



# Kimberley Schools Wrap

Volume 5, Issue 2

Term 4, 2016

## 2017 dates

- 17-19 February [Kununurra Ranger Cadet Conference](#)
- 22 March [World Water Day](#)
- March-April [Australasian Bat Nights](#)
- 31-2 April [Cane Toad Reward Camp, Purnululu -Bush Rangers](#)
- 22 April [Earth Day](#)
- 22 May [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)



*Cadets from Kalumburu determine whether or not the turtle has nested or false crawled at 80 Mile Beach Marine Park, November 2016*

## 80 Mile Beach Turtle Reward Camp

The Kalumburu *Bush Ranger* cadets visited 80 Mile Beach Marine Park in November, to gain a better understanding of the flatback turtle and its environment.

Students from Grade 6-10 were rewarded with the camp for their good behaviour, participation and attendance throughout out the year.

It was a massive logistical effort on behalf of the Cadet Unit, including flights on a small charter plane and a four hour car journey from Broome.

Cadets undertook strict training to learn about the 'Turtle viewing code of conduct'. While practising these methods (sometimes at midnight depending on high tide) a few individuals were lucky enough to see turtles lay their eggs.

Activities included the lifecycle of a flatback turtle, adaptation worksheets, plastic reduction, calico bag

painting, pollution games, flytrap making, sand sculptures and some movie time in between.

Parks and Wildlife staff and *Bush Ranger* cadets Jahndi and Tanarmi went live on ABC morning radio with Fiona Poole, talking about their 'turtley awesome experiences' and the important factors they had learned during the camp.

*Kalumburu Bush Ranger cadet—Kitty Fredricks*



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Department of Parks and Wildlife





## Cane Toad Workshops available to all Kimberley schools on request!



Andrew Rethus engaging Yiyili students with a cane toad

To coincide with the recent success of workshops to schools and ranger groups around the Kimberley, Parks and Wildlife are offering free cane toad incursions to schools in the Kimberley.

The workshop will cover history, identification, lifecycle, toxicity, mapping and surveillance. Where possible, live cane toads will be used for identification purposes, with a demonstration from 'Reggie' our cane toad detector dog, and age appropriate activities will be conducted.

To request further information or to make a booking contact [Dian](#).

## Cadet Conference—Kununurra 2017

The Annual Regional *Bush Rangers* Conference will be held in Kununurra 17-19 February 2017.

Come and hear about new ideas and have a go at some exciting hands-on activities in some amazing places. Meet and greet the new unit leaders in the Kimberley and help your cadet group achieve amazing outcomes.

Attending either the Perth or Kimberley conference is highly advised.

Please RSVP to [Amber](#) for catering and planning purposes ASAP.



## Wyndham *Bush Rangers*

*Bush Ranger* cadets from Wyndham SHS finished off the year by taking part in 'Trangia Masterchef', orchestrated by instructor Liam Penstone.

The students created some amazing dishes using mainly left over supplies from previous camps,

trangia stoves and team work.

Although it was 40 degrees in the shade, it did not stop the cadets from creating some great dishes, including butter chicken, nachos, beef curry and chilly con carne.

All of which were delicious!



Trangia Masterchef with Wyndham *Bush Ranger* Cadets

## Cane toad update



Cane toad sausages

### CANE TOADS WANTED—KUNUNURRA

#### To help save native species

Ever wonder what more you can do to protect our native animals under threat from the advancing cane toad front in the Kimberley? Parks and Wildlife are seeking cane toads for operational trials that could save vast numbers of susceptible species such as northern quolls, blue tongue lizards and goannas. Toads will be euthanised and used in 'taste aversion' trials. If you are in Kununurra - **START COLLECTING NOW!**

Deposit **LIVE** toads in the drop off box at the entrance to Parks and Wildlife on Ivanhoe Rd.





## Bush Rangers and River Rangers

### Broome SHS has great ideas

Broome *Bush Ranger* cadets and instructors have been very busy this term doing their part for our planet. Cadets hand sewed and printed reusable fruit and vegetable calico shopping bags, which proved to be a great success.

Students collected seed from the school garden and took part in a local seed swap event to diversify the plant species in their 'recycled locker plant boxes'.

Another unit recycled old glass bottles with lids, making labels, and for a gold coin donation anyone in the area could purchase themselves a unique 'Butt Bottle' for cigarette disposal.

Broome *Bush Rangers* are in the process of making their own Facebook page, to share great ideas such as these. Try some of them at your school!



