

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.

YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK

AUTUMN ACTIVITIES GUIDE

Priceless

Autumn 1993

Activities to Inspire and Exhaust!



Welcome to Yanchep National Park's autumn activity guide. There is something here for all the family ... in one of Perth's most treasured parks.

Perth's most treasured parks.

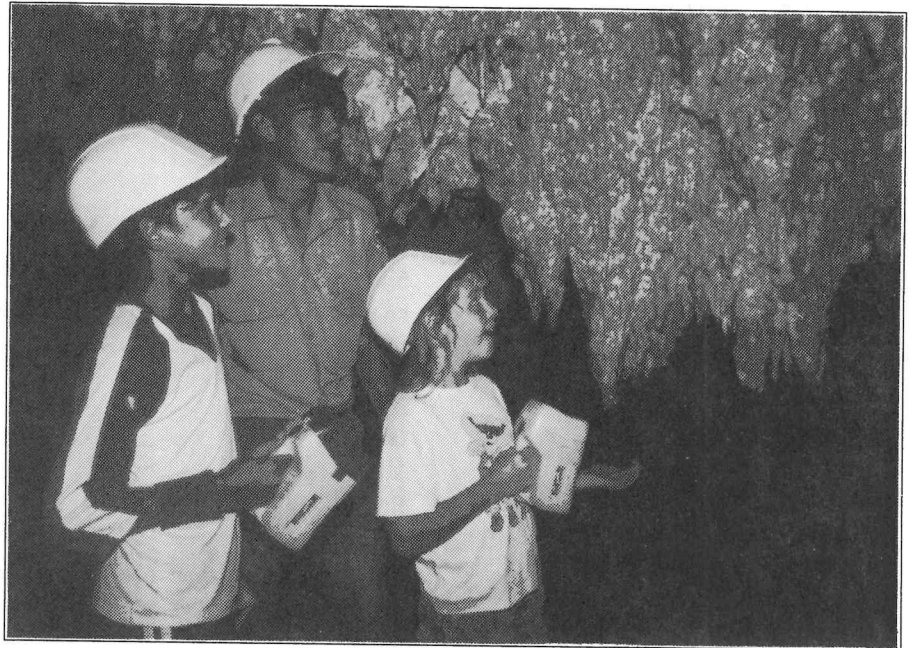
- ❖ Join one of the rangers or visiting experts for a day of fun and discovery.
- ❖ On weekdays groups of more than five can book activities - at a time to suit you.
- ❖ Enjoy the free ranger-guided activities occurring every weekend.
- ❖ During the April school holidays sample from the full program of activities and events designed to exhaust even the most energetic ankle-biters.

Yanchep is a great day out, so bring a picnic lunch and stay for the day as there's lots to do and see.

Keep this guide handy - stick the calendar on the fridge - and spend a day or two at Yanchep National Park this autumn!

A NEW VISITOR CENTRE

The renovation and refitting of McNess House into a visitor centre for Yanchep National Park is under way. The centre will be a focal point for visitors by providing information about the area and things for visitors to see and do.



Explore the magic of a wild cave.

McNess House has a long history. Back in the 1880s pioneers from the Swan River colony in Perth built a small stone hut at Yanchep which they called the Hunting Lodge. Later, people who stayed in the building explored caves in the area.

In the 1930s when most of Yanchep National Park was developed the old hut was demolished and in its place the two storey McNess House was built. (The name McNess came from the rich philanthropist who provided most of the money for the work.) Over the years the building fell into a poor state of repair. Now with the renovations the building is regaining some of its old charm and style.

As well as being part of the Perth Outdoors program, the work at McNess House is being made possible by the generous sponsorship of LandCorp. CALM and LandCorp staff are working together to complete the project, which should see the building open to the public by mid year.

FOR BOOKINGS

PHONE (09) 561 1004

For all activities meet at the park office. Please note there is a park entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle.



Descriptions of Activities

Loch McNess Explorer

Take your seats for a scenic cruise aboard the comfortable *M.V. Kiwanis*.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1 hour

Meet The Koalas

Learn more about the amazing koala and its laid-back lifestyle.

FREE!

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1/2 hour

Nature Photography

Workshop and scenic excursion through the park with professional instructors. You will need your own camera and film.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: 8+

Duration: 2 1/2 hours

Adventure Caving

Looking for adventure and something different? Explore and experience the magic of a 'wild' cave.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: 8+

Duration: 2 hours

Bird Walk

A morning walk to discover the rich bird life of Yanchep National Park.

FREE!

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1/2 hour

Swamp Safari

A journey of discovery and adventure through uncharted waters to a new world. Be prepared - you'll need all your wits and senses, plus old clothes and joggers.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: 8+

Duration: 2 hours

Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure

Track Bill and Ted's passage of chaos through Yanchep National Park.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1 hour

Launch Cruises

An scenic cruise to learn about the Yanchep wetlands.

\$50 per hour for group bookings

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1 hour

Dreamtime Discovery

Search for the 'House of Wild Dogs' during an excursion to learn more about the Aboriginal Dreamtime.

Adults \$2, children \$1

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1/2 hour

Boomerang Gorge Walk

Discover the European and Aboriginal history of Yanchep National Park.

FREE!

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1/2 hour

Koala Kapers

Get-together to discuss the unique life cycles and physical adaptations of two of Mother Nature's most celebrated marsupials - the koala and kangaroo.

Adults \$2, children \$1

Age limit: Open

Duration: 1 hour

Yanchep's Living History

Journey back through time to discover the long forgotten secrets of Yanchep's past.

FREE!

Age limit: 8+

Duration: 1/2 hour

Survival Bushcrafts

Learn basic survival bushcrafts for the great Australian bush.

