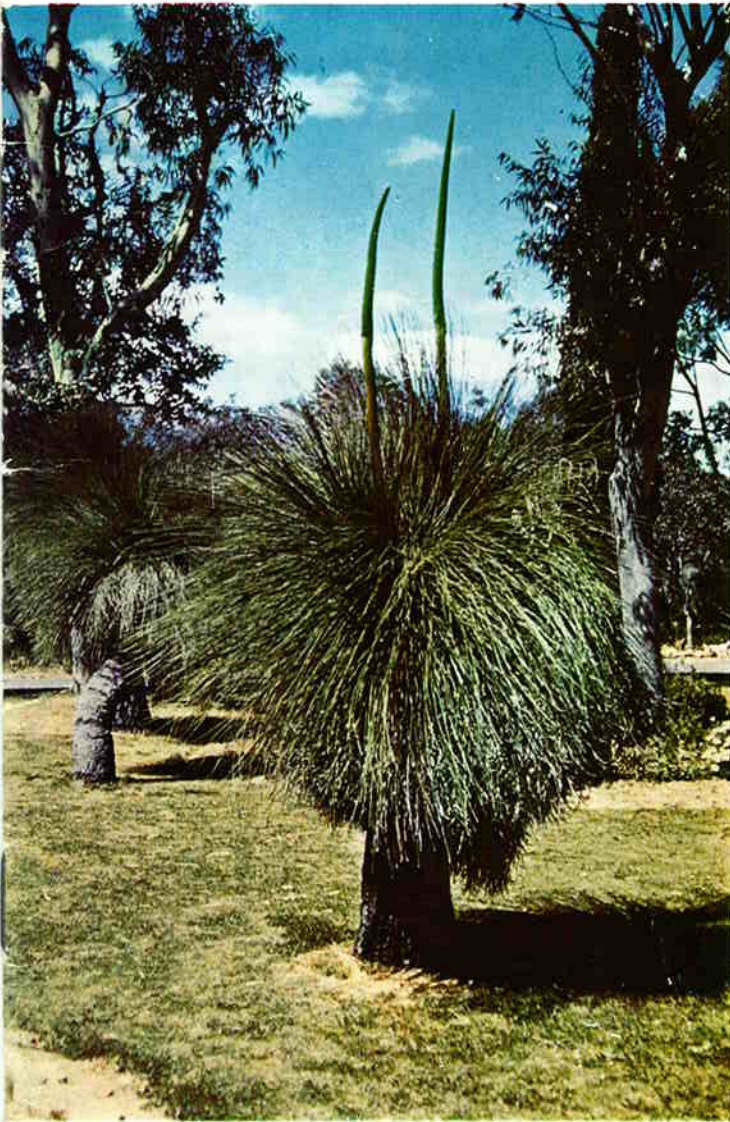


Annual Report 1967



National Parks
Board of
Western Australia



Hakea laurina



Circular Pool, and Frankland River, Nornalup National Park

To the Honourable W. S. Bovell, M.L.A., Minister for Lands, Forests and Immigration

It is with great pleasure that I submit on behalf of the National Parks Board of Western Australia this annual report on its main activities and functions over the past year ended the 30th June, 1967.

Further progress has been made in the administration and protection of National Parks under our control, which has entailed visits to more recently acquired outlying areas, such as the Cape Le Grand, Cape Range and Kalbarri National Parks, where honorary rangers have been appointed to assist in the administration of these parks and certain fire control measures have been taken in the latter.

The very recent acquisition of the Geikie Gorge National Park in the far north of this State is an added responsibility from an administrative point of view and will no doubt require the appointment of one or more honorary rangers for this purpose.

A large scale programme of access road, track and fireline construction work within the Nornalup National Park, commenced in 1965-66 was followed up during the year under review; but it was not completed for reasons beyond this Board's control. However, it is hoped to complete this programme in the ensuing year.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The membership now consists of:—

R. J. Bond, I.S.O., A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S., President.

C. F. H. Jenkins, M.A., Deputy President.

C. R. Bunning, B.C.E., A.M.I.E.

J. E. Lloyd, M.T.P.I., F.A.P.I.

J. F. Morgan, L.S., F.I.S., (Aust.) M.I.C.W.A.

R. D. Royce, B.Sc. (Agric.).

F. C. Smith, J.P.

There are two sub-committees, namely the Finance Committee and the Works Committee, each comprising the President, Deputy President and one other Board member.

Mr. J. F. Morgan, Deputy Surveyor General and a member of the Tourist Development Authority was appointed a member of this Board on the 1st January, 1967, following the retirement of Mr. L. J. Parks, who had served as a member for nearly twelve years (1955-1966). We take this opportunity of placing on record our appreciation of this Member's interest and service in that capacity with the Board over a long period of time.

National Parks Board of Western Australia

Calythrix



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Managing Secretary—H. E. Bancroft,
A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S.

RESERVES

New Vestings:

Geikie Gorge National Park (Reserve No. 28401) of about 7,750 acres in the far north of this State was vested in this Board recently.

Reserves Vested in the Board:

National Parks and other reserves totalling 782,877 acres are vested in the Board and comprise the following:—

<i>National Parks</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Cape Le Grand	39,500
Cape Range	33,171
Geikie Gorge	7,750
Greenmount	127
John Forrest	3,648
Kalamunda	919
Kalbarri	358,000
Lesmurdie	81
Neerabup	2,785
Nornalup	32,229
*Porongurup	5,531
Serpentine	1,571
Stirling Range	284,540
†Walyunga	4,000
	773,852

<i>Other Reserves</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Albany Boronia Reserve	115
Araluen-Canning Dam Reserve	50
East Perth Cemetery Reserve	12
Hamelin Bay Reserve	366
Keane's Point Reserve	6
Matilda Bay Reserve	57
Nornalup Park Lands Reserve	919
Nornalup Flora Reserve	228
Nowergup Lake Fauna Sanctuary	288
Old Mill Reserve, South Perth	¼
Penguin Island Reserve	31
Walpole Golf Course	35
Walpole Yacht Club Reserve	2
Yanchep Park and Caves Reserve	6,432
Yanchep Flora Reserves	439
†Yanchep Beach Reserve	44
Small Part of King's Park Reserve (Bernies)	1
	9,025
Total	782,877

* Plantagenet Location 5878 is in the process of being added to the Porongurup National Park.

† Walyunga National Park has not yet been officially created a reserve and vested in this Board, pending certain difficulties to be overcome first in connection with its purchase by the Board, i.e. Standard Gauge Railway Survey.

‡ Control expected to pass to the Shire of Wanneroo in the near future.

Change in Vesting:

Control over Reserve No. 26444, originally vested for use and requirements of the National Parks Board of W.A. and comprising 2 acres, was relinquished following handing over to the Department of Public Works of control and operation of the Gardening and Mowing Services Section.

Amendments to Existing Reserves:

Neerabup National Park (Reserve No. A. 27575) was reduced in size to about 2,785 acres following the excision of an area of about 115 acres for Shire quarry purposes.

Park Lands Reserves A.13045 adjoining the eastern side of the Nornalup National Park has been amended in size to about 919 acres by the excision of a small area of about 1 acre for "Caravan Park" purposes.

Porongurup National Park has been amended and now comprises an area of about 5,531 acres.

Yanchep Park and Cave Reserves have been increased in size by 10 acres through the addition of Swan Location 422 and now comprise 6,432 acres.