Top Right: 'Butt bottles' made by Broome SHS Bush Rangers Above Left: Seeds to swap, hand-made labelled envelopes Above Right: School-grown loofah and hand-crafted fruit and vegetable bags



## Cane Toad Reward Camp

**Reward hard working *Bush Rangers* with an experience they will never forget.**

The 2017 reward experience for cadets will take place in the stunning Purnululu National Park, one of the most striking geological landmarks in Australia. Cadets will work with Parks and Wildlife staff to learn about cane toads and the impact they have on native species, participate in organised, fun activities and enjoy some down time exploring places like Echidna Chasm and Cathedral Gorge.

#### What does Parks and Wildlife provide?

- Introduction to the park, how it's managed and different projects happening
- Training and guidance in cane toad ID, dissection, toad busting and transects
- Fun self-guided activities

#### What does the successful unit need to provide?

- *Bush Ranger* uniforms and hats
- Backpack, water bottle, torch and camping gear
- Sports equipment for free time
- All meals, snacks and drinking water

#### Who can take part?

- Up to eight *Bush Rangers* with good standing, min two instructors

Closes  
22 Feb 2017

To apply, tell us what you think your cadets will gain from the experience and why they deserve this reward. Nominations may be written or videoed (maximum 300 words or 2 minutes). By entering you acknowledge that you have your principal's approval to participate in the camp.

Email [amber.kennedy@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:amber.kennedy@dpaw.wa.gov.au)





## Waste Wise - Sustainable Schools Initiative



### Broome Primary goes Waste Wise!

Back in Term 2 Broome Primary (BPS) conducted a 'waste audit' to see how much waste they create from recess and lunch. The two bins from the junior and senior eating areas were tipped out and the students divided the waste into different categories. The year 6s were shocked to see how much waste there was, in particular the amount of whole packaged foods that were thrown out without being touched and the amount of plastic waste. At that time, all the waste was going into one bin that goes to landfill. Having seen the results of the audit, the students were reassured to see how much of the waste produced could be reduced, recycled or used to make compost for the school kitchen garden.

In response to the Waste Audit, we set up a Waste Wise committee, and wrote a policy and plan for waste reduction at BPS during 2016. Upon receipt of the funding from the Waste Authority four colour-coded '3 Rs recycling stations' were purchased to replace the green wheelie bins in eating areas. The students were trained in how to divide their recess and lunch waste into; Green waste – to go to composting to supplement our school veggie garden; Plastic Waste – collected and weighed at the end of each week with the aim of reducing the amount of plastic going to landfill; Recyclable waste – such as paper, cardboard and aluminium foil; Non – Recyclable waste – which we aim to reduce as this goes to landfill. A reward system was set up to encourage the students to be mindful of dividing their waste into the correct bins, with Waste Warrior Tokens handed out by teachers and student monitors who caught kids doing the right thing. (ie picking up litter and making sure their waste went to the correct bin).

At assembly every fortnight, three tokens are pulled from a hat with the winners receiving bees wax wraps as prizes, encouraging a reduction in the amount of plastic used in lunchboxes.

It has been encouraging to see how quickly the students took on the responsibility of dividing their waste into the correct bins and how they are empowered by their great waste wise behaviours. Certainly an awareness of waste, where it goes, how much we produce, and the risk it poses to our environment, has helped to generate the energy for change in reducing it. I congratulate all the BPS students for their Waste Wise efforts so far on this journey and look forward to continuing our efforts in 2017.

Jim Broughton, Science and Health Teacher, BPS



#### Contacts:

**Kununurra 9168 4200**

*Bush Rangers, River Rangers and Waste Wise*

Amber Kennedy

[amber.kennedy@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:amber.kennedy@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

*Education Project Officer*

Dian Fogarty

[dian.fogarty@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:dian.fogarty@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

**Broome 9195 5500**

**Mobile 0432 563 373**

*Yawuru Education*

[yawuru.rangers@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:yawuru.rangers@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

*Marine Parks Education*

Jesse Murdoch

[jesse.murdoch@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:jesse.murdoch@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

## An interview with...Daryl Moncrieff

*My name is Daryl Moncrieff, I was born in Boort, Victoria and am the regional manager of Department of Parks and Wildlife, Kimberley. I have been in this role for 10 years and with Parks and Wildlife for 20 years. In 2006 I went on a one year departmental exchange to Canada, it was a great experience but a shock to the system weather wise, leaving behind 40 degrees and heading to minus 20.*

**A typical day at work.** Managing budgets and staff, working on Indigenous Land Use Agreements with traditional owners to create new reserves.

**What do you like most about your job?** Working in the Kimberley.

**Most challenging aspects.** The build up.

**Favourite part of working in the Kimberley?** Stunning natural environment.

**What three things would you want if stranded on a desert island?**

1. Family
2. Music
3. Fishing rod

