

# Bush guide - dream job for Claire



Claire and a view of the landscape around Arkaba Station in the Flinders Ranges

by Stephanie Timotheou

It's not every day you come across wild animals and spectacular views at work, but for Strathalbyn local Claire Hartvigsen, this is the norm.

At the age of 20, Claire has already found her dream job and loves the thrill and excitement each day brings.

Claire works as a field guide at Wild Bush Luxury's Arkaba Station in the picturesque Flinders Ranges and takes groups of up to eight on guided walks through the private property of 40,000 acres.

During an exclusive four-day/three-night walking safari, Claire said the wildlife and views you come across are simply breathtaking.

"The highlight of my journey so far would have to be coming across an emu nest with about 11 eggs in it," Claire said.

"It was exciting and thrilling at

the same time because we had to run away as fast as we could so that the mother of the eggs didn't see us and think we were going to harm them."

Claire, who has been a guide since July last year, has always enjoyed hiking and said working for the Arkaba Station was a dream come true.

"Growing up, I did a lot of camping with my family so this was the perfect opportunity to make a career out of something I am so passionate about," Claire said.

"I love the fact that I am outside every day working in a natural environment and that every day is different."

Claire's job also entails animal eradication and focuses on cats, rabbits and feral goats to preserve Australia's diverse environment.

She said this is the harsh side of the job but it must be done to

protect the environment and native animals.

"By doing this, we are protecting animals such as kangaroos, emus, lizards and the yellow footed rock wallaby which was almost in danger of becoming extinct at one point," Claire said.

Claire also talks to guests about the environment to raise awareness and to let them know about the things that occur in the wild. Claire said the Arkaba site also has a hidden spring which often provides surprises for guests.

"One time, up near the spring, we came across three echidnas – one female and two males, which is a pretty rare sight in the Ranges," Claire said.

Wild Bush Luxury is currently on the lookout for passionate, local guides to work at its Arkaba property.

For more information, visit [www.arkabawalk.com](http://www.arkabawalk.com)

## Outdoor play promoted

by Sarah Martin

A nature play workshop at the Coventry Library will encourage children and their parents to incorporate elements of the natural world into their daily games.

The workshop is inspired by Richard Louv's book *Last Child in the Woods*, which identifies the growing disconnection between children and their environment.

Louv's work brings together a body of research that is important in increasingly screen-based times and shows that direct exposure to nature is essential for healthy childhood development, and also for the physical and emotional health of children and adults.

Adelaide Hills Library Service Youth Services Officer Jo Kaeding said reading the book compelled her to introduce nature play into the library program.

"The book talks a lot about unstructured play," Jo said.

"Even playgrounds are really quite sterile, with climbing on equipment but not on trees and no exploration in bushes and gardens.

"That kind of play is closed-ended and doesn't allow children an opportunity to gain confidence in their own bodies, explore what they can do, and take risks – which is an important part of the experience of learning."

The nature play session will include a story chosen to encourage outdoor exploration and then guest speaker Jason Tyndall from Natural Resources Management will talk to families about

different ways to explore the natural world.

The children will then take part in three activities using natural materials.

"One station will have pieces of timber and sticks and kids can make houses with them, another will be making villages using mulch to mould and make roads and the last station will have a craft activity using objects from nature," Jo said.

"For the kids it will be a lot of fun and for parents it will hopefully be educational and give inspiration for activities at home."

"We hope that the three stations will show examples that give parents confidence in engaging with nature play."

The Coventry Library nature play session will be held on June 19 from 11am-12pm.

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compiled by JOHN ROZENTALS

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\*John Rozentals is the publisher and editor of [www.ozbabyboomers.com.au](http://www.ozbabyboomers.com.au), a lifestyle resource for mature Australians.

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## Our beliefs

THE REAL MEANING OF THE LORD'S PRAYER (2)  
By Graham Wigzell, Kersbrook Christadelphians

Having discussed in our last article the Name of God and its importance, we move on in the prayer to the promise of God's Kingdom on earth: "Thy Kingdom come thy will be done on earth." This is one of the 300 or more references in the Bible to the fact that God's plan is to ultimately establish a Worldwide Kingdom upon this earth where peace and love and true worship of God will be the order of the day. No better endorsement of this Kingdom is found than in the words of Christ himself, in his last words of the Bible in Rev 22:20 "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Nowhere in the scriptures is there an endorsement of the popular church teaching that at death man (or his soul) ascends to the heavens above, in fact if we use a bible Concordance (a vital aid to Bible study) we find that faithful David, a "man after God's own heart" has NOT ascended to heaven: Acts 2:34. "For David is not ascended into the heavens." The Apostles of our Lord did not go to heaven Jn. 7:34 "Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me;

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and where I am, thither ye cannot come."

Christ himself made it very clear John 3:13 "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."

Martha understood the truth as she expressed it in John 11:24 "Martha saith unto him, I know that he (Lazarus) shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

At Christ's return to this earth, which the signs show is very near, there will be the Judgement of those who claim to be his disciples, and those found righteous will be given the opportunity to rule with Christ in the Kingdom, when men and women will be forced to worship him in "spirit and truth" in 1 Co 15:21-23 "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."

Read about this Kingdom in Psalm 72, Isa. 11, Matt 5.

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