General Vesting of Reserves

There are National Parks unvested or vested in Authorities other than this Board. Members of this Board feel that before Reserves are created as National Parks careful consideration is necessary as to whether they are of sufficient size to justify giving them a "national character" and once they have passed this test and they have been created National Parks, they should then be vested in this Board and classified "A" Class.

Such a procedure would facilitate the adoption of a common policy with economy in administration and general operation of the national parks.

Applications for vestings not yet finalised are:—

- (1) "The Knoll" area at Gooseberry Hill.
- (2) Reserves in the Lakes Clifton and Preston area.
- (3) Recherche Archipelago Reserve (No. 22796).
- (4) Cape Arid Reserve (No. 24047).
- (5) Twilight Cove Area.
- (6) Bremer Range Area.
- (7) Fitzgerald River Reserve (No. 24048).
- (8) Nambung National Park and adjacent Pinnacles Reserve.
- (9) Pt. Coulomb (Dampier Land) Area.
- (10) Drysdale River Area.
- (11) Barlee Range Area.
- (12) Flora Reserve (No. A20041), near Tammin.
- (13) Cowaramup Bay Reserves.
- (14) Lake Barker Reserve (No. 24049).
- (15) Hamilla Hill area and part of Plantagenet Location 4521 (Mr. E. T. Hancock) for incorporating in the Stirling Range National Park, because of the presence of Cranbrook Bells on the property.
- (16) Hamersley Range area (Mt. Bruce—Dale Gorge).
- (17) Dampier Archipelago Area.
- (18) Mount Lesueur area.
- (19) Sir James Mitchell National Park (Res. 18705).

Other areas thought most suitable for creation as national parks and vesting in the Board are:—

- (1) The Napier—Oscar Ranges area (including Winjana Gorge, Brooking Gorge and Tunnel Creek).
- (2) South-West cave areas.

The question of control of reserves 7707, 12664 and A.24882 in the Parry Inlet, and William Bay area is at present receiving attention.

Hill River Caves Area

Although this area is not under the Board's control, arrangements are in hand for Yanchep Park workmen to seal off shortly the entrance to Drover's Cave in order to stop vandalism in this very attractive cave.

Classification of Reserves

It is unfortunate that all reserves vested in this Board have not yet been classified as "A" Class, notwithstanding past efforts in this direction; although it is pleasing to note that during the year under review Lesmurdie Falls National Park (Reserve No. 22515) and Penguin Island Reserve (Reserve No. 17070) were declared "A" Class.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS AND FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVES

This Board will make a maximum contribution to the deliberations of the special Inter-departmental Committee appointed in 1965-66 to consider and report on the control and management of flora and fauna reserves and national parks generally, and to consider ways and means by which some co-ordination of activities might be facilitated. The Board believes that with the rapid increase in the development of agricultural land, and the rise in population in both city and country areas there is necessity to ensure that adequate areas are set aside for the protection of flora and fauna with limited controlled public access to the more attractive scenic features. In this regard it is pleasing to note the recent vesting of the Geikie Gorge National Park in the Board, and special attention will be given to the administration of this and other areas acquired fairly recently.

GENERAL POLICY

The Board's general policy in regard to areas placed under its control is:

"To so administer the lands under its control, so as to ensure the preservation of their natural beauty, the conservation of native flora and fauna, and the protection of geological and physiographical and other features of special interest.

To develop and improve certain areas for the purpose of promoting their enjoyment by the public."

It is intended to prepare progressively overall plans for each of the major national parks and reserves vested in the Board, so that orderly development may be carried out without undue interference with nature as appropriate. The Board will visit areas to familiarise itself with the features and problems and confer with local authorities and district interests.

FINANCE

A summary of receipts and payments (in consolidated form) for the past two years follows and it should be noted that those relating to the year under review are subject to audit:

RECEIPTS			
1965-66		1966-67	
\$	\$	\$	\$
National Parks and Reserves			
10,416	.....	Rents—General	10,860
30,929	.....	Yanchep Park and Beach	34,056
3,841	.....	John Forrest National Park	4,093
223	.....	Matilda Bay Reserve	135
1,810	.....	Other Reserves	2,501
47,219		51,645	
Garden and Mowing Services			
100,584		General Receipts	10,739
Other Receipts			
6,095	.....	Swan River Conservation Board	6,639
1,950	.....	Sale of Surplus Assets	578
11,165	.....	Refunds and Suspense	11,195
142	.....	Sundry Receipts	119
19,352		18,531	
167,155		80,915	
Grants			
148,104	.....	Treasury	181,300
752	.....	Tourist Development Authority	375
3,000	.....	Main Roads Department	.....
151,856		181,675	
319,011		262,590	
21,358		Plus Opening Credit Balance	361
\$340,369		\$262,951	

Receipts

Generally these showed an upward trend, with the exception of Garden and Mowing Services, the amount of \$10,739 representing outstanding services to the 30th June, 1966, following transfer of control of these services to the Department of Public Works as from the 1st July, 1966. The Treasury grant included \$5,559 special grant for annual instalments on purchase of land for Walyunga National Park and \$4,800 for acquisition of additional territory for Yanchep Park.

PAYMENTS			
1965-66		1966-67	
\$	\$	\$	\$
Administrative Expenses			
20,369	.....	Head Office Salaries and Expenses	22,258
1,545	.....	Worker's Compensation and Public Liability Insurance	1,997
4,430	.....	Contribution to Staff Endowment Fund	2,362
3,065	.....	Pay Roll Tax	1,922
29,409		28,539	
National Parks and Reserves			
71,231	.....	Wages	85,054
27,797	.....	Maintenance and Operating Costs	30,048
91,091	.....	Improvements, including Buildings, Plant and Equipment	90,215
7,254	.....	Walyunga National Park—Purchase	5,559
197,373		210,876	
Garden and Mowing Services			
95,445		General Payments	1,017
Other Payments			
5,877	.....	Swan River Conservation Board (Algae Control)	6,685
11,129	.....	Refunds and Suspense	10,664
775	17,781	Sundry Payments	3,140
340,008		260,921	
361		Plus Closing Credit Balance	2,030
\$340,369		\$262,951	

Payments

Head Office Salaries and Expenses rose principally through increases in basic rate and margins during the year, along with long service leave payments. Also Board inspection fees and expenses were higher than previously due to visits to outlying areas, such as Kalbarri, Cape Le Grand and Nornalup National Parks.

Similarly wages were higher on account of basic wage and marginal increases granted to workers.

Staff Endowment Fund and Pay Roll Tax payments dropped because in the previous year \$2,143 and \$1,539 respectively were attributable to the Garden and Mowing Services which were handed over to the Department of Public Works on the 1st July, 1966. Garden and Mowing services general payments of \$1,017 for this year represent payment of accounts outstanding at 30th June, 1966 for goods and services incurred prior to then.

Sundry Payments includes such items as Consultant Architects retainer and expenses \$875, printing of brochures, leaflets and annual reports \$1,587 Board car running expenses \$228, etc.

ACT AND BY-LAWS

The Board was appointed under the Parks and Reserves Act, 1895-1963, and its powers are defined in this Act, including power to make by-laws. Formerly, the State Gardens Board administered the reserves until reconstituted the National Parks Board of Western

Australia when it was made a body corporate, by proclamation dated the 4th April, 1956, and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 13th April, 1956.

A new set of by-laws was approved and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 29th May, 1963, and amendments have been published in the *Government Gazettes* of the 22nd December, 1964, and the 10th June, 1965.

These by-laws are exhibited in appropriate parks and reserves.

