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MEDIA RELEASE



Boomerangs and Bush Tales at RBG Melbourne

There is more to the story of boomerangs than many of us know.

Some do come back while others are not thrown at all. Some were used in hand-to-hand combat, others as hunting weapons or as a musical instrument. The smallest boomerang is less than 10cms long and the largest are over two metres in length.

Stories about the boomerang and other ancient bush tales is the focus of a very special family tour at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne on alternate Sundays during March, April and May.

The Gardens' Indigenous guide Trevor Gallagher will invite participants to step into the land of the Boonerwung and Woiwurrung people and learn more about traditional tools and how boomerangs were used for hunting. The focus will then switch to listening to ancient bush tales whilst children enjoy ochre painting and string making.

The program is also available during school holidays.

Family tour Alternate Sundays:

When: 2, 16 and 30 March; 13 and 27 April; 11 and 25 May

Time: 2pm–3.30pm

Where: Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate.

Cost: \$18 adult \$14 concession; \$9 children
\$50 family (2 adults and 3 children)

Bookings: (03) 9252 2429

School Holiday Program:

When: 25 and 26 March; 1 and 2 April

Time: 10am–11.30am

Where: Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate.

Cost: \$18 adult \$14 concession; \$9 children
\$50 family (2 adults and 3 children)

Bookings: (03) 9252 2429

Adult participation required.

RBG Melbourne rests on a traditional camping and meeting place for the local custodians of the area – the Boonerwung and Woiwurrung people.

The Aboriginal Heritage Walk provides a rich and vibrant introduction to this little known history and the chance to see the land through the eyes of an Aboriginal guide.

The 90-minute walk also sheds light on traditional uses of plants for food, medicine, tools and shelter.

During the traditional Tanderrum or smoking ceremony at the beginning of the walk, participants are encouraged to stand in sweet-smelling smoke before carrying a traditional handcrafted tool on the walk. At the end of the walk participants enjoy a cup of lemon-myrtle tea.

Aboriginal Heritage Walk, Spirit ~ Connection ~ Land

When: Every Thursdays and Fridays from March through to May.
Alternate Sundays: 2, 16 and 30 March; 13 and 27 April; 11 and 25
May
Time: 11am–12.30pm
Where: Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate.
Cost: \$18 adult; \$14 concession; \$9 children
\$50 family (2 adults and 3 children)
Bookings: (03) 9252 2429

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