

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 17 January 2013

The Gardens – Alive with reptiles

Get up close to snakes, lizards, frogs and turtles at the Australian National Botanic Gardens this summer with *Snakes Alive*!

Run by the ACT Herpetological Association, *Snakes Alive!* gives visitors a great opportunity to see and even touch a fascinating display of Australian native reptiles.

"Snakes Alive! is one of those events where you can really get up close and see some pretty spectacular creatures. We've got at least 40 different reptile and amphibian species on display," President of the ACT Herpetological Association, Dennis Dyer said.

"*Snakes Alive!* is fun for everybody - both young and old. With the school holidays here, it's a great activity to entertain the kids."

Visitors can enjoy seeing and touching live reptiles and amphibians, learning about rare and threatened species and being part of morning and afternoon feeding of the animals.

"Snakes Alive! has always been a wonderful addition to the Australian National Botanic Gardens' summer events program," the Gardens' Executive Director, Dr Judy West said.

"The *Snakes Alive!* program really complements the Gardens' role of educating and raising awareness of Australian biodiversity and conservation and we're delighted to be continuing our relationship with the ACT Herpetological Association in 2013."

Snakes Alive! will be held in the Crosbie Morrison Building at the Australian National Botanic Gardens from 17-20 January and is open from 10.00 am - 4.00 pm weekdays and 10.00 am - 6.00 pm weekends.

Entry to the program is \$5 for adults, \$2 per child and \$4 for concession.

For further information visit: <u>http://www.actha.org.au</u>

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