A revision of these by-laws is in progress.

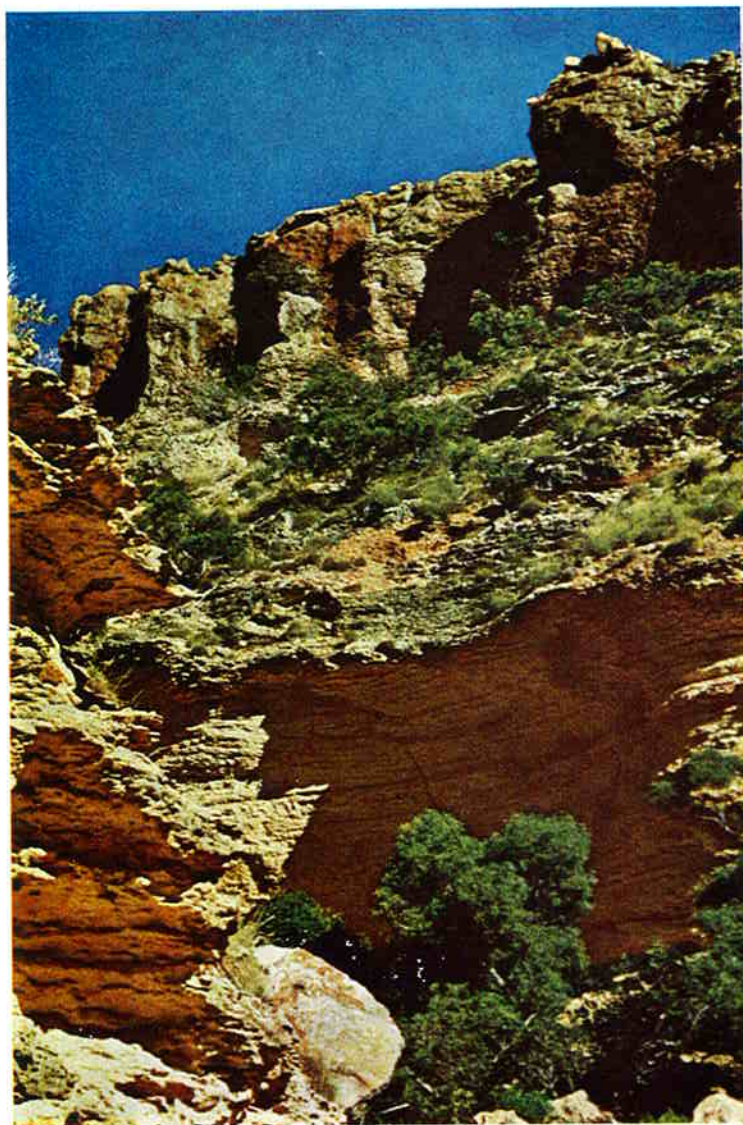
ROADS GENERALLY

The Main Roads Department continues to render financial assistance and give practical help in road construction and improvements within national parks and reserves, sometimes in conjunction with the Local Authority of the district concerned.

FIRE CONTROL, ACCESS ROADS AND FIRELINES

As in the past the Forest Department has rendered valuable assistance in fire control matters and local Bush Fire Brigades and Shire Councils have co-operated where necessary.

Further progress was made in a major construction programme on access roads and firelines in the Nornalup National Park. It was hoped to have this work completed in 1966-67,



*Cliff-face of Gorge, north of
Charles Knife Road,
Cape Range National Park*

but unavoidable delays finally made this impossible and consequently the balance of the work will have to be carried out during the ensuing year. In addition Board Staff constructed some fire-breaks in "The Knoll" area of this park and carried out some controlled burning.

The Stirling Range National Park of some 284,540 acres has now been provided with firelines practically all the way around the perimeter and some progress has been made on clearing of fire-breaks in the western section of the Kalbarri National Park (358,000 acres). The local shire co-operated in regrading of firelines in the Porongurup National Park.

Board Staff has carried out regrading of firelines in the John Forrest National Park, Serpentine National Park, Walyunga National Park, Neerabup National Park and Yanchep Park.

The local Shire co-operated in providing a fairly rough road to Lucky Bay in the Cape Le Grand National Park.

CONSERVATION OF NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA

Ecological Studies

Ecological studies in the Yanchep Park were continued. This project was commenced in May 1965 when 24 plots were established, 20 in areas burnt by bushfires in the previous summer, and 4 in an adjacent area which had been burnt two years previously, and which were used for comparative purposes. Plant counts were carried out at intervals during the period under review.

Few of the perennial shrubs which were severely burnt back in the fire, failed to regenerate. Their subsequent growth has been vigorous, and they are now approaching the size and cover pattern which they showed prior to December 1964. During the two autumn seasons which have been studied, a number of perennial species regenerated from seed, but during both summer periods there has been a certain decrease in the number of these seedlings.

Annual plants, both native and introduced have regenerated well, and have increased in numbers. Being short lived, these plants complete their life cycle by the spring, and their survival is not affected by the summer period.

Wildflower Cultivation and Conservation

Centrally situated wildflower plots have been established at Yanchep Park and John Forrest National Park in an effort to make it easy for tourists and other visitors to see a representative collection of our unique native flora growing naturally without the need to walk long distances. This planting has been extended to select areas along the scenic drives in these parks. Also some planting out of native flora has been effected in the Moingup Spring area in the Stirling Range National Park.

There is a small nursery at Yanchep Park and thought is being given to the question of enlarging these facilities so as to grow native flora on a larger scale for distribution to parks generally for planting out.

The Board is aware of the need to limit authorised wildflower picking for display purposes and the setting aside of areas in which wildflowers may be cultivated for picking for exhibition purposes will help towards avoiding interference with wildflowers growing naturally in the park.

Tree Planting

Another plantation of Eucalypts suitable for providing gum tips for Koala feed was established at Yanchep Park during the year and some further planting out of Tuarts (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) took place, these being a species common to the Yanchep area.

Bottle Brush and local Wattles have been planted out alongside the Scenic Drives at John Forrest National Park.

Peppermints and Red Flowering Gums (*Eucalyptus ficifolia*) have been planted in the Nornalup National Park, alternating alongside each side of the access road to Coalmine Beach between the South Coast Highway and the Walpole Yacht Club site. Also a number of Weeping Willows have been planted to the north of the camp-caravan area.

Native Fauna

All native fauna is protected in National Parks and Reserves under the control of the Board and shooting is prohibited.

Kangaroos, wallabies, emus, parrots, rosellas and finches are exhibited at Yanchep Park, where black swans and ducks frequent Loch McNess and the ornamental lakes.

The kind gesture of the Aviculture Society of W.A., is appreciated in giving advice and supplying finches for exhibit at Yanchep Park. Also other gifts of fauna for exhibit at that park have been appreciated.

There have been a few Koala deaths and some births during the year, including twins thought to have been born around December or January last. At the time of preparation of this report these young had not left the mother's pouch. This is the first birth of twins at Yanchep Park and the little Koala colony numbered 24 at the 30th June, 1967.

Arrangements were in hand to obtain two (2) more female Koalas from the Lone Pine Sanctuary, Queensland in order to introduce fresh breeding stock.

SPRINGTIME WILDFLOWERS WALKS

Conducted wildflower walks were held once again during the Springtime at Yanchep Park and John Forrest National Park for those wishing to participate, and the wildflower beds have been name-plated for the benefit of those interested in the botanic names of the native flora.

