

Media Release:

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A Wildly Successful Christmas Night

The Territory Wildlife Park (TWP) was alive with the sounds of Christmas carols with a twist when they hosted a special first-time ever Christmas concert event themed 'Wild Christmas Night' last Friday 5 December 2008.

TWP Sales and Marketing Manager Chantelle Sage said more than 600 people attended the evening, consisting of 180 participating students from the local schools in the rural area together with their family and friends enjoying a night of great entertainment.

"The idea came about because we wanted to provide local children and families the opportunity to enjoy a fun concert evening to inspire the Christmas spirit and cheer, like those held in the Darwin and Palmerston areas," Ms Sage said.

"The local schools and organisations that participated in the evening were Saint Francis of Assisi, Humpty Doo Primary, Berry Springs Primary, Giraween Primary, Bees Creek Primary, Taminmin High and the Top End Callisthenics Club.

Some of the evening's highlights included:

- "I want a hippopotamus for Christmas" song (performed by Saint Francis of Assisi)
- "Santa's World Walkabout" ballad and dance (performed by Giraween Primary School)
- "Merry Christmas Rap" to the tune of Queen's hit song "We Will Rock You" (performed by Berry Springs Primary School)

"The visit from Santa at the end of the night was a treat for the children as was the opportunity to hold the baby northern quoll on display in the main station.

"The Endangered Species Conservation Unit set up the quoll display for the children, which also had tips and tricks on how to help save the quolls and keep cane toads out of backyards.

"Glow bangles were sold on the evening for \$2 and together with the \$2 admission fee for family and friends we managed to raise almost \$1,000 for the endangered northern quoll conservation program here at TWP.

"Sandra Kendell, local author and illustrator of the new children's book *Quoll* was also there selling copies of the book, and Sandra kindly donated a copy to each of the participating schools' libraries.

"The evening was a great success and we look forward to it becoming a regular event, we sincerely wish to thank all the schools involved and local MLA Gerry Wood for being the host."

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Chantelle Sage on 0448 662 906

Image – 'Wild Christmas Night' at Territory Wildlife Park

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