

# **Numbat** News

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#### Spring time is Baby Numbat time!

Welcome to Spring! What an exciting time this is for both Numbats and Project Numbat alike! We have a newsletter jam-packed with events, including an invitation of the most mouth-watering kind. Make sure to keep your diary close as we introduce this not-to-miss event for World Numbat Day.



These baby Numbats spend the beginning of the day soaking up the sun. As each day goes by, they become more familiar with their surroundings and all its sounds. Their bursts of energy encourage them to explore their surroundings a little further each day. Credit: Tamara Wilkes-Jones.

# Numbat Bubbles and High Tea for World Numbat Day

Yes it's almost there: World Numbat Day on Saturday 3 November. Can you believe it is our fourth edition already?

This year, guided by our members' suggestions, we decided it was time for some indulgence. You are kindly invited to join us for Project Numbat's High Tea at Perth's prestigious Duxton Hotel on Saturday 3 November from 1pm till 3pm.

Come along and enjoy some culinary delights, hear Perth Zoo provide an intimate talk about their Numbat breeding program, and raise funds for Numbat conservation at the same time!

You will be delighted by the fabulous tastes of sweet and savoury flavours and an exotic loose-leaf tea of your choice from the Duxton's Firewater Grille Restaurant selection. We are offering two delightful options: with or without sparkling wine.



Tickets are on sale now so make sure to secure your spot via our Eventbrite link below!

https://bit.ly/2zpGw0x

## **Numbat Sweetness**



Whether she was inspired by our upcoming World Numbat Day High Tea, or just fancied putting on her chef-hat, we don't know. But our Committee Member Amy created these amazing cake pops for Threatened Species Bake-Off in early September. Those who were lucky enough to taste them can attest: they tasted as lovely as they looked!

Tempted to try these yourself? Our chef-for-the-occasion Amy has the following tips for you: "Cake pops are great because they're very adaptable depending on how much time and patience you have. You can use any cake you like, or even just use a store-bought one if you're short of time or don't have an oven. We used a vanilla mud cake with cream-cheese icing (which was good!) but are considering something with chocolate and raspberry if we do it again!"



#### Here's what you need

- Pre-made cake
- Icing (creamy is better, like cream cheese or buttercream)
- Skewers / lollipop sticks
- · Chocolate (white and milk buttons)
- · Optional: the teensiest bit of red food colouring
- Flaked almonds
- Writing icing (which and dark brown)

#### What to do

- Allow your cake to cool completely we made ours the day before we made the cake pops. Break the cake up into pieces and whiz it in a food processor to turn it into small crumbs.
- 2. Make your icing! We made cream cheese icing and needed about ¾ cup. The general rule is: for every two cups of cake crumbs; you'll need half a cup of icing. Mix the icing through the cake crumbs. You need a sticky mix that isn't too wet and holds together.
- Using your hands, roll the mixture into balls (about 4cm in diameter) and place on a tray lined in baking paper.
   Put the tray of cake balls in the freezer for around 30 minutes to ensure they're firm.
- 4. Melt the chocolate! We used chocolate buttons and just put them in a mug (you're going to need to fully submerge the cake balls, so a mug seemed like a good option) and zapped them in the microwave on 15-20 second rotations until they were melted. We used a ratio of roughly 80% white chocolate to 20% milk chocolate to get a somewhat 'numbatty' colour. We also added the teensiest bit of red food colouring to try and make the colour more numbatty but we're not sure if this really did anything! Try to make enough melted chocolate so that you don't run out and have to try colour match a second batch! We used ~250g white chocolate.
- 5. Remove the cake balls from the freezer. Dip the end of a skewer / lollipop stick in the melted chocolate then push it into a cake ball, this will help secure it. Dip the ball into the melted chocolate, allow the excess to drip off before placing it back onto the tray. Repeat! Our cake made 23 cake pops.
- 6. Decorate! We used writing icing to draw on a nose, eyes, and stripes, then added the ears. For the ears we found the most 'ear-looking' almonds and cut them to a flat bottom. We then dipped them in the melted chocolate (it's best if it has cooled a bit and isn't too runny) and stuck them on.
- 7. Et voila! Piece of cake!;)

# Project Numbat Volunteers out in the Bush

Since March this year, Project Numbat has been participating in a camera monitoring project in the Whealtbelt. This assignment is part of a wider project that involves using cat detector dogs to locate the presence of feral cats in Numbat known reserves across the Wheatbelt.

Camera monitoring is one aspect of this overall project that will paint a picture of: how many feral cats there are and native animal numbers before and after cat removal. It is expected that the removal of cats will result in an increase of Numbat numbers. The project is a collaboration between the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and Numbat Task Force (NTF), and is jointly funded by FAME (Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species) and the Australian Government's National Landcare Program. Project Numbat is providing and servicing several cameras, and classifying images captured along the way.