SIGNPOSTING OF NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES

Signposting of National Parks and Reserves is still receiving active attention and consideration is being given to experimenting with a new type of sign, initially in parks where vandalism is less prevalent. In signposting parks, emphasis is placed on protection of flora and fauna and to the prohibition of firearms and lighting of fires in other than fireplaces provided by the Board.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weed spray equipment was acquired and follow-up spraying of *Watsonia* was carried out at John Forrest National Park. Also spraying of *Watsonia* and/or Cape Tulip was carried out in the Lesmurdie Falls National Park, Serpentine National Park and

Walyunga National Park, along with some spraying of Cape Tulip and Lupins at Yanchep Park. Follow-up spraying will be necessary in each case. Spraying of Wild Geranium will receive attention at Yanchep Park during early 1967-68.

The Department of Agriculture co-operated in spraying Soldier Thistle alongside the walking track through "The Pass" in the Porongurup National Park.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS

About \$2,800 was spent during the year on access road and fireline construction in the Nornalup National Park. A small electricity generating unit has been acquired for installation at Coalmine Beach Camping and Caravan Park in that park, following unsuccessful efforts to have the S.E.C. power line extended to Walpole.

Public toilets, Assistant Ranger's Residence and double Garage were constructed in the Moingup Spring area, within the Stirling Range National Park and a start made on the provision of electric light and power for these buildings.

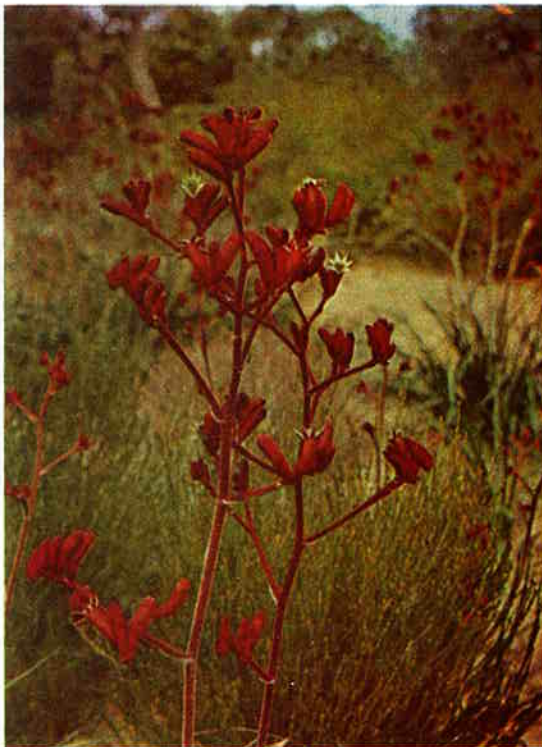
A new brick residence was erected for the Superintendent at Yanchep Park where two (2) new brick veneer staff houses were completed and occupied. This extra accommodation became necessary through the loss of the services of employees living outside the park. Also modern internal toilet facilities were constructed on the ground floor of Yanchep Inn and the beer garden fenced to meet State Licensing Court requirements.

Staff toilets and showers were erected adjacent to the Workshop at John Forrest National Park, and the toilets and changerooms at the Matilda Bay Reserve were rewired for electricity.

PURCHASE OF PARKLANDS

An annual instalment of \$5,559 was paid in connection with the purchase of the Walyunga National Park and a further \$4,800 in acquisition of Swan Location 422, entirely surrounded by Yanchep Park Land.

Red Kangaroo Paw (Anigosanthos rufa)



NEW VEHICLES, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

A 4-wheel drive Landrover truck was obtained for fire control and light work at John Forrest National Park and other nearby parks administered from there.

It became necessary to also acquire one of such vehicles for use in the Stirling Range National Park, following the appointment of the Assistant Ranger for that park and his location in the Moingup Spring area.

Also a 4-wheel drive Landrover and Caravan were acquired in connection with the appointment of another mobile ranger.

A Board car was purchased for inspection work and chain saws supplied to Yanchep Park and No. 1 Mobile Ranger respectively.

STANDARD PICNIC FIREPLACES AND PICNIC TABLES

Some more standard concrete barbecue fireplaces, containing safety features were acquired and distributed among selected parks and reserves, and the Tourist Development Authority helped finance their acquisition.

Other fireplaces have been constructed by our own staff in the more distant National Parks, such as at Kalbarri and the Stirlings, It is hoped to provide a few in the Cape Range National Park shortly.

A standard tubular frame type picnic table is being manufactured at Yanchep Park for distribution to Board parks and reserves. The units should prove more economical to maintain than those formerly made up.

RANGERS

The acquisition of the Walyunga National Park has practically tied up one of the mobile rangers, but one has been employed for periods in the Kalbarri, Cape Le Grand, Lesmurdie Falls and Serpentine National Parks on general cleaning up, maintenance, improvements and/or fire control matters.

Honorary Rangers, Messrs. D. Bathgate and V. J. Buchanan were appointed for the Cape Range National Park, Messrs. E. Pederick and R. Glass for the Kalbarri National Park and Mr. W. Kirwan for the Cape Le Grand National Park. Their co-operation, along with that of Col. J. K. Murdoch, Civil Commissioner at Exmouth has been most helpful in the administration of these outlying areas.

FIRST AID CLASSES

Mobile Ranger Mr. J. H. Rose is attending first aid classes, following the qualification obtained in first aid by certain members of the Yanchep Park staff during the previous year.

ALGAE REMOVAL

As in past years, assistance was given to the Swan River Conservation Board by way of employment of workmen, and storage of plant and equipment in the Matilda Bay Reserve, for use in algae clearance along the Swan River generally, including the foreshore fronting the Matilda Bay Reserve. The Swan River Conservation Board recoups the cost.

PUBLICITY

The press, radio and television stations continue to give a coverage of items of interest associated with our National Parks and Reserves. It is felt that publicity is necessary in

order to keep the public aware of the facilities available in these national parks and reserves for their enjoyment and also awareness of the need for conservation of flora and fauna, besides restriction on the lighting of fires and this applies particularly during the bush fire season.

Lectures have been given on national parks matters over the radio and television and also to some societies by Mr. C. F. H. Jenkins (Deputy President), and the Managing Secretary has also lectured. Arrangements are in hand for both of them to deliver lectures to organisations during the ensuing year.

Arrangements are in hand towards gradually issuing attractive informative brochures, folders and leaflets on the more important national parks and reserves. The high cost of colour blocks has delayed progress a little in this direction, but the temporary delay has nearly been overcome by spreading the cost over more than one year.

HISTORICAL PLAQUES

Two grants, each of \$40, were made during the year to the following Branches of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society:—

- (a) Eastern Goldfields Branch as part cost of providing a plaque at Bulong, where gold was first found in 1894; and
- (b) Irwin District Historical Society, as part of the cost of providing a plaque to commemorate the discovery and naming of the Irwin River by Lieut. George Grey in 1839.

Grants for this purpose are limited to a maximum of \$40 or the cost of the plaque, whichever is the lower.

VANDALISM

Shooting up and either mutilation or complete removal of signs is still a problem and seems more prevalent at the Kalbarri and Lesmurdie Falls National Parks than at other parks. Also obscene drawing and writing on walls of change-rooms and toilets occurs at the Matilda Bay Reserve, along with damage to golf course fairways and greens at Yanchep Park from time to time; and occasional breaking into caves and theft of wishing well contributions. Unfortunately the culprits are hard to detect. The co-operation of the public in promptly reporting incidents of this nature would be appreciated.

