



Send your mag contributions to Peter.Pritchard@museum.wa.gov.au or ring 9841 4844

The Barking gEcho

Spring Newsletter 2013

Hi everyone.

A big WELCOME to new and not so new members Lucas Page, Tahlia Stewart and Ethan and Fraser Wood.

As reported earlier The Young Naturalists have been nominated in the **Tidy Towns Awards** for 2103 in the *Young Legends* category. The winners will be announced on **October 4th** so keep an ear out for that.

Recently our first film **Homegrown**, was completed and entered into the **Risky**

Shorts Film Competition. The film screened at the event on 10th August, and was great hit with the audience who applauded enthusiastically. Unfortunately we weren't eligible for prizes as we didn't meet certain criteria, but a great success regardless. The film will be posted up on the WA Museum website and YouTube shortly. I hope this inspires you for our next film making effort in October.



Roving reporter: Did you say galah film screening?

Before that check out our events program for September action!

That's it from me for now. See you all soon!

Many Thanks

A top effort from Young Nats at the recent **National Tree Day** event. Emma from the City of Albany sent us a poster saying thanks. I would also like to say thanks to those that braved a bit of nasty weather and covered themselves in glory (and mud!)

Another big thank you goes to Erica Ferreira who courageously stepped in as Co-ordinator at the **Recycle Event** with Sara Irvine at the AWARE Centre.

And finally, thanks this time to our older Young Nats who were involved in the filming of **Homegrown** who put up with the constant nagging from Peter!

Funnies



Q: Why did the banana go to the doctor?

A: Because it wasn't peeling well.

Q: What did the skeleton order for dinner?

A: Spare ribs!

Q: What do sea monsters eat for lunch?

A: Fish and ships.

Q: What's worse than finding a worm in your apple?

A: Finding half a worm!

THANK YOU!

68 volunteers
...braved the winter weather to plant
2,520 shrubs and rushes
...at the Centennial Park Living Stream
over 2 hours
...during the 2013 National Tree Day Event

Special thanks to the Albany Scouts for providing a BBQ lunch and to the Young Naturalists Club

For more information on future National Tree Day events please visit <http://treeday.planetark.org/>

national tree day
ALBANY
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Events Program!

Sunday 25th August, 1pm

Insect Hotels!

Help our Homeless Insects! Insect hotels encourage the biodiversity in urban environments. These are fun and they look fabulous. Build one to take home or donate to a larger habitat which will be part of a big installation at the Western Australian Museum, Albany.

Venue: WA Museum, Albany



Sunday September 8th, 1pm

Goodga Fishway

Cars need highways and native fish need fishways! Join Andrew Maughan from the Dept. of Water and Judy Maughan from CENRM to check out Goodga Weir and Fishway. We will be finding how a fishway works and why we need

them. We will be measuring the flow rate and water quality. We hope to trap and identify some native fish.

Venue: Goodga Weir
(Off the road to Two Peoples Bay)



September 22nd TBC

Spider Hunting! At Night!

We are really hopeful of getting Amber Beavis, spider expert from the WA Museum in Perth to come down to Albany to lead us on an exciting night walk to discover some of our local arachnids.

Did you know there are many different kinds of arachnids?- some so small you can hardly see them!

Venue: TBC

October is Film Makers Month!

During the second half of October we will be shooting our second film on Marine Debris and the impact on the marine life along our coast. We will be interviewing fisher people, beachgoers, scientists and the younger generation to see what is happening to our oceans. This will co-incide with the annual Beach Clean Up day run by Tangaroa Blue.

Sunday 13th October

Beach Clean Up Day

A traditional Young Naturalist Club event. Each year we nominate one or more beaches to clean up. We collect the rubbish and then sort and count every piece. The data we have collected then goes to Tangaroa Blue for analysis.

Venue: TBC



More News and Coming Events

Gala Film Screening

During November we will be screening our two Young Nats documentaries at our Gala Premiere. – **Home Grown** a film that celebrates buying fresh and local produce and how it also helps the environment, and our yet-to-be-filmed doco on Marine Debris. We will keep you posted on a date for our gala screening.

End of Year Camp News

We are investigating some funding opportunities that we hope will subsidise the costs of our end of year camp. We are looking at all options for where we go this year: some are Camp Kennedy, Camp Quarunup

and the Rotary Youth Camp along Frenchmans' Bay Rd.

Museum Events

National Science Week was a hive of activity recently with many insect rooms constructed for the Insect Hotel to be installed at the museum in October or November.

Young Nats may want to donate their insect room to the museum.

The October School Holidays also brings a new theme and this one ties in with the new exhibition **Traversing Antarctica**. The Discovery Centre will become one cool place to be with our **Icy Pole** theme with plenty of fun activities for all ages.



