



Kimberley Schools Wrap

Term 2, 2013

Volume 2, Issue 2

2013 Dates

- 1-31/7 [Plastic Free July](#)
- 7-14/7 [NAIDOC Week](#)
- 26/7 [Schools Tree Day](#)
- 1/9-16/10 [Night Stalk](#)
- 9-14/9 Bush Rangers Kimberley Region Camp (West Kimberley, Location TBA)
- 22/9 [Great Northern Clean Up](#)



Unseasonal rain didn't stop the cadets getting to camp

Cadets take part in Ranger Forum

A group of Year 7 Bush Rangers from Fitzroy Valley District High School were invited to take part in the International Ranger Forum at Gambanan, on the Dampier Peninsula, in May.

The cadets put together a display and presentation for the ranger expo, and made tapping sticks to present to the rangers. They were introduced to ranger groups from across the Kimberley, and were especially excited to meet rangers from Mexico.

Other activities the Bush Rangers took part in included a visit to the nearby hatchery, fishing at Cape Leveque, and local cultural performances. The Bush Rangers also had the opportunity to be filmed for a documentary that is going to be released in the near future.

The overall experience was rewarding for both students and staff. It gave the Year 7 Bush Ranger

group an insight into the different ranger groups around the Kimberley. It also gave them the opportunity to develop their own knowledge and understanding of what it's like to be a Bush Ranger, and work on developing their leadership skills to build up their confidence.

Representatives from the Broome and One Arm Point Bush Rangers also took part in the Forum, finding it a great opportunity to learn about the variety of work that may be available to their cadets once they leave school, and gain an understanding of the wide range of projects that rangers find themselves involved with.

It sounds like the Fitzroy Valley Bush Rangers had a great time on the Dampier Peninsula, we hope to try out some of the activities they took part in at our Kimberley Bush Rangers Region Camp in September.

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Department of
Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future



School Holiday Fun

School holidays are with us again. DEC, in collaboration with Nyamba Buru Yawuru, have put together a fantastic school holiday program to keep Broome kids busy this July!

The program kicks off with our extremely popular Sand Sculpting Competition. Come down to Cable Beach on Wednesday 10 July and get building for your chance to win some amazing prizes!

Get active these holidays in Minyirr Park. Go exploring with our Yawuru Rangers to learn about local bush tucker, be treated to damper made by a Yawuru elder, help revive Yawuru language, and learn about caring for country in Barrgana season (June-August) with a local Yawuru artist.

Bring your camera for our Marvellous Mangroves workshop and be challenged by our photography treasure hunt! You might also want the camera for the free whale watch



'All About Barra' in the April Holidays

tour with Broome Whale Watching. Places are strictly limited and bookings are essential.

Everyone is invited to Help Keep Broome Beautiful at Town Beach on Sunday 14 July! Come play some games, learn about marine debris and lend a hand to help clean up. Free giveaways to everyone who helps!

You might also run into us at the Boulevard Shopping Centre on the 13th and 18th of July. Create a T-shirt with your own funky design, or add your own artistic touch to our giant community mural! We also have a colouring-in competition running for the entire holidays. Every entry wins a prize with the grand winners of 1st, 2nd & 3rd judged on Friday 18 July. Look for details in our flyer.

For more information or to register for any of these activities, contact Bonnie Tregenza on 9195 5500. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Bookings essential.

Those of you in the East Kimberley can come and see us in the Pet Pavilion at the Kununurra Ag Show on July 12-13th. Learn about our native reptiles, have a go at identifying animal tracks, or try your luck in our scavenger hunt.

Out and About

We started out Term 2 by visiting Ms Wells' Year 1 class at Kununurra District High School. The students were very eager to learn about toads, and asked us lots of interesting questions such as, "How do cane toads travel?" and "Where does their poison come from?" We were very impressed with how much they knew about staying safe whilst toadbusting, and the mature behaviour they demonstrated when handling ani-

mals. We look forward to seeing their entries in our Kimberley Frogs Poster Competition.

Later in the term we headed down to Purnululu National Park to meet up with two groups of campers from Halls Creek District High School. The Years 5 and 6s were learning about native plants and animals as part of their environment camp, and jumped at the chance to see some reptiles up close, have a look inside a toad, and find out more about their local biodiversity. The indisputable highlight for all of us was a night-time walk and toadbust in Cathedral Gorge.

Rangers at Windjana Gorge National Park are looking forward to welcoming students and teachers from Yiyili this week on their first big camp as Bush Rangers. We know teachers in both Derby and Fitzroy Crossing are keen to hear how it goes and borrow some ideas for next term.



Students from Kandimal community were the first to submit entries for the Kimberley Frogs Poster Comp.

Cane Toad Update

Distinguishing native frogs from cane toads has never been easier with the recent launch of the **Cane Toad app**, available free from the [iTunes store](#). Positive identification will help minimise the number of native frogs that are mistaken for toads and killed.