Adults \$5, children \$2

Age limit: 8+

Duration: 2 hours

Perth Outdoors is the most comprehensive guide to getting out and enjoying nature in and around Perth.

It describes almost 300 recreational spots in our natural environment from Lancelin in the north to the Peel-Harvey inlet in the south, and east as far as the Great Southern Highway.

Perth Outdoors is a book of choices; a guidebook to help you learn more about Perth's natural environment.

This exciting new book also gives you fascinating historical facts, great picnic places, scenic drives and heritage trails, a range of activities, a plant calendar and plant species list, and special feature articles on bird migration, banksias, whales, wildflowers and much more!

Perth Outdoors is 180 pages lavishly illustrated with superb full colour photographs at a retail price of only \$19.95. It is available from bookshops and newsagents, or direct from CALM.

**IF YOU ONLY
BUY ONE BOOK
ABOUT PERTH,
IT HAS TO BE
THIS ONE.**



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT,
50 HAYMAN ROAD, COMO, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6152

AUTUMN 1993 ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

March April May

RANGER-GUIDED ACTIVITIES

Find out more about Yanchep National Park and have some fun on one of our **free** guided activities. These activities run every Saturday and Sunday during Autumn. Bookings are not required for these activities, just turn up on the day. To find out where to meet ask at the visitor centre or the gate.

Saturdays

11am Boomerang Gorge Walk
2pm Yanchep's Living History

Sundays

11am Bird Walk
2pm Meet The Koalas

GROUP BOOKINGS

Group Bookings - Monday To Friday

Get a group together and choose an activity, time and date that suits you. The minimum group size is five with school and tour company bookings welcomed.

Choose from:

Adventure Caving Nature Photography Koala Kapers
Launch Cruises Survival Bushcrafts Dreamtime Discovery

NOTE: Two days notice for bookings is preferred. For enquiries and bookings call the park office on (09) 561 1004.

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

During the April school holidays there is a full activities program running every day (see timetable below). Booking for these activities is essential. Be quick - these activities fill fast.

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am Adventure Caving 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Survival Bushcrafts 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Survival Bushcrafts 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 2pm Swamp Safari	11am Boomerang Gorge Walk 1.30pm Nature Photography Workshop 2pm Yanchep's Historical Tour	11am Bird Walk 1.30pm Nature Photography Workshop 2pm Koala Kapers
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10am Adventure Caving 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Survival Bushcrafts 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer 2pm Swamp Safari	10am Adventure Caving 1pm Survival Bushcrafts 1.30pm Loch McNess Explorer	10am Adventure Caving 2pm Swamp Safari	11am Boomerang Gorge Walk 1.30pm Nature Photography Workshop 2pm Yanchep's Historical Tour	11am Bird Walk 1.30pm Nature Photography Workshop 2pm Koala Kapers

Visiting Yanchep National Park

If you haven't visited Yanchep National Park lately you may notice some improvements which are part of CALM's Perth Outdoors strategy. This aims to help people get outdoors and enjoy the parks and reserves within a couple of hours drive of the city.

Most of the original development at Yanchep was completed during the 1930s. Much work is now needed to ensure the park continues to meet the needs of visitors and to ensure the park's heritage values are not reduced.



A 1940s view - paths such as this one from McNess House to the lake will be reinstated.

This year more than \$500 000 will be spent upgrading park facilities. CALM recreation and landscape planners studied historic photographs of the park and where possible are including parts of the original layout into the current design. Restoration of McNess House has been made possible by the generous sponsorship of LandCorp.

With wetlands, woodlands, caves and a rich cultural heritage, Yanchep National Park has the ingredients to make a great day out for all the family. If you book in for a guided activity, bring a picnic lunch and spend the whole day there ... Yanchep has plenty to offer.

Walk Trails

Along the walk trails at Yanchep there are many interesting ways to spend an hour or two. Explore the Loch McNess wetland, walk inside a collapsed cave, or even spend the whole day on the Ghost House Trail.

Wildlife and Wildflowers

Yanchep is home to many species of native plants and animals. Kangaroos are common and come out at dawn and dusk. Friendly waterbirds and colourful bush birds abound. Yanchep also has a colony of koalas in a specially-built enclosure which is open from 8.30am to 5.00pm. There is also a wildflower garden with plants from all over the State.

Picnicking

There are plenty of shaded picnic areas throughout the recreation area of the park. The Loch McNess wetland provides a scenic backdrop to the main picnic area, while elsewhere there are secluded areas for smaller groups. Some picnic areas can be booked in advance.

Caves

Yanchep's surprises also extend below ground. There are about 100 limestone caves in the park. Crystal Cave is open for inspection and guided tours are run every day of the year.

Loch McNess

Loch McNess is a focal point for the park's attractions. Rowing boats are available for hire and a launch takes tours around the perimeter.

Heritage

Yanchep is steeped in history. Throughout the recreation area are heritage buildings built in the 1930s. One of these, Gloucester Lodge, is now a museum documenting the history of the local area. The museum is open 10.30am to 4.00pm from Saturday to Wednesday. There is also a licensed inn where you can stop for lunch, dinner or even overnight.

Golf

Yanchep also boasts a nine-hole golf course which may not challenge St. Andrews but has many other redeeming features. Where else do you have to compete with the local kangaroos for the putting greens?

Swimming

Phone the park visitor centre for pool opening hours. It's a great way to cool off!

Park Opening Hours

The park is open during all daylight hours. When you come please leave your pets at home; the wildlife and other visitors would prefer not to meet them!

For further information telephone the park office on (09) 561 1004 or write to Yanchep National Park, YANCHEP WA 6035.



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND
LAND MANAGEMENT**

50 Hayman Road, COMO WA 6152