Lights, Camera, Cooking, Recycling and Fish Action!



Aww Dad.

Focus

ABOVE On set of Food Miles Film Project: Homegrown and BELOW Cooking Gnocchi



Dissecting Fish!



Recycling Event



YUM!



Focus

Quiz Questions

1. The rice dish 'paella' comes from what country?
2. Deer meat is known by what name?
3. Are humans omnivore, herbivore or carnivore?
4. Fruit preserves made from citrus fruits, sugar and water are known as what?
5. Dairy products are generally made from what common liquid?
6. What do we call people who don't eat meat?
7. What ingredients are in gnocchi?
8. What is the most popular fruit in the world? Apple, banana or orange?

- ANSWERS 1. Spain 2. Venison 3. Omnivore 4. Marmalade 5. Milk 6. Vegetarians 7. Potato and flour 8. Banana

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What can you put into your Green Recycle Bin?

- Steel Cans
- Aluminium Cans and Aerosols
- Plastic Bottles and Containers
- Newspaper, Office Paper and Junk Mail
- Cardboard
- Milk and Juice Cartons

Did you know? Paper and Cardboard makes up half of all the recycled material collected in Albany. The Albany Material Recovery Facility processes on average 6½ tonnes of paper EVERY DAY. That's 30 000 trees every year!



Camping, Kayaks and 4x4 Community Fund.

Remember to remind family and friends to nominate YNC as their recipient for the Community Club loyalty fund when they purchase anything from this store. The reward dollars can be used by us to buy equipment that our club can use.



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*Living, caring and
learning in our
environment*

Museum Under the Microscope

Dr Amber S. Beavis

My name is Amber Beavis, and I am a research scientist in the Department of Terrestrial Zoology at the Western Australian Museum. I am also the manager of WAM's taxonomic services program.

My work at the museum is focused upon identifying and researching arachnids. Spiders are an arachnid that everyone knows about, but there are many other arachnids that you might not have heard of yet. As well as spiders, I work on two other arachnid groups: the pseudoscorpions and the schizomids.

I first became interested in zoology (the study of animals) when I was a little girl: I lived in rural NSW and grew up in the bush. I loved watching David Attenborough documentaries on TV, and would spend hours watching birds or collecting



invertebrates from fresh-water streams and ponds. When I got older and went to university I started learning about all kinds of incredible invertebrates that I'd never seen or heard of before. It was then that I started to work on spiders, obtaining a Bachelor of Science and a PhD. I've worked on many different kinds of spiders over the years: huntsman spiders that live in groups of 300 spiders; trapdoor spiders that build their burrows in the inter-tidal zone; and even the highly venomous Australian funnel web spider.

One of my favourite parts of my job is going on field expeditions to collect arachnids. I've gone hunting arachnids in many different places, for

example, the Stirling Ranges in Southern WA, far Northern Queensland, and the Australian Alps in NSW and the ACT. I've even collected spiders from islands in the Pacific Ocean, such as American Samoa, Samoa and Tokelau.

If you're interested in zoology then I have two pieces of advice for you. First of all, you should always ask questions about the world we live in. Why are spiders so many different colours? Why do birds fly in flocks? A good scientist is always asking questions. Second, you should always keep a notebook handy so that you can record what you see and observe. I carry a notebook and pen in my bag and I am always writing down notes on what I see and questions I need to find answers to. If you can do these two things, then you're already being a scientist!

Member Profile—Kelvin Hands

Hi my name is Kelvin Hands. I am 9 years old and joined the YNC at the beginning of the year. I have really enjoyed being in the club going along and participating in fun activities which are always well organised by Peter and Rebecca Pritchard. My favourite activity was Healthy Food Miles and learning about our local produce. I loved being involved in creating a film, interviewing people who grow local produce and seeing Mr Shapland's hydroponic vegetable farm over near Denmark. It was really awesome to see our film presented to the public at the "Risky Shorts" Youth Film Festival held at the Town Hall.

I have one younger brother, Ryan who is 6 years old. He is also in the YNC. My mum is the best cook in the world and I love the food she cooks. She also works part-time as a Nurse. My Dad works at the hospital in the Engineering Department and he is home every night to help me with my school work. My hobbies are building and creating inventions. I am interested in wind power and solar power. My Dad has a shed that I can use and spend most of my weekends building and pulling apart things. My latest invention is a wind generator which I build from Balsa wood, dowel and pipe. It generates power extremely well especially on windy days. My favourite subject at school is science. The only sport I play is swimming. I enjoy going to the beach, snorkelling and going fishing with my family on our boat.

