

THE AMAZING KIMBERLEY: A SCIENCE PERSPECTIVE

On 7 December 2011, Professor Lyn Beazley AO, Chief Scientist of Western Australia spoke to the Kimberley Society. Lyn was appointed Chief Scientist in 2006, awarded Officer of the Order of Australia in January 2009, and became a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering later that year.

With a research career in Neuroscience spanning 30 years, and service on numerous bodies that advise State and Federal Governments, Lyn was well positioned to draw together the disparate threads of the scientific work that is being undertaken in the Kimberley. Her selected topics, which ranged from corals to cane toads, highlighted not only current research activities but also environmental programs and the important work which involves the wider community such as turtle tagging with DEC and the local district high school. Her accompanying PowerPoint presentation made good use of excellent slides provided by scientists who work with fauna and flora, with examples from such studies as those of the water lilies of the Kimberley.

The talk attracted an appreciative audience of more than 50 people. At its conclusion, after Lyn had responded to wide-ranging questions, many of those present adjourned for an animated end-of-year supper.

Although no detailed synopsis of this talk is available, those interested in learning more about science projects and environmental programs in the Kimberley will find coverage of some of those things in "Previous Talks" on the Society's website. Those talks include:

- [Expedition to a Forgotten World](#) (Ric How, March 2003)
- [WA Museum's Kimberley Collections and Activities](#) (Dawn Casey, October 2005)
- [Marine Plants of the Kimberley](#) (John Huisman, October 2006)
- [Cane Toads](#) (Sandy Boulter, June 2008)
- [Of Oceans, Atolls and Lagoons: A Marine Census](#) (Clay Bryce, August 2008)

The WA Museum has interesting material online from the 2010 and 2011 field trips in the [Marine Life of Kimberley project](#). Kimberley Toadbusters has tabs for "Research Projects" and "KTB Educational Program" on its [website](#) while [ScienceNetwork Western Australia](#) provides a Kimberley Science Portal under its "Explore By Region" tab. The numerous links there include one for the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy.

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