. As most of our mammals are nocturnal it was a fascinating to see them at their active best.



Discovery Bay Wildlife Park
Pic by Alec McDonald

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Decorator crab

Our next event saw the Young Nats netting at Emu Point with the expert help of Tahryn and Kylie from Department of Fisheries. Some of the creatures we found were king George whiting, yellow eye mullet and two beautiful decorator crabs, which were camouflaged with sea weed.

In June we headed up to Mt Clarence to forage in the undergrowth for insects and spiders. Some very weird discoveries were made including centipedes, worms and flat rock spiders.

RIDDLE

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?

Answer on back page

Also in June, many of our members helped out with WA Day activities at the WA Museum that helped raise over \$500 for the club. Thanks guys! Later in June we trekked around Mt Melville on the hunt for fungi. We found many beautiful coloured types like coral fungi, pagoda fungi and a strange looking fungi called velvet black earth tongue. (see photo gallery) Despite the wet weather it was a fascinating look at our local fungi.



Fungi Foray

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July

Sunday 24th Lowlands Re-veg & Whale Spotting

Start: 9.30am

Location: Lowlands beach Car-park

Help out the environment by planting some native vegetation to protect our coast from being eroded. Take a break with a spot whale –spotting from the Lowlands Beach head.



August

Sunday 7th King River Ramble

Start: 1.00pm

Location: King River

Explore the banks of the King River and discover amazing wildlife living there– birds, fish and insects. Bring your camera or smartphone to take pictures and enter the *I Love Albany* Photo competition.



Sunday 21st GeoCache Day (A National Science Week event)

Start: 1.00pm

Location: TBA

To celebrate **International GeoCache Day** (August 20) and **National Science Week** (Aug 13-21) we will hunt down some geocaches in the name of science.



September

Sunday 4th Life in a Granite Rock pool

Start: 1.00pm

Location:

Noongars call the granite rock holes found in the great southern, gnammas, and they hold not just fresh water but up to 230 different aquatic species. We will some of the gnammas and discover creatures such as clam shrimps and maybe, if we're lucky, some tadpole shrimp. (See Wildlife Watch on back page)



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

from The Young Nats Co-ordinator

From September 15 to the end of the year **The Young Naturalist Club** will be taking a break (which means I will be away!)

Members who are financial will have their membership extended by 3 months.

Sorry everyone, but we will be back next year! Cheers Peter



Emu Point Netting



Life in the Undergrowth



Fungi foray



Velvet black earth tongue

WA Museum ALBANY Discovery Centre

The Discovery Centre is filled with **Japanese** inspired activities:

Create a Cherry Blossom scroll, a hand painted parasol or decorate a beautiful *sensu* paper hand fan.

Make a colourful oriental paper lantern, and learn about the Floating Lantern Festival.

Construct a sneaky Ninja figure and find out about these mysterious spies, the legendary Samurai and other martial arts.

Fold intricately decorated papers to create a traditional origami crane and celebrate Japan's Children's Day by making a colourful Koi kite.

Try your hand at Japanese calligraphy using traditional materials or paint a dramatic theatrical Kabuki mask.

Help make delicate flowers to add to our cherry blossom tree or a dragon scale to our mythical beast.

Until 18th September 2016

11am–4:00pm

Discovery Centre WA Museum-Albany

JAPAN Land of Sushi Shrines & Tsunamis



WAR AT SEA
THE NAVY IN WWI

11 June – 28 August 2016
A Free Exhibition
WA Museum – Albany
museum.wa.gov.au | #WarAtSea
Australian National Maritime Museum travelling exhibition

COMING TO THE DISCOVERY CENTRE
in the next school holidays

Explore the science in Sci-Fi!

Create and discover all things Science Fiction—aliens, space, robots and the future.



Wildlife Watch— The Tadpole Shrimp: *Living fossil*



Tadpole shrimp are tiny crustaceans that live in freshwater rock holes and ponds. They are modern day living fossils and have been around for 300 million years!

These small shrimp are found in many places around the world— Asia, South America, Great Britain, some parts of North America and Australia!

The tadpole shrimp can survive in the harshest places such as deserts. The eggs from the shrimp can lie unhatched for over 10 years in a dried up waterhole. When it rains or water fills the hole the eggs come alive and hatch. They eat both live and dead animals like other small crustaceans (even each other) and plants and other detritus.

They only live to around 90 days old.

Tadpole shrimp are found all over Australia, even here in the Great Southern, where they live in the granite rock pools called gnammas by the aboriginal people.