The app contains three main features:

Frogs and toads – seven native Kimberley frogs, and toads in three stages of the life cycle (juvenile, metamorph and adult), are profiled. The information includes size, colour, distinguishing features, breeding and location, plus high resolution images and an audio file.

Frog log – enables the user to document frog sightings, establish a GPS location and utilise the mobile device's camera and recording functions.

Cane toad – provides more information about toad handling, reporting toad sightings, and URL links for more information.

This app should come in handy for students looking for information on native frogs for the Kimberley Frogs Poster Competition, with entries due at the end of term. We would love to hear from you about how you have been using this app with your students.



Bush Rangers

Projects in Action - Derby Bush Rangers



Installing signs and cleaning up a popular fishing spot near Willare Bridge with the Nyikina Rangers are just some of the activities the Derby Bush Rangers have been getting up to as part of their ongoing fishing line recovery project. They even designed the signs themselves!

From the Regional Coordinator

It seems everyone has been busy this term, I keep on hearing about new camps, field trips and projects every week. It's also been great to hear about all the joint activities going on between Units. I know everyone is interested in finding out about the Region Camp, and we should have our first Region Camp

bulletin out at the start of next term. Until then, keep us posted with your suggestions and ideas.

Hopefully you've all had the opportunity to try out some of the activities from the *Kimberley Bush Rangers Manual Supplement* with your

Units. We value your feedback, and again would appreciate any comments you can give before we start thinking about the Level 2 edition.

I will be catching up with you all before the end of term, and look forward to seeing all of your photos.

Campers Corner - Wyndham Hikers

Our big whole of high school walk from Liamma Gap near Doon Doon all the way to Moonshine Gorge in El Questro was clearly the main event for Bush Rangers so far this term. In fact, Week 4 was so 'big' that we were featured on ABC radio and saw ourselves in the *Kimberley Echo*.

The 80-85km walk took in some awesome country with plenty of river crossings and opportunities to swim and fish. The 29 students who participated would all surely agree that the hardest and the best day was the Friday. After slogging our way through the Pentecost and 12kms of rock skipping overland we finally made it to Moonshine Gorge for a long swim, lunch and a well earned can of soft drink.



Relaxing after a Long Walk

The tone set throughout the camp was overwhelmingly positive, with any minor grizzling soon overshadowed by the fine examples of so many of our participants. We have certainly come away with improved perceptions of each other and the growth we are capable of. In fact, everything went so well that the teachers started hatching ideas for next year even before this year's walk had finished.

Cameron Hart, Unit Leader

Bush Rangers
Western Australia

15 CELEBRATING YEARS IN 2013

Cadets WA
Government of Western Australia



Waste Wise Schools Corner

Project Profile - Broome SHS



From this..... to this.

Many of you will have heard us going on and on about the amazing garden at Broome Senior High School. Originally the realm of the Boys and Girls Club and later the Bush Rangers, the garden formed the basis of the school's Waste Wise projects, incorporating composting and worm farming on a whole-school scale. These projects led to them winning the inaugural WA Tidy Towns Young Legends Award in 2012. Staff and students alike were devastated to learn that their garden was to be bulldozed to make way for new classrooms earlier this year, but they soon got to work on their newly allocated plot of pindan.

We wish them well with their new garden, and are sure it will be every bit as successful as the last.

How to... be a part of Plastic Free July

Plastic Free July is an annual event aiming to raise awareness of just how much plastic we use in our everyday lives. The idea is simple, **attempt to consume no single use plastic during July**. Single use plastic covers items that are used only once before being disposed of, such as plastic bags, cups, and packaging. Some single use plastic is unavoidable, especially when you have a limited choice in shops and products.

Any single use plastic you do use should be kept aside until the end of the month, so you can compare how you went against others.



If eliminating all single use plastic sounds too difficult, you could **try the TOP 4 Challenge** - **simply refuse plastic straws, plastic bags, plastic bottles, and coffee cup lids** for the month of July.

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An Interview with...

Bonnie Tregenza

Bonnie is the new Yawuru Education Officer based in DEC's Broome office. Bonnie has just moved to the Kimberley from the south-west, and comes to us with a background in environmental and outdoor education.



Bonnie enjoying work in Broome

Tell us about a typical day at work I have a range of responsibilities. At the moment I am preparing our July school holiday program. Soon I will be writing a *Landscape* article to showcase our Yawuru joint management program.

What do you think you'll like most about your job? The diversity. I get to work on so many different projects. I also really like the team of people I am working with – they make my job fun and easy!

What will be most challenging? Being office bound... I'm used to doing a lot of field work and working outdoors. In this job I will be inside using the computer a lot more than I'm used to.

What is your favourite part of working in the Kimberley? The people, the weather and the active lifestyle! Also, working with the Yawuru people.

What 3 things would you want when stranded on a desert island A boom box to listen to music, my friends and family, and a mango tree!



Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment and Conservation

Check out our Websites:

<http://education.dec.wa.gov.au>

<http://www.dec.wa.gov.au>