



Possums say hello on night nature trail

ABOUT 80 local wildlife and bushcare enthusiasts turned out to a presentation by renowned fauna expert Dr Brian Chambers at Marlee Reserve ClimateWatch Trail in Parklands.

The night-time nature family event coincided with the local launch of the ClimateWatch program in Mandurah.

Dr Chambers, from UWA's School of Animal Biology, shared his knowledge about the nocturnal habits of Marlee Reserve wildlife and the tracking and research conducted by UWA in the reserve.

Following the presentation, Fascinating Fauna: the Secret Lives of the Residents of Marlee Reserve, participants undertook a night stalk of the ClimateWatch Trail, with frogs



Dr Brian Chambers with a tamar wallaby.

and kangaroos being the main sightings until a family of possums put in a last-minute appearance.

Marlee Reserve is Mandurah's premier nature bushland reserve and was the site of

the City of Mandurah's first bushland-buyback in 2006, under its Bushland Protection Strategy.

ClimateWatch trails allow the general community to observe fauna and flora behaviour at close range and understand the impacts of climate change on the local natural environment.

Founded in 1971 in Boston, Massachusetts, and in Australia in 1982, the Earthwatch Institute matches conservation volunteers with research projects and facilitates research into species ecology, habitat management and the effects of climate change on natural environments.

Contact Rebecca Oborn on 9550 3935 or www.climatewatch.org.au.