## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Australian National Botanic Gardens

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## 18 December 2002 The Only Good Snake is a Live Snake!

## Love them or loathe them, frogs, turtles, lizards and snakes are amazing.

As part of a Summer program of events and activities, the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra will be displaying over 60 live snakes, frogs, lizards and turtles – some of which you can touch!

This is the third year that the Botanic Gardens and the ACT Herpetological Association have joined forces to run an exhibition of live (and some not so live) snakes, lizards, frogs and other reptiles and amphibian animals.

The Herpetological Association will provide the opportunity for a close encounter with live specimens whilst the Gardens will offer self-guided walks to discover where these animals live and why.

Visit the Botanic Gardens on Black Mountain in January and learn about these creatures' remarkable lives; why we need to conserve such unique animals, how we can help save their habitats and what is involved in keeping your own frog or lizard as a pet.

Remember, the Australian National Botanic Gardens extends its opening hours during summer, closing at 8:00 pm daily and conducts free guided walks every day, with special twighlight walks at 6:00 pm each evening. For more information, contact the Visitor Centre on 6250 9540 or visit our website at <a href="http://www.anbg.gov.au/anbg">www.anbg.gov.au/anbg</a>

When? Monday 13 to Sunday 19 January inclusive,

Open from Monday to Thursday 9.00 am - 4.30 pm and 9:00 am - 8:00 pm from Friday to Sunday

**Where?** Education Centre, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON

Who? Everyone. Bookings not necessary. ph:(02) 6250 9547

Cost? Adults \$3, Children \$2, Family \$5

Media Contact: Gardens' Communication Officer Cheryl Martin: phone (02) 6250 9546 or e-mail: cheryl.martin@ea.gov.au

Environment Australia

Department of the Environment

The Australian National Botanic Gardens is part of Environment Australia

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