CONTROL OF THE GARDENING AND MOWING SERVICES

Control of these services passed to the Department of Public Works on the 1st July, 1966 and receipts and payments shown in the Board's Statement of Accounts for the year under review are those relating only to winding up operations by the Board, i.e. accounts for work carried out and goods and services transacted prior to the 30th June, 1966.

BOARD INSPECTIONS

Board Members and the Managing Secretary have made periodical inspections of national parks and reserves under the Board's control, sometimes as a Board and at other times individually, according to circumstances.

Except for the Geikie Gorge National Park (only vested in June, 1967) all national parks and reserves under the Board's control were visited during the year, including the Kalbarri, Nambung, Cape Le Grand and Cape Range National Parks visited for the first time.

IMPORTANT VISITORS

Mr. J. H. Rose a member of the Tongariro National Park Board of New Zealand visited several of our National Parks during the year and has been most helpful in supplying information on national parks administration in New Zealand.

GENERAL

The financial assistance received from the State Treasury is acknowledged with thanks, along with the advice and practical help received from the various Government Departments, Authorities and Boards.

Members join me in expressing appreciation to the officers of the departments and organisations concerned.

The Board also appreciates the assistance rendered by the Shire Councils and Bush Fire Brigades in whose areas the National parks and reserves concerned are located.

Also the efforts of the Nornalup National Park Advisory Committee are appreciated.

I join with the Members in expressing appreciation of the loyal and dedicated service given by the Head Office and Field Staffs on national park matters, and also the efforts of our Consultant Architect and Honorary Building Supervisor in planning and supervision of building construction work.

More detailed information on the activities in the individual national parks and reserves is given in the Appendix to this report.

APPENDIX

NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES

National Parks are listed first in alphabetical order, followed by other reserves listed in similar order:—

CAPE LE GRAND NATIONAL PARK

Control

Mr. W. Kirwan of Esperance has been appointed an honorary ranger for this outlying park, which is located east of Esperance and Mobile Ranger Mr. N. Walmsley has made trips to it for the purpose of effecting improvements.

Access Roads

The Shire of Esperance co-operated in the provision of a rough access road to Lucky Bay and Thistle Cove.

Fire Control

A severe bush fire burnt out a large section of this park in the autumn and on the suggestion of the Honorary Ranger it was hoped to provide a fire-break along the eastern boundary of the park; but inclement weather forced the postponement temporarily of this proposal.

Signs

Flora and fauna signs have been erected at selected sites in the park.

Barbecue Fireplaces and Rubbish Bins

Several of these have been supplied and located at Cape Le Grand, Lucky Bay and Thistle Cove beach areas.

CAPE RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Control

Col. J. K. Murdoch, Civil Commissioner at Exmouth has rendered valuable assistance in planning road and other improvements in

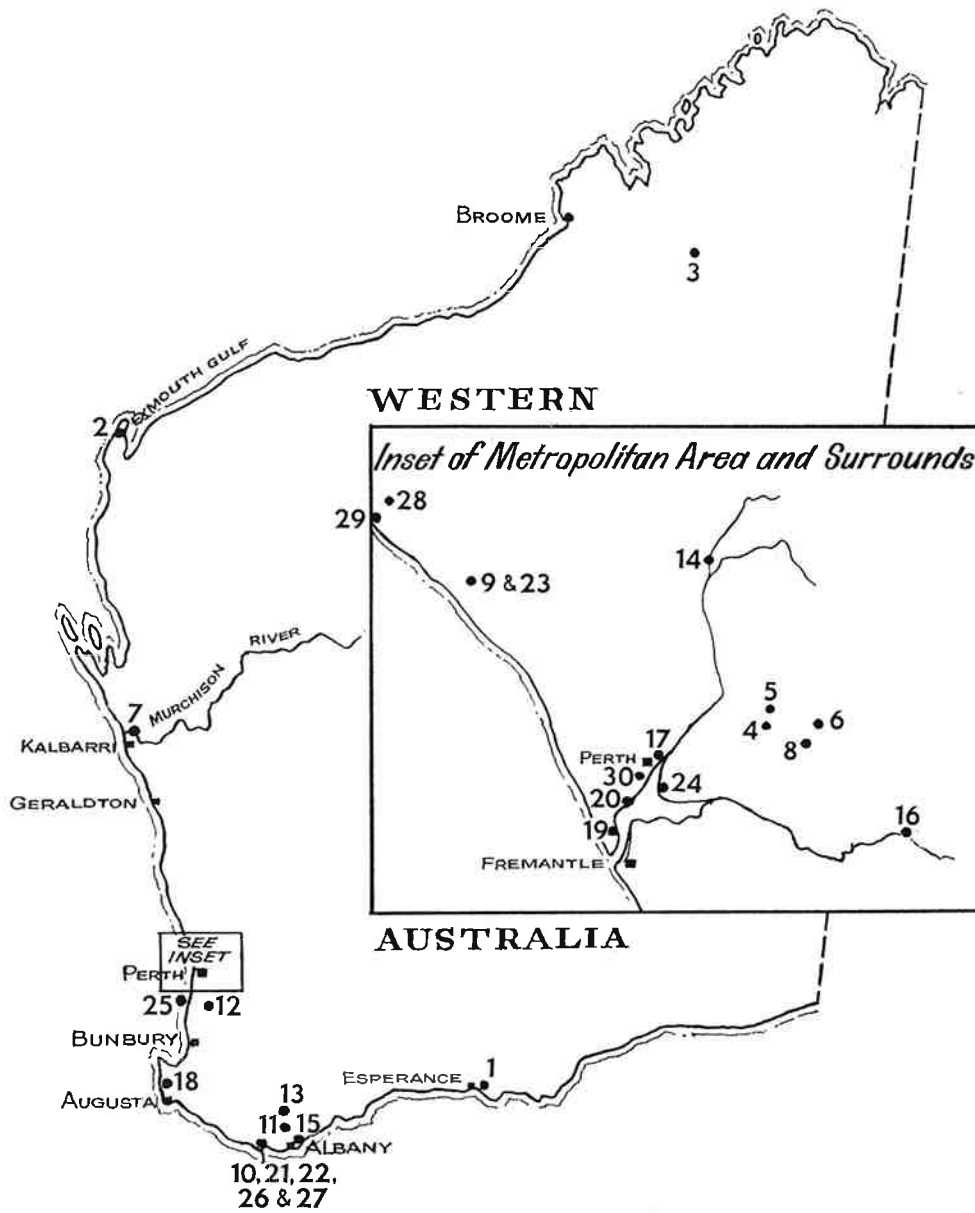
LOCATION OF NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER RESERVES

NATIONAL PARKS

- 1 Cape Le Grand
- 2 Cape Range
- 3 Geikie Gorge
- 4 Greenmount
- 5 John Forrest
- 6 Kalamunda
- 7 Kalbarri
- 8 Lesmurdie
- 9 Neerabup
- 10 Nornalup
- 11 Porongurup
- 12 Serpentine
- 13 Stirling Range
- 14 Walyunga

OTHER RESERVES

- 15 Albany Boronia Reserve
- 16 Araluen—Canning Dam Reserve
- 17 East Perth Cemetery Reserve
- 18 Hamelin Bay Reserve
- 19 Keane's Point Reserve
- 20 Matilda Bay Reserve
- 21 Nornalup Park Lands Reserve
- 22 Nornalup Flora Reserve
- 23 Nowergup Lake Fauna Sanctuary
- 24 Old Mill Reserve, South Perth
- 25 Penguin Island Reserve
- 26 Walpole Golf Course Reserve
- 27 Walpole Yacht Club Reserve
- 28 Yanchee Park and Flora Reserves
- 29 Yanchee Beach Reserve
- 30 Small Part of King's Park Reserve (Bernies)



this area and he has been ably supported by Honorary Rangers, Messrs. D. Bathgate and V. J. Buchanan of Exmouth. It is hoped to send Mobile Ranger Mr. Walmsley to this area later in the year in order to assist with the provision of certain improvements.

