



16 October 2014

Walk in the Whadjuk Country

The City of Nedlands and the Whadjuk Trail Network will give school aged children a unique insight into their local area and Indigenous culture on an iconic Indigenous bushwalk through part of the Whadjuk Trails in Swanbourne on 30 November.

Children aged 9 -13 will be able to join Noongar Elder, Neville Collard, to learn about traditional Noongar culture and explore their Whadjuk Country backyard through a bushwalk, starting at Allen Park.

The four hour walk will also include educational activities about rock art, storytelling, how to make an axe and throw a boomerang.

City of Nedlands Mayor, Max Hipkins, said that it is the first year that the City of Nedlands and the Whadjuk Trail Network have offered the opportunity to children.

“This is the first year that the City of Nedlands and the Whadjuk Trails Network have opened the walk to school aged children.

“We are pleased to be able to give young people this opportunity because it is important for them to understand and appreciate the bushland around them in their local areas and the importance of the eco-systems that inhabit them and how to preserve them.

“It is also important to understand the cultural and historical significance of the land that we are on. Included in the Whadjuk Country where the Noongar people live are the bushland areas in the Western Suburbs. It’s exciting that we are able to give young children an opportunity to learn about the culture of Australia’s first people, the bush animals and the surrounding Noongar land. It is important because it plays a big part in our community’s history.”

The Whadjuk trail network connects remnant bushland areas in the Whadjuk Country through the western suburbs of Perth.

Noongar Elder, Neville Collard, said: “The natural habitat has always been important to the Noongar people, the traditional owners and guardians of the

Whadjuk Country. It is vital that we recognise that we are on Noongar land, appreciate our connection to Country, and share our customs with the youth of today.”

“With the City of Nedlands’ support for the Whadjuk Country, we hope that this event will be able to educate young children about the importance of the bushland, its history and the Indigenous culture.

“The young walkers will learn about how information was passed down through the spoken word with stories and songlines a large part of our history and culture. They will hear yarns along the trail about the trees, insects and birds and how it is important for us to protect them.”

Walk in the Whadjuk Country

Sunday 30 November

11 am to 3 pm

Starting at Allen Park, Swanbourne

\$40, bookings required

Surprise lunch included

For bookings and enquiries email mdias@nedlands.wa.gov.au or call 9273 3579

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 350