Volume 4
Spring 2014



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Spring Newsletter 2014

Hi Young Nats! Well 4th term is upon us and another year is nearing its end.

Firstly welcome to our newest members— John Wood (brother to Fraser and Ethan) and Maddison Lock. I hope everyone makes them feel welcome.

The past term of events has been an interesting and diverse lot.

In August, Geologist John Lamerand showed us some weird and wonderful rocks and crystals.



We went frog hunting at night with Dale Roberts and

found heaps of frogs in a patch of wetland right in town, followed by hot chocolates for all the members there.

September brought us a session of Bush Survival,



where Minang elder Vernice Gillies showed us the vast selection of bush food in the area. We also tested our navigation skills, climbing to the top of a granite outcrop, where we found numerous skinks, geckoes, and even frogs!

Also recently in September, the club was guided by Joanne O'Connor who



helped us sample and identify macrointervebrates, including some pint-sized gilgies in a wetland area in Big Grove.



YNC END OF YEAR CAMP 6-7 DECEMBER 2014

We have booked the **Rotary Youth Camp** site for our end of year camp. We have arranged a one night stay with an early check-in on **Saturday 6th December** (10am) and a late check-out on **Sunday 7th December** (3pm)



We are asking for a \$15.00 per person fee and for everyone to bring their own food and drinks.

The camp is self catering and has a large kitchen and BBQ area.

There are kitchen/dining facilities with all utensils and crockery.

There is a games room attached to the kitchen dining area for our use.

There are beds for 76 people. There is a main dormitory of 37 beds which is divided into two sections (16 & 21) by a lockable partition wall.

There is a smaller 4 room dormitory 50 meters away which is capable of accommodating 6 people in each room, and a Donga located near the main dorm that has 5 rooms accommodating 3 people in each.

They have pillows but we will need to bring sleeping bags, or linen and blankets. We are permitted to bring in caravans and tents as alternative accommodation.

Some of the planned activities so far are:

- Saturday afternoon Rogaining at nearby Camp Quaranup
- Saturday night stalk looking for yet to be determined wildlife.

Please let us know if you wish to attend so we can start planning.

Events Program

Sunday 19th October 1-3pm Turtle Time

For the long necked turtles, it's time to lay their eggs. With the guidance of expert Atlanta Veld, hopefully we might discover an egg-laying event around Lake Seppings.

Venue: Lake Seppings carpark.



Sunday 26th October 1-3pm Bird Twitching

It's Bird Week and to celebrate we are going bird watching along the



King River with BirdLife Australia expert Anne Bondin. Don't forget vour binoculars.

Venue: Lower King Bridge Car Park



Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th November (TBC)

Mt Melville Community Fauna Survey

Here is an opportunity for those who missed out on the October fauna Survey.

We hope to offer 2 morning events for members to check the fauna traps on Mt Melville, with the kind assistance of Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Venue: TBC

Saturday 29th November (TBC) Spotlighting

Join us on a night stalk to see what comes out after dark. Learn the right technique to spotlighting for wild life.

Venue: TBC

Saturday & Sunday 6-7th December

SPECIAL EVENT- Young Naturalists Club Camp

We have booked the Rotary Club Camp Grounds for the weekend. Activities include: Night stalking, regaining and other awesome fun.

Cost will be \$15 per person. BYO food. Caravans and tents are permitted on the camp site.



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SOUTH Coast NRM is a not-for-profit community-based organisation successfully managing the natural resources of the South Coast region of Western Australia. We have regional offices in Albany and Esperance employing more than 40 dedicated staff, whose commitment to the environment helps preserve and protect our unique native flora and fauna, coastline, land and waterways, as well as restoring connections between Indigenous people and country.

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Photo Gallery—what we have been up to



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Naturalists Under the Microscope

Anne Bondin

BirdLife Australia

I was born in what was then West Germany and grew up with a love for nature. Travelling in the Kimberley region of Western Australia I met someone who shared this love. When he asked me to marry him I said yes and moved to Perth. I have lived in Albany since 1996 and have been involved in nature conservation ever since. Initially I belonged to the Wildflower Society of WA, but my interest in birds led me to join BirdLife Australia. Currently I am the convenor of the Albany branch.

I am particularly interested in endangered species and have been a member of the South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Team for more than a decade. I am also one of the founding members of the Friends of the Western Ground Parrot and spend a fair amount of time trying to save WA's rarest bird.

My favourite bird:

Don't really have one, but I admit to loving shorebirds as some of them are the world's most incredible long-distance travellers.



Some unusual facts about me:

I know how to knit, speak Swedish and have visited both the northernmost and southernmost town in the world.

Member Profile

Hi my name is Hayley

I am 9 years old, I joined Young Nats when I was 6. I enjoy Young Naturalists because you get to go outside to do lots of exciting activies. My favourite activity so far was the spider hunting. We went out at night and found lots of different species of spiders. We also saw a possum.

I also enjoyed frog hunting because we got to see lots of different frogs, what I found most funny was when you croaked the frogs would croak back. I love the outdoors. When you're in the outdoors you can have all types of amazing adventures.

By Hayley



Hi, My name is Katie,

I am 7 years old. I go to GSG, I am in year 2, and my favourite subject at school is science. I also play the harp. I have 3 goats and 1 dog, called Bella. I joined Young Naturalists when I was 4. My favourite activity so far has been frog hunting, because I love frogs.

By Katie