



# Barking gEcho

## Winter/Makuru edition 2017



#### In this issue

- Term Two Highlights
- Program of events 3rd Term 2017
- Photo Gallery Term 2
- Museum Matters
- Meet the locals-Western Ground Parrot



In late April the Young Nats ventured up Mt Clarence on a beautiful Saturday night to spotlight any nocturnal creatures. We were treated to some exciting finds such as spiders, many ringtail possums and some beautiful Tawny frogmouths sitting on branches right near the track. Did you

know that a Tawny frogmouth is not an owl?







During May the members went on a geocaching jaunt out at Gull Rock, where we found all the geocaches we planned to. Well done to our young super spotters.

On June 5th WA Day the Young Nats had a stall at the museum where we instructed visitors how to make a newspaper seedling pot and gave away nearly 300 plants! Our young volunteers deserve a special mention- great job Arthur, Henry, Sienna, Dylan, Louisa, Ollie and Sean! And thanks to mums and dads who came along to help too.





Also in June was our annual Fungi Foray. This year I made a checklist of different fungi, and everyone was able to find and tick off all of those- top effort!

Our final event for the term involved Young Nats solving a wildlife mystery. Again everyone was 100% right- you guys are legends!



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

#### **Calendar of Events Term 3 2017**

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

# July

#### Sunday 30th Coastal Collector's Day

Start: 1.00pm

Location: Vancouver Peninsula

Come for a beach-comb and collect the teeny-tiniest things to observe under our field microscope. See them as you have never seen them before. Remember to wear your winter woollies!



# Aug

#### Saturday 5th Frogging

Start: **6.00pm** Location: TBA

How do you find a frog at night? First you must listen carefully. Join us for a search for the elusive croakers. Warm clothes, gumboots and a torch essential.



#### Sunday 20th Bush Survival (Science Week event)

Start: 1.00pm

Location: Youngs Siding

Celebrate National Science Week with an afternoon of bush survival skills. Discover how to navigate your way out of trouble. Learn some tips on how Australian aborigines have survived for thousand of years in the bush, knowing what to eat and how to catch it.



# Sep

#### Sunday 3rd Flower Power

Start: 1.00pm

Location: Twin Creeks Porongurups

Join with the Friends of the Porongurup Range who will guide us on a walk through the Twin Creeks reserve to view our beautiful wildflowers.



Sunday 17th

#### Watch this space!

#### **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.

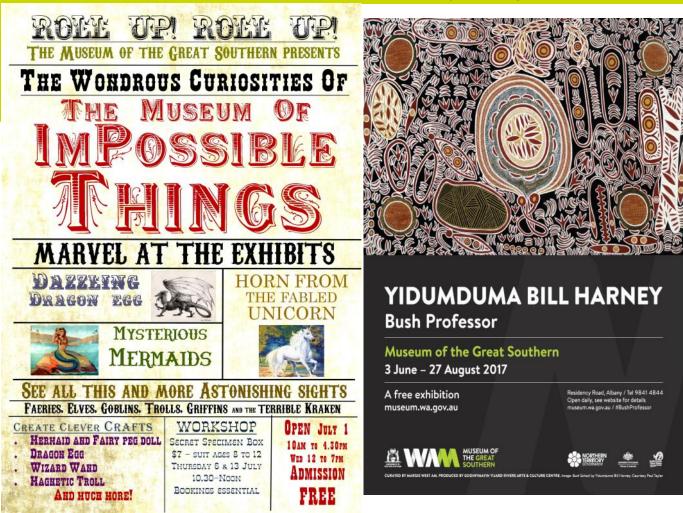
Our club is about building awareness of our local environment through hands-on activities with the guidance of experts and passionate helpers. *We are about nature.* 

## **Member's Photo Gallery - Term Two 2017**



### **Museum Matters**

MUSEUM OF THE GREAT SOUTHERN Residency Road, Albany WA 6330 Phone: 08 9841 4844 E-mail: albany@museum.wa.gov.au



## **Meet the Locals- The Western Ground parrot (Kyloring)**



The Western Ground parrot is one of the rarest birds in the world. There may be only 150 left in the wild and is critically endangered.

They are only found in two places: Fitzgerald National Park and Cape Arid National Park on the South Coast of Western Australia.

There is still much to be discovered about the lifecycle and breeding habits of the species. The bird spends most of its life on the ground, and eats flowers, fruits and seeds.

Land clearing for farming has destroyed the parrot's habitat and because they spend so much time on the ground they are easy prey for foxes and feral cats. Also bushfires can badly affect them.