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From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 1:42 PM
To: Library
Subject: October Newsletter - Partnering with Kings Park, Photo competition judging underway and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



October 2025



Minister for the Environment, Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC; Kings Park Senior Plant Breeder, Digby Grown; and WA Parks Foundation Chair, Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO with Eremophila 'Pink Pearl'. Image Credit: Cam Campbell, Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

Partnering with Kings Park to conserve an at risk species

Kings Park has partnered with the WA Parks Foundation to release a new plant that will enable people to bring one of the State's rarest species into their own backyard.

The silky emu bush (*Eremophila nivea*) is a Critically Endangered threatened species under WA's *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

Usually, the species displays a bright purple flower, however the new cultivar, *Eremophila nivea* 'Pink Pearl' will bloom in pastel pink.

Pink-flowering variations of the species are extremely rare. By replicating this colouration through advanced propagation techniques, Kings Park's Plant Development program is conserving not only the at-risk species, but also its genetic diversity.

[Read more](#)

Capturing Memorable Moments



Winner of the 2024 Memorable Moments in Nature competition: "Branco Gibb River", Sunrise, Bryan May.
Image credit: Bryan May

WA Parks Foundation is delighted with the response to our 2025 photo competition, Memorable Moments in Nature, which closed on 2 November.

This very popular element of our annual Spring into Parks initiative attracted over 980 entries capturing the beauty and wonder of Western Australia's national parks, fauna and flora.

Judging is underway and winners will be announced soon.

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Smartreka's value recognised in awards program



Tingle trees, with their huge girth, are one of the awe-inspiring features of the Walpole-Nornalup National Park.

The WA Parks Foundation's Smartreka mapping initiative was pleased to be an Encouraging Participation finalist in the 2025 Outdoor Industry Awards which recognise excellence, innovation, and leadership across WA's vibrant outdoor sector.

The awards celebrate the individuals, organisations, and programs that inspire participation, enhance safety, and contribute to the growth and sustainability of outdoor recreation, tourism, and education in our state.

Smartreka, developed by the WA Parks Foundation in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, is a pioneering digital mapping initiative designed to make outdoor exploration more accessible, safe, and engaging.

[Read more](#)

Connections to Wadjemup exhibition



The Wadjemup Museum's name reflects the island's Aboriginal heritage and honours the Whadjuk Noongar traditional owners. Image courtesy of The Rottnest Island Authority

As part of Connect to Kambarang on Rottnest Island (Wadjemup), a new exhibition opened at Wadjemup Museum on 10 October. Titled Connections to Wadjemup, the exhibition features mixed media artwork from 50 Aboriginal artists across Western Australia, sharing their personal connection to Wadjemup.

All artwork is available for purchase, with 100 per cent of proceeds going back to artists. Connections to Wadjemup is open until mid 2026.

Kambarang is one of the six seasons in the calendar of the Noongar people of WA's south west. Extending through October and November, it symbolises

birth and renewal in nature, a time of warmer weather, wildflowers and increased fauna activity.

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Outfoxed – reconstructing the invasion pattern of foxes



The red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) is considered one of the most damaging invasive species in Australia

One of Australia's most devastating invasive predators took just 60 years to colonise our whole continent, according to new Curtin-led research that offers vital clues to help prevent future extinctions of native animals from foxes.

Using new statistical simulation tools, the new paper has uncovered critical data needed to disentangle the role of foxes in the demise of Australia's native animals.

Lead author Dr Sean Tomlinson, from Curtin's School of Molecular and Life Sciences, said researchers used hundreds of first sighting records, and

thousands of model simulations, to reconstruct the arrival and spread of the fast and fierce hunters.

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Restoring Collie River habitats



Upper Collie River. Image credit: Leschenault Catchment Council

The aquatic habitats of two at-risk Collie River pools that were considered critical refuges for native flora and fauna during Western Australia's dry season have been restored, thanks to a successful community-led program.

The Upper Collie Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project, partly funded through the State Natural Resource Management Program, focused on restoring the river pools which were experiencing declining fish and crustacean populations.

This involved removing woody weeds and introduced grasses, replanting native foreshore vegetation and installing woody debris such as fish hotels, logs, and root balls, to enhance biodiversity and improve ecosystem resilience.

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Outstanding species-saving work by Perth Zoo



Every individual born makes a huge impact on the conservation efforts for these endangered little marsupials.
Image credit: Perth Zoo

Population numbers for the Numbat, Western Swamp Tortoise, Hairy Marron and White-bellied Frogs are set to rise thanks to a recent baby boom at Perth Zoo.

This new generation of endangered and critically endangered icons is being raised behind the scenes at Perth Zoo through the collaborative Native Species Breeding Program.

This season, 39 critically endangered Western Swamp Tortoises and 94 critically endangered Hairy Marron have hatched.

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