

Children get novel taste of science >>

Children attending this week's Goulburn Broken National Water Week awards got a novel taste of science.

Instead of a lecture on the life cycle of invertebrates by the two fresh water ecologists they saw close-ups of water bugs attacking and eating each other.

"Sometimes science is boring for kids," ecologist Ed Tsyrlin explained afterwards.

Ed and his colleague John Gooderham introduced the evening with some magnified slides and video showing predator bugs chomping their way through other bugs, complete with homemade sound effects.

Wide-eyed John, pictured above, playing a very convincing eccentric scientist, stabbed a water melon with a knife when one bug attacked another, and Ed sucked on a straw when another bug went to work on an insect victim.

The kids were very impressed.



Super boot chauffeur caught short

Housing MP, Candy Broad was in Shepparton yesterday when her chauffeur had a call of nature.

They dropped in at Wanganui Secondary College where the driver decided the Visy Centre might be an appropriate place to find a thunder box.

He went inside to ask permission when someone exclaimed: "Peter McKenna!", having recognised the former Collingwood footballer who kicked 874 goals in his remarkable full forward career.

His request to use the toilet was followed by the reply: "Only if we can take your photo!"