Access Roads

The two main sources of access are over the Charles Knife Road and Shot-hole Canyon Access Road. These roads both need some attention and the Civil Commissioner has this matter in hand.

Signs

Flora and fauna signs have been supplied and erected by the honorary rangers, and arrangements are in hand to have erected some other relative signs concerning steep grades, litter and restriction on lighting of fires.

Picnic Areas

Fireplaces and rubbish bins are to be supplied and located in the range near the two main access roads.

GEIKIE GORGE NATIONAL PARK *Control and General*

This attractive area was only vested in this Board on the 2nd June, 1967 and consequently the area has not yet been inspected or future policy planned.

GREENMOUNT NATIONAL PARK *Control and General*

This small national park on the western edge of the Darling Range escarpment is under the supervision of the John Forrest National Park Superintendent and apart from signposting and the provision of a good sealed access road, this park has been left in its natural state.

JOHN FORREST NATIONAL PARK *Control*

Superintendent G. R. Edwards is in charge of this park and has under his control a small staff of workers. He resides on a small property adjoining the east boundary of the park.

Road access and car Parks

Improvement of access to the existing main parking areas near the tearoom and the provision of further vehicle parking space did not eventuate as anticipated; but these proposed improvements are expected to be effected during the ensuing year.

Fire Control

The usual fireline maintenance and controlled burning were carried out by park employees during the year.

Native Flora and Springtime Wildflower Walks

Additional wildflower garden beds have been made up and further planting of wildflower plants carried out in these beds and alongside the main scenic drive at selected points. Also some more Bottle Brush and local Wattles were planted alongside this drive.

Name plating of native flora was continued, as an aid to identification by Botanists and other interested visitors to this park.

Footbridge above Hovea Falls

Our workmen constructed a timber footbridge across Jane Brook above the Hovea Falls, thus linking walking paths on each side of the brook in this area.

Picnic Shelter Sheds

Two further picnic shelters are being constructed to a design prepared by our Consultant Architect.

Workshop Toilet and Shower Facilities

The provision of these facilities was finalised during the year.

Vehicles Plant and Equipment

A new light 4-wheel drive truck was acquired for general use and fire control purposes in this park and nearby ones.

Also a petrol bowser and tank were installed.

Watsonia Spraying

Follow-up spraying was carried out on *Watsonia* growing along the banks of Jane Brook and every effort will be made to keep *Watsonia* under control in this area, where it has become a nuisance through being washed down from further upstream.

KALAMUNDA NATIONAL PARK *Control and General*

The John Forrest National Park Superintendent also supervises this park, which has been left in its natural state. Sign posting of the park has been carried out with emphasis on the protection of flora and fauna and prohibition on fire-arms and fires.

Blue *Leschenaultia* thrives in the park in season.

Implementation of a fire plan prepared by the Forests Department for this park has been deferred until 1967-68 upon the advice of that Department.

KALBARRI NATIONAL PARK *Control*

Messrs. E. Pederick and R. Glass of Kalbarri were appointed honorary rangers for this park and Mobile Ranger Mr. Walmsley has been patrolling the park for periods during the year.

Extra Territory

The Board is seeking further territory in "The Loop" area and also along the scenic coastline south of Red Bluff.

Access Roads

The Main Roads Department financed the construction by the Shire of Northampton of access roads into the Ross Graham Lookout and Hawk's Head Lookout. It is hoped that an access road will be provided to The Loop during 1967-68 because access is only possible now by 4-wheel drive vehicles.

Fire Control

The Shire has co-operated in the provision of firelines along the park's western boundary and internally in the north western sector of the park. It is anticipated that further firelines will be constructed during the ensuing year.

Control of Wild Pigs and Goats

Means of controlling wild pigs and goats in this large national park are being investigated and the Chief Vermin Control Officer has been approached for advice.

Picnic Facilities

Fireplaces and Rubbish bins have been provided at the Ross Graham Lookout, Hawks' Head Lookout and The Loop.

Signs

As in other parks, signs have been erected indicating the name of the park and reference to such matter as protection of flora and fauna and prohibition on fire-arms and fires. Shooting up of signs is a common occurrence.

LESMURDIE FALLS NATIONAL PARK

Control

This small national park comes under the supervision of the John Forrest National Park Superintendent. Mobile Rangers have been used in cleaning up this park, following a bush fire early in 1967.

Improvements

A timber footbridge was constructed over the Lesmurdie Brook upstream from the falls and a walking path constructed to near the foot of the falls, where a scenic look-out point was established.

The construction of a new toilet block was envisaged, but for certain reasons had to be deferred until 1967-68.

Signs

Vandals are particularly troublesome in the mutilation or complete removal of signs from this park, where the usual type ones are provided.

Watsonia Spraying

Spraying of *Watsonia* was carried out during the year and follow-up spraying will be necessary next year.

NEERABUP NATIONAL PARK

Control

This park comes under the supervision of the Yanchep Park Superintendent.

General

Firelines have been constructed and the park signposted.

NORNALUP NATIONAL PARK

Control

Ranger L. G. Gunson is in charge of this attractive national park and has an assistant. They both live at Coalmine Beach, via Walpole. Mr. J. Rate, who is a member and secretary of the Nornalup National Park Advisory Committee takes an active interest in park matters.

Nornalup National Park Advisory Committee.

During the year Mr. E. S. Thompson replaced Mr. R. S. Palmer as the Shire representative on this Committee, which now comprises Messrs. J. D. Hull (Chairman), T. C. Cooper, P. Harbin, J. H. Rate, and E. S. Thompson.

The Committee's secretarial duties are carried out by Mr. Rate, who is also an honorary ranger for this park.

The Board appreciates the value of this Committee in presenting the local viewpoint and recommendations on matters appertaining to this park.

By-laws

The Board's by-laws are exhibited at Coalmine Beach.

Access Road to Coalmine Beach and around The Knoll Scenic Drive

A start was made on priming a further section of this access road near Coalmine Beach, but the work was deferred until next year due to a technical problem.

Access Road and Track Construction (including firelines):

Further road construction work was carried out in a section of the park north of the South Coast Highway and \$2,782 was spent on this work. However, the job could not be completed due to plant and weather problems encountered by the contractor and will be attended to in 1967-68. The Main Road Department has agreed to contribute \$3,000 towards the cost of these access roads. Also an amount of \$560 was expended on regrading of existing firelines in the Hilltop Road area north of the South Coast Highway.

The Ranger and Assistant Ranger also constructed some firelines in The Knoll area.

Controlled Burning

Weather conditions restricted the controlled burning programme envisaged for the year by the Walpole Bush Fire Brigade. However, the Rangers carried out some patch burning in selected areas.

Fire Control

Arrangements are in hand to equip the Ranger's vehicle with two-way radio for fire control purposes.

Improvements

Following the extension of the garage, the fuel and vehicle compound area was fenced. Also the Assistant Ranger's Cottage was fenced and painted, and minor improvements were effected to the Ranger's residence. Action was initiated towards providing electricity for the public amenities at Coalmine Beach camping and caravan park.

