



Save the Nature of the Kimberley

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Media Release

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Broome to host Get Up Climate Torch Relay

The opening leg in WA of the Get Up Climate Torch Relay will take place in Broome. The idea behind the relay, which is taking place in all States and Territories, is to get Australians talking seriously about effective climate change solutions: 50% by 2020 of 1990 greenhouse pollution levels and NO NEW COAL.

The relay will take place next Monday the 18th of August. It will commence at the Court House and finish at the Surf Life Saving Club at Cable Beach. Its arrival at the Club is timed to coincide with the opening of a Climate Change Workshop being organised by Environs Kimberley as part of Science Week.

The event will feature members of the Broome Community running the torch from the Broome Court House to the famous Cable Beach. Broome's Court House is one of the town's best known buildings. Erected in 1889 it was originally the headquarters of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company. In September 1921 it was acquired by the WA Government to serve as a courthouse and today it is also the site of the town's extensive Court House markets. Cable Beach, where the original submarine telegraph cable came ashore in 1889 is one of West Australia's best known tourist destinations. Its 22 kilometres of pristine white sand is at the centre of increasing debate over how it can best be managed for the future.

Participants in the Climate Torch Relay will gather at the Broome Court House at 3.30 pm, which will allow time for runners to be dropped off along the proposed route. The torch itself will be on the way by 3.50 pm. The proposed route is west along the Frederick St cycle way to the Cable Beach Rd T-intersection, then down Cable Beach Road cycle way to the Broome Surf Life Saving Club.

A 10 year old girl will be the final torch bearer, as a symbol of youth and the future care of the land.

The torch will then be sent on to Exmouth for the next leg of its journey, with its ultimate destination being Canberra. Its arrival is timed for one week before the final Garnaut Report is published. Flanked by bicycle riders from Cycle for Climate Protection and thousands of Get Up supporters it will be delivered to Parliament House in order to send a strong message to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and his Government.

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PS: If you go to the CLIMATE TORCH website you will see a picture of the lemon powered torch that is designed to promote alternative energy. See <http://www.climatetorch.org.au/>