



## AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN

### MEDIA RELEASE

7<sup>th</sup> April 2011

### **“Be a Desert Detective” Free Family Fun Day at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden**

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, in partnership with Emu Consulting is hosting a free family fun day on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. Families are encouraged to come along and be a “desert detective” for a day.

“We are really excited to be holding this event,” said Michael Anlezark, Manager of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic garden. “This is the first time we have held free school holiday activities and we would love to see lots of people come along and enjoy this great free family day.”

“The aim of the event is to help both children and adults uncover some of the amazing secrets of our rich and fascinating arid environment. Learning about it can help to conserve it” he added.

“To help us do this, we have organised a variety of fun activities for all, including:

- A desert detective game which will encourage families to explore the garden and search for animals, tracks and scats, bush tucker plants and other unusual items.
- Art and photography workshops
- Face painting
- A native animal and environmental display
- A mystery box
- Bushtucker tastings
- Plant propagation demonstrations
- Guided tours of the garden
- And other surprises.

Some of the workshops and guided tours have limited places so people are encouraged to register for them prior to the event. To do this all they need to do is phone the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden on 8641 9116.”

“As this is the first time we will be holding this event, we are hopeful that the community will get behind it and support it on the day. If successful, and we certainly hope it will be, it will become an annual event,” said Michael. “We have already received good sponsorship from the Northern and Yorke NRM Board, Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden and Desert Knowledge Australia and we will happily welcome more in the future,” he added.

For further information about this event or to become a sponsor for future events please contact Dawn Hawthorn-Jackson on 0438 341 153 or email:[dawn@emuconsulting.com.au](mailto:dawn@emuconsulting.com.au).

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Photo: Michael Anlezark using his detective skills to search for bugs in a Banksia cone  
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