

School of Animal Biology Postgraduate News

Autumn 2013



Photo Credits: Ryan Kempster

Ryan Kempster in the news

Well done to Ryan Kempster, who hit the headlines on 28th February with a story about a rare species of shark that has been added to the ID books for Australian waters.

Ryan published his work in the journal Marine Biodiversity Records.

Ryan describes when he was contacted by a local Perth fisherman, Steve Downs, who alerted him to two unusual sharks he caught off the coast of Rottnest Island.

"When I went to view the sharks I was surprised by what I found, as the species was completely different from anything I was used to [from this area] and the Australian shark identification books gave no further insight. I

knew further investigation would be required to identify them. Little did I know that it would take two years to positively ID the sharks," says Ryan. The sharks turned out to be mandarin dogfish, which have previously been recorded in waters between Indonesia and Japan, and off New Zealand.

Kempster RM, Hunt DM, Human BA, Egeberg CA & Collin SP (2013) First record of the mandarin dogfish *Cirrhigaleus barbifer* (Chondrichthyes: Squalidae) from Western Australia. Marine Biodiversity Records 6



From your GRC

After a very long interval (since 2008!), this is the first of our 'new style' of newsletters for postgrads in the School of Animal Biology. I hope to have a quarterly newsletter to inform you of events and news, so feel free to send me submissions. Harriet

New forms

Students should be aware that the GRS Office has recently revised most of the forms on the website. While there will be a short 'amnesty' over the next couple of months while the old forms will still be accepted, you should make sure to download the new versions for any new applications.

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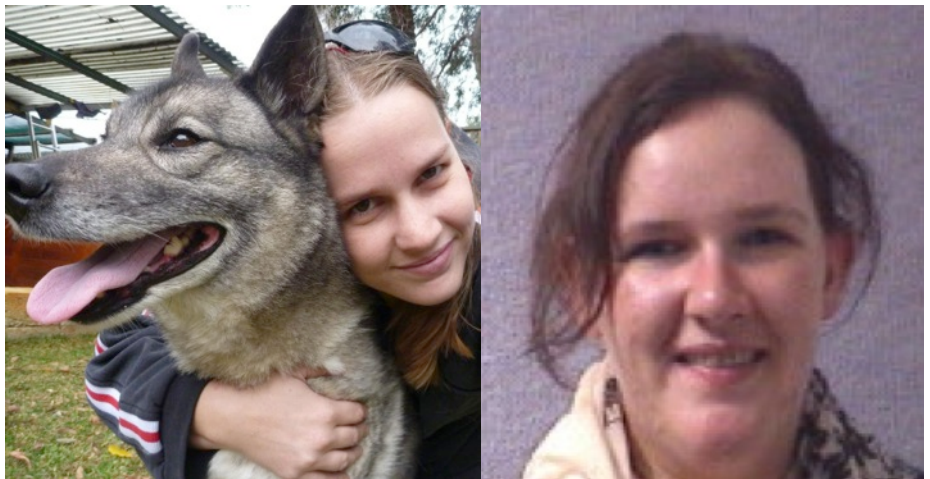


Postgraduate Retreat 2013

After a very successful trip to Rottneest in 2012, organised superbly by Rachael Warrington, Sam Leivers, Jo Steer and Nick Nagloo, it is once again time to start planning the next retreat.

We will keep you updated, but the dates will be sometime during the second semester non-teaching break (Sept 30 – October 4), so pencil it in your diaries now!

Stay posted for updates soon!



Your postgrad reps for 2013

Thanks to Carly Wilson and Catherine Seed for offering to be your postgraduate representatives for 2013. If you have any issues that you think need to be raised within the school, you find them for a chat, or send them an email:

Carly - 20145209@student.uwa.edu.au

Catherine – 21192788@student.uwa.edu.au

Photo Competition!

The School of Animal Biology is running a photo competition for the best photo of an animal taken by one of our postgrad students.

Email your entries to Harriet by **Friday 5th April** for a chance to win a \$100 Co-op Bookshop voucher.

Recent Completions

Postgraduate studies really do come to an end...eventually!

Congratulations to these students who have either submitted or completed in the last 6 months:

Rachel Clancy	Nicole Willers	Joanne Elliott
Aimee Silla	Jen Francis	Trina Jorre de St Jorre
Sean Stankowski	Charn Nang	Sharon Tay
Ana Hara	Stephen Robinson	Sharron Perks

New Students

Welcome to these students who have enrolled since the beginning of 2013:

Alex Tang
Jennifer Manyweathers
Helen White
Joyce Ong
Benjamin Ashton

Hatches and Matches

Congratulations to Danilo Harms and his wife Stephanie on the birth of their daughter, Leni.

Congratulations also to Natalie Rosser, who is expecting a baby in April.

And congratulations to Sam Leivers, who recently became engaged.

Do you know of any other announcements? Email Harriet so they can be added to the next newsletter: Harriet.Mills@uwa.edu.au

Earth Hour

Earth Hour is **8.30pm on 23 March 2013** - pencil it in your diary now so you don't miss out on the fun.

Earth Hour was started by WWF in Australia as a local event, but was soon embraced by the rest of the world. Last year, hundreds of millions of people from 152 countries and territories took part, and 7 million Australians switched off their lights and power in support of the planet.

Check out
<http://www.wwf.org.au/?6200/Earth-Hour-more-than-lights-off>

Upcoming Seminars

Don't forget that attendance at all school seminars is **expected** of **all** postgraduate students. Your only excuse for missing one should be that you are away!

Don't miss the next one on Thursday 14th March at 4pm in the JA Lecture Theatre – Mark Murphy will be presenting his proposal seminar on "Human impacts on the web of life: interactive effects of habitat loss and climate change on insect species networks".

Are You OK?

Postgraduate study is a challenge for most people, but depending on your circumstances it can get much harder at times. Help is at hand through various sources and you should definitely seek assistance if you are struggling. The first stop should be your supervisor or the GRC, but if you are not comfortable talking to them, you can speak to staff in the GRS or a UWA counsellor. For more details see: <http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/life/health/counselling>

Other useful contacts are:

- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Crisis Care 9223 1111
- Mental Health Emergency Services 1300 555 788