



MEDIA RELEASE

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Shared history on show at Botanic Gardens

May 14, 2018
COOKTOWN

Cooktown's unique shared history will come alive at the town's Botanic Gardens next month for the annual Cooktown Discovery Festival.

The three day festival is a highlight of Cooktown's calendar, and features a packed program to suit all ages, from markets to billy kart races, a grand parade, fireworks and cultural displays. This year Cooktown's beautiful Botanic Gardens will shine during the event, with a range of activities on offer among the lush tropical landscape, kicking off on Friday morning with the Solander's Artists workshop, where budding artists can be inspired by the specimens collected by Solander on his voyage to Cooktown in 1770.

Bring the whole family for Saturday in the Gardens, starting with Solander's Scavenger Hunt, or the hilarious Poet's Breakfast, and follow it with a leisurely stroll through the Vera Scarth-Johnson Gallery viewing the Banks Florilegium display. The culture just keeps on coming, with natural fibre weaving and botanical drawing workshops throughout the day, and an educational tour of the Gardens with former curator Sandy Lloyd in full period costume.

Saturday afternoon in the Gardens is not to be missed, with two of Cooktown's most well-known Indigenous leaders hosting unique events. Local elder and historian Alberta Hornsby will share stories of ancient culture and Western science that will cast the gardens in a whole new light, followed by an intimate storytelling experience with Nugal-Warra elder Willie Gordon, who will share stories of the region and local cultures.

Visit www.cooktowndiscovery.com.au for more information on the festival, including the full program, with times and locations for all activities, and tickets for paid events.

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