Signs

This park is adequately sign-posted.

PORONGURUP NATIONAL PARK

Control

Supervised by the Stirling Range National Park Ranger and Assistant Ranger.

Access Roads

Repairs were effected to the road to "The Pass" as far as the vehicle turn-around.

Fire Control

The Shire co-operated in regrading of firelines bordering this park.

Signs

Walking paths are sign-posted and other appropriate signs erected at selected points in the park.

Spraying of Noxious Weeds

Some spraying of Soldier Thistle was carried out on our behalf by the Department of Agriculture and it is hoped to arrange spraying of Blackberry at the appropriate time. In each case the Soldier Thistle and Blackberry were located either side of the walking path through The Pass during the course of a Board inspection.

SERPENTINE NATIONAL PARK

Control

Part-time Ranger Mr. W. G. Baldwin collects vehicle entry fee and cleans the change-rooms and toilets.

Access Road and Bridge

There are indications that a bridge will be constructed over the Serpentine River downstream from the falls in order to give access to a proposed picnic area on the north side of the river.

Fire Control

Re-grading of firelines was carried out by using staff and plant from John Forrest National Park.

Picnic Area, Change Rooms and Toilets

Mobile Ranger Mr. Walmsley has spent time cleaning up the main picnic area and painting picnic tables. Arrangements have been made for regular attendance of a mobile ranger for cleaning up purposes in this area.

Signs

Appropriate signs are located at selected points within the park.

Spraying for Blackberry and Watsonia

Some spraying of Watsonia was carried out along the river bank downstream from the falls. The presence and treatment of Blackberry in the northern section of the park is receiving attention.

STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK

Control

Ranger F. A. Spratt is in charge of this large National Park and operates temporarily from a caravan located at the junction of the Bluff Knoll access road with the Chester Pass Road near the northern boundary of the park. He is due to retire early in 1968.

Access Roads

The steep section of the Bluff Knoll access road has been sealed and the connecting road between Chester Pass and Redgum Pass has been made trafficable. This road is to be named Stirling Range Drive and it gives outstanding views of the peaks on this side of the range. Small car parking areas and picnic facilities are being provided at selected points along the route of this road.

Walking Paths

Improvements have been effected to existing walking paths to the main peaks and additional ones are to be constructed to other peaks.

Fire Control

Further construction work has been carried out in the provision of firelines along the northern and upper eastern boundaries of this large park. The park is now practically encircled by fire-breaks. Also some existing firelines were regraded.

It is hoped to equip the Assistant Ranger's vehicle with two-way radio for fire control purposes.

Proposed Rangers Residence, Caravan Park and Water Supply

The erection of a ranger's residence and the establishment of a camping and caravan park

near the Bluff Knoll turn-off have been dependent upon the provision of an adequate supply of potable water.

Subject to sufficient finance being available this coming financial year, it is hoped to have a water storage dam constructed nearby, so that these facilities may be established in the area, along with a small tourist information centre.

Assistant Ranger's Residence and Double Garage

These buildings were erected in the Moingup Spring area during the year to house the assistant ranger and vehicle respectively. Our Consultant Architect designed the buildings.

Public Toilet Block in the Moingup Spring Area

This building was erected during the year to a design prepared by our Consultant Architect.

Water Supply at Redgum Spring

It became necessary to effect repairs to this water supply, in order to avoid its pollution.

Public Toilets at Redgum Springs

Temporary toilets were provided near the picnic facilities in this area, pending the construction of permanent facilities when finance is available.

Vehicles, Plant and Equipment

A 4-wheel drive Landrover truck was acquired for the Assistant Ranger whose residence is located some miles from the Ranger's Headquarters. This vehicle is of value for fire fighting and other purposes. Action is in course towards providing a small electricity generating plant for the Moingup Spring Area.

Signs

Walking paths are signposted generally and other appropriate signs have been sited at selected points within the park.

WALYUNGA NATIONAL PARK

Control

Reservations and Vesting of this area in the Board has yet to be finalised. The delay has been brought about by the fact that payment for the land is spread over a term.

Mobile Ranger J. H. Rose has been stationed in this park nearly continuously, due to the large number of visitors, the attempts at unauthorised removal of artifacts from the former native workshop area and river-washed stones from the river bed, and also shooting in this park.

Access Roads

The existing access road into Walyunga Pool and Long Pool is fairly rough and survey work is in progress in relation to the construction of a new access road to these attractive areas.

Fire Control

A number of firelines were constructed in the park west of Long Pool and other firelines regraded. Controlled burning was carried out on the west side of Long Pool to as far as the first fire-break, and an area south of the approach road to Walyunga Pool was also burnt. Someone lit a fire in this park in November, 1966 and the resultant bushfire caused damage to the park and adjoining property.

Public Toilets

Temporary toilets were provided near Walyunga Pool about twelve months ago and it was intended erecting permanent toilets in this area during this year to a design being submitted by our Consultant Architect. However, delay in this regard has necessitated deferring the construction of this toilet block until 1967-68.

Water Supply

Establishment of a water supply near Walyunga Pool is in progress and should be completed shortly.

Watsonia and Cape Weed

Spraying of *Watsonia* was carried out during the year and further spraying for *Watsonia* and *Cape Weed* will be carried out during the following year.

Signs

Roadside signs have been erected to direct people to the north east end of the park and other signs have been erected alongside the Great Northern Highway to direct people into Long and Walyunga Pools.

Other signs relating to protection of flora and fauna, carriage of firearms, lighting of fires and removal of soil and stone have been erected at selected points in the park.

OTHER RESERVES

ALBANY BORONIA RESERVE

This reserve is being maintained in its natural state and a survey for the presence of boronia will be conducted during early 1967-68.

ARALUEN-CANNING DAM RESERVE

This is a comparatively small narrow strip of territory lying between the Canning River and McNess Drive and extending from the vicinity of Araluen to the boundary of the Canning Dam water reserve. It is undeveloped; although the Board did arrange the erection of a log entrance to McNess Drive a few years ago.

EAST PERTH CEMETERY

A full-time gardener is employed on maintenance of the grounds of this Cemetery, where lie the remains of many of the early pioneers of this State.

The Police Department is co-operating in our endeavours to avoid damage to the graves and their tombstones. It is felt that the National Trust of Australia (W.A.) would be a more appropriate body to administer this Cemetery Reserve.

HAMELIN BAY RESERVE

Control

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Wood lease a portion of this reserve for holiday resort purposes and Mr. Wood has in the past acted as an honorary ranger.

Public Change Rooms and Toilets

These facilities were provided a few years ago by the Board and the Tourist Development Authority assisted financially. They are cleaned by the lessees for a small consideration and arrangements are being made for lighting them now that S.E.C. power is available.

Boat Launching Ramp

The Tourist Development Authority and the Augusta-Margaret River Tourist Bureau co-operated during the year in the construction of this new timber launching ramp at Hamelin Bay.

Car Parking Area

Arrangements are in hand for the car park near the Public facilities to be sealed.

KEANE'S POINT RESERVE

A small area leased to the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and the grounds are well maintained by this progressive Club, which is providing excellent facilities for those wishing to enjoy the pleasures of aquatic sport on the Swan River.

MATILDA BAY RESERVE

(Formerly known as the Crawley Reserve)

Control

Caretaker-Ranger P. W. Daley retired in June, 1967 after many years service with the Board and Mr. P. Sullivan is acting caretaker pending a permanent appointment to this position. His staff consists of two employees and two other workers are employed on behalf of the Swan River Conservation Board.

