



Australian Government
Australian National Botanic Gardens

MEDIA RELEASE

16 January 2011

Snakes Alive, *Frogs in your Backyard* opens at the Gardens

Canberra reptile man, Peter Child, will open the *Snakes Alive, Frogs in your Backyard* display at the Australian National Botanic Gardens on Monday 17 January at 11.30am.

Snakes Alive, an annual event at the Gardens, is one of the most diverse displays of reptiles in Australia. Around 100 reptiles, representing over 30 different species will be on display.

The display features a perentie goanna, the largest lizard species in Australia, a baby crocodile, pig nose turtle, death adder and a variety of pythons, lizards, frogs.

An entire room will be dedicated to nocturnal reptiles and frogs.

Executive director of the Gardens, Dr Judy West, said the exhibition was a great opportunity for visitors to experience our Australian reptiles up close and personal.

“The Gardens play an important role in education and raising awareness of Australian biodiversity and conservation,” she said.

Snake man, Ric Longmore, said he gets great pleasure from showing off his snakes.

“Feeding time and handling snakes are very popular with the visitors,” he said.

This year’s theme, *Frogs in our Backyard*, features a display of the endangered corroboree frog and several local frogs from around the Canberra region.

Snakes Alive is presented by the ACT Herpetological Association. It has been an extremely popular summer event since its inception in 1987.

Snakes Alive, Frogs in your Backyard runs from Monday 17 January to Sunday 23 January 2011.

Snakes Alive! Launch details

What: *Snakes Alive! Opening by Reptile Man Peter Child*
When: 11.30am, Monday 17
Where: Crosbie Morrison Building, Australian National Botanic Gardens

Exhibition opening times

When: Monday 17 January to Sunday 23 January 2011
Time: 10am to 4pm weekdays
10am to 6pm Saturday and Sunday: Adults \$5, concessions \$4, children \$2

Media Contact: Jenny Blake 02 6250 9405 or 0408 611 014