Every 12 weeks, Project Numbat volunteers spend a full day out in the bush to check the cameras, change the batteries and collect the memory cards. Once home, the immense task of logging all the images awaits, but the rewards are great.













Just recently our volunteers went out to check the cameras and came home with over 23,000 images. Usual suspects on the pictures were the grey kangaroo, possums, woylies, chuditch, and echidna, and yes: Numbats as well! Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, some of the Numbats' major predators were also spotted: foxes and feral cats. Four of our cameras have picked up cat activity, which again leads us to stress the importance of responsible cat ownership to protect our vulnerable native wildlife.

Sadly, one of the cameras appeared to have gone missing since the last check-up in June. This means a big financial loss to a non-profit organisation like ours, but it also involves an unrecoverable loss of important data. We hope none of our other cameras disappear in the future, as this is bad news for our community group, our passionate volunteers, and ultimately, the Numbat.

For regular updates – and insanely great pictures – follow Project Numbat on Facebook. We have a weekly picture update; "Camera Trap Tuesday" for you all to enjoy!



# **Open for Play!**

We are very pleased to announce the new playground in the redeveloped Lions playground in Williams is now open for some serious play! Those of you who have been closely following (and supporting) this project, know what this means: the world's first biggest Numbat is ready to have kids come and play!

On Friday 28 September the Lions Park was officially opened by the Shire of Williams. Williams is situated in the heart of Numbat country, so when Project Numbat heard about the plans for a new playground, we jumped to the occasion. It was an old dream to develop a giant Numbat for children to play on. And with the Williams Community Numbat, that dream has now come true. It took a couple of years of intensive fundraising, but thanks to the generous help from our supporters and donators, the Numbat is now ready for action. It was a delight to see many familiar faces at the opening which was attended by the locals and people involved in all aspects of building the playground. What a great opportunity for kids to have fun, while at the same time learn more about this unique animal. So next time when you're in the area, make sure to have a stop along the Albany Highway, wander around the park and admire 'Nahla' the Numbat!



John Cowcher (Shire President Shire of Williams),
Tamara Wilkes-Jones (President Project Numbat)
and Rick Wilson (Federal MP for O'Connor) unveiling
the plaque that recognises Project Numbat's
contribution and reveals the name of the Numbat:
'Nahla' Latin word for 'Sweatness'. Photo Credit —
Ray McKnight DBCA

# **Street Appeal**

On Friday 28 September, Project Numbat held its annual Street Appeal in Perth CBD. We had our stall with Numbat merchandise set up at the Murray Street Mall and our donation tins ready to rattle from early in the morning till late afternoon. From early commuters to late shoppers, a lot of passers-by generously donated and showed

interest in the good cause we were promoting. We are very grateful to have raised just over \$1,000 to aid our conservation efforts.

Thank you to our vollies who came out on the day and of course a big thank you to everyone who kindly and generously donated this year!



# **Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 16 October**

As the end of the year approaches, Project Numbat is getting ready for at its AGM on Tuesday 16th October 2018, 6pm at the Perth Zoo. At this AGM all positions are vacant and nominations are open to all members of Project Numbat.

By volunteering with Project Numbat you will be working with like-minded people and in a well organised group while contributing to the long term awareness and protection of the Numbat: Western Australia's mammal emblem and an endangered species. We are an incorporated community group

that has been in operation for over 11 years and we are governed by a Constitution and Board.

Are you interested in becoming a committee member? For more information about us see our 2017 Annual Report, Constitution and committee positions available on our website

www.numbat.org.au/about/

If you are interested in attending the AGM, please send us an email at <a href="mailto:info@numbat.org.au">info@numbat.org.au</a>

We look forward to welcoming you all!

# Visit our Webshop!



Numbat Christmas Cards These gorgeous cards are perfect to wish your friends and family the best Christmas ever. They come in a pack of 5 different Numbat designs, all on recycled paper - \$22 per pack

Because it is never too early to start thinking about Christmas (just over 2 more months to go!), we thought we'd give you a bit of inspiration for some gift ideas that will tick many boxes: they're cute, they're original, and they support a good cause!



Christmas Card 'The More The Merrier' Local artist 'Little Sketchy' created this unique Christmas card for Project Numbat, called 'The More The Merrier'. We love this phrase! - \$6 each



Why not consider a donation certificate as a Christmas gift?

Gift Certificates available: \$100, \$150, \$200, \$250, \$300, \$350, \$400.

Visit our Webshop and order now to avoid disappointment!

numbat.org.au/shop





#### numbat.org.au

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# You can help us protect the numbat!

### **Memberships**

Individual Family

More information

#### **Donations**

BSB: 036-308 Account: 256 381 Or click here

#### Purchase a collar

Purchase a radio collar to help us track numbats.

More information

Contact us for more information about how you can support Project Numbat, including bequests.