Restaurant-Tearoom and Kiosk

The old tearooms were demolished during 1965-66 and unfortunately there has been unavoidable delay in their replacement; although temporary facilities were made available over part of the summer months of early 1967. Arrangements have now been finalised for the erection of a modern restaurant-tearoom and kiosk, which are expected to be open to the public for next summer.

Change-Room—Toilet Blocks

It became necessary to have these two blocks near the main swimming area electrically re-wired and a start has been made on painting them and the other toilet block in the northern section of the reserve. Epoxy resin is being used on the walls in an effort to combat an obscene drawing and writing problem experienced in these buildings from time to time.

Concrete and Timber Seats

A number of these seats have been made up and placed around the reserve for the convenience of visitors.

Leased Sites to Aquatic Clubs

Sites are leased to the Royal Perth Yacht Club, Mounts Bay Sailing Club, Perth 14 ft. Dinghy Sailing Club, 1st Pelican Point (Sea Scouts) Group and the Governors of Hale School. Also the University of W.A. Rowing Club occupies a boatshed on the foreshore of this reserve. The Yacht Clubs concerned are playing their part in providing pleasure and facilities for boating enthusiasts on the Swan River.

NORNALUP PARK LANDS RESERVE

Control and General

This reserve adjoins the eastern boundary of the Nornalup National Park on the north side of the South Coast Highway, and for all practical purposes is treated as part of the national park.

NORNALUP FLORA RESERVE
Control and General

Similarly this reserve which adjoins the Nornalup National Park is treated as part of that National Park for practical purposes.

NOWERGUP LAKE FAUNA
SANCTUARY
Control and General

This reserve is undeveloped and comes under the supervision of the Yanchep Park Superintendent.

OLD MILL RESERVE, SOUTH
PERTH

A small reserve at the South Perth end of the Narrows Bridge and it is leased to Messrs. H. L. Brisbane and Wunderlich Ltd., who restored the old mill and cottage and established a small historical museum on the site a few years ago.

PENGUIN ISLAND RESERVE
Control

Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Carlberg lease portion of this reserve for holiday resort purposes and Mr. Carlberg acts as an honorary ranger for the Board. His principal duties involve protection of penguins and prohibition of dogs on the island.

Penguins

A few nesting shelters were provided for penguins near the settlements in 1965-66 and it is hoped to provide some more in the near future. The island is signposted regarding the protection of Penguins.

Public Toilets

Maintained by the lessees, following their renovation by the Board in 1965-66.

Signs

The island and adjacent mainland are signposted regarding danger of crossing to and from the island via the sandbar, and also regarding prohibition on dogs and protection of Penguins.

WALPOLE GOLF COURSE
RESERVE

Excised from the Nornalup National Park and at present held in its natural state.

WALPOLE YACHT CLUB SITE

Also excised from the Nornalup National Park and leased to the Walpole Yacht Club.

YANCHEP PARK AND FLORA
RESERVES
Control

Superintendent W. J. Burnett is at present in charge of Yanchep Park and nearby Flora Reserves (for Koala feed purposes), but he retires shortly and the Assistant Superintendent Mr. J. E. Dale has now been appointed to succeed him. The Superintendent resides in the park and has a staff of 19 persons, including office staff, cave guides, maintenance workers, gardeners, etc.

Additional Territory

Crown Grant 422 was acquired and added to this park during the year.

Roads and Car Parks

There has been some delay in finalisation of replanning the southern entrance road to the park and the provision of additional parking space to meet the ever increasing public demand.

Golf Course

Patronage of this attractive public golf course, continues to grow. The grassed fairways have been maintained in first class condition; although a section of No. 3 fairway tends to become water logged when a heavy downpour of rain is experienced. Drainage is a problem.

Playing Fields

Grassing of a third playing field is progressing satisfactorily now that further filling has been provided.

Caves

The Crystal Cave, Yonderup and Silver Stocking Cabaret Cave continue to be well patronised.

Launches and Rowing Boats

The launch trips are popular and there is an ever increasing demand for hire of rowing boats.

A further three rowing boats were constructed for the park at Riverbank during the year.

One of the two launches viz. Miss Yanchep will be undergoing repairs shortly.

A boat repair section has been established at Yanchep Park for the repairing of rowing boats.

Dredging of Loch McNess

It is hoped that funds will be available so as to permit the Department of Public Works to arrange some dredging of Loch McNess during 1967-68.

Yanchep Inn

The beer garden was fenced to meet State Licensing Court requirements and the slow combustion kitchen stove was converted to oil firing, following problems in coke supplies. Construction of internal ground floor toilets and renovations to external toilets were completed early in the year under review.

Gloucester Lodge

The slow combustion kitchen stove in this guest house was also converted to oil firing for the same reason.

It seems that major improvements to the swimming pool at Gloucester Lodge, including filtration, are necessary, otherwise the pool may have to be closed down.

Staff Houses

A new brick house was built for the Superintendent and two brick veneer houses were built for other staff, in order to meet a housing shortage in the park.

Machinery and Storage Sheds

Extensions and improvements were effected to these facilities.

Vehicles, plant and equipment

A motorised power saw, a chain saw and a Deutscher Rotary Mower were acquired.

Fire Control

Board workmen carried out the usual fire-line maintenance and controlled burning and a few new firelines were constructed.



Barbecue Fireplaces and Tubular Type Picnic Tables

More standard fireplaces have been provided and also some more of the new tubular type picnic tables. These are being mass produced to an American Design and distributed to other parks. These new tables are expected to cut maintenance costs.

Noxious Weed Spraying

Spraying of Cape Weed received attention during the year. Further spraying of this weed is envisaged along with spraying of lupins and wild geraniums which are spreading within the park.

Tree Planting

A further 200 Tuarts (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) were raised and planted out in this park. Also 200 *E. rudis*, 100 *E. globulus*, 100 *E. punctata*, 50 *E. tereticornis* and 50 *E. viminalis* were raised and planted out, as a further source of koala feed.

Native Flora Gardens and Wildflowers Walks

Further planting has been carried out in wildflower beds and alongside the southern access road and internal drive, involving some 8,000 plants over the past two months and planting out is still in progress.

Also more of these beds have been bordered with limestone and further nameplating carried out.

Springtime conducted wildflower walks were provided as in past years.

General

Yanchep Park facilities include Yanchep Inn, Gloucester Lodge and McNess Guest House;



picnic and barbecue areas; golf course; tennis courts; playing fields; launch rides and boating on Loch McNess; and cave inspections. In addition there are picturesque walks, koalas, kangaroos, emus and colourful birds on display and the wildflower beds are a springtime feature; although there are usually some species flowering at most times during the year.

YANCHEP BEACH RESERVE

Control and General

The purpose of this reserve is "camping" and its supervision comes under the Yanchep Park Superintendent. However it is hoped that control will pass to the Local Shire in the very near future.

SMALL PORTION OF RESERVE
A1720 (KING'S PARK)

This small area, adjoining Mounts Bay Road is held by the Board and Mr. B. S. Hardwick holds a tenancy of the land, on which he operates a kiosk known as "Bernies".

THE KNOLL GOOSEBERRY HILL

There has been considerable delay in the vesting of this area in the Board and in the meantime the Main Roads Department has co-operated in the construction of a car park at the foot of The Knoll and a walking path to the summit, during 1965-66. Earlier a sealed one way road was constructed down the route of the old zig zag railway track.



Banksia coccinea