

What a wonderful and exciting start to the 2004 school year! Two opportunities are now available to schools in the Bunbury and Warren/Blackwood Districts for EcoEducation day excursions.

Our new venue is the Margaret River Eco Discovery Centre (MREDC) north of the Margaret River townsite off Carters Road. We are offering the full complement of support for programs and four exciting day excursions this year. We will also have one special week of Marsupial Monitoring and the Sensational Nightlife on offer throughout the year. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Wellington Discovery Forest (WDF) continues to grow with the introduction of a new Aboriginal cultural program. The first excursion will be offered during first semester with others being developed and running from June. We are lucky to have CALM Ranger Ken Ninyette as our EcoEducation Officer for this program. You will meet him at our professional development days! Welcome aboard Ken.

Kristy Pengelly continues as Schools' Coordinator, now for the regional program and is looking forward to talking to you again, answering all your questions and taking all your bookings.

Both venues have camp facilities either on site, as at MREDC there is Wharncliffe Mill a 38 bed bunkhouse style accommodation, or close by, as at WDF there is Wellington Mill Cottages an eight cottage park, so why not come and camp while you are doing your excursions with us.

I hope to see and speak to everyone this year at some of the great opportunities we have planned for you. Read on!

Cheers

Janet Date

Project Officer

Do you know your plants?

Have a close look

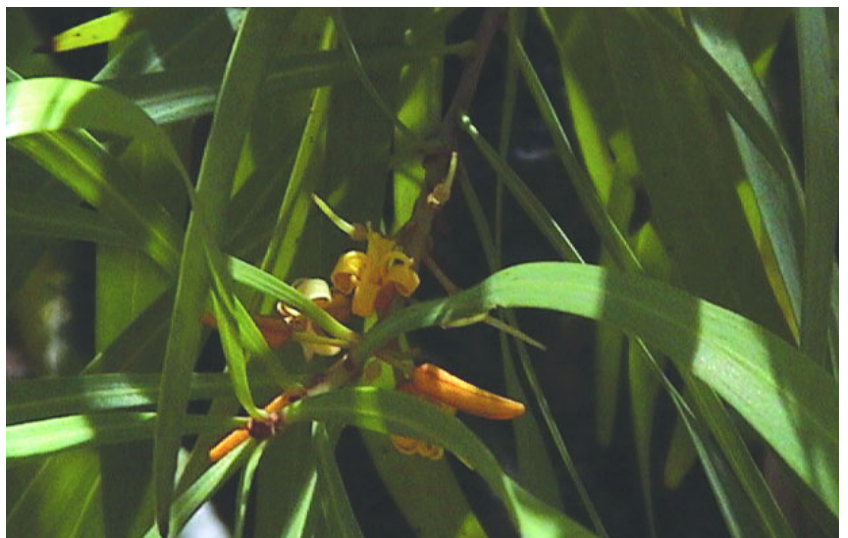
**Mystery flower –
can you guess what it is?
Photograph by J. Date.**

Here are some clues...

The photograph was taken in the jarrah forest around the Wellington Discovery Forest (WDF) in late December 2003.

It is a small, deep yellow to orange flower on a tree in the forest's middle storey. The tree has many associations with forest fauna. Stuck?! To find the answer, ask your students to try FloraBase, CALM's database of flora of Western Australia on <http://www.naturebase.net/florabase//index.html>

It is easy to search and has distribution maps, images and information about each species. Send your guess to janetD@calm.wa.gov.au The botanical and/or common name will be accepted. The first correct entry emailed



after **7am on 16 March** will receive a **\$50 discount** on the next excursion the school class takes at WDF or the MREDC. (The \$50 discount cannot be used in conjunction with other offers and must be redeemed during 2004.)

Free introductory afternoon

Wednesday 10 March, 3:30pm to 5pm

Teachers and the general public are welcome to attend a free, introductory afternoon at the MREDC. The afternoon will include a walk through the facilities and grounds, an overview of EcoEducation at the Centre and afternoon tea. Please contact Kristy for details on venue and to make sure we have enough cake.

Professional Development (PD) Term 1

WDF has a primary teachers' PD scheduled for **Wednesday 25 February**, from 9am to 3:30pm. Don't miss out on the introduction of our new excursion, which will assist you to address Aboriginal cultural outcomes for Society & Environment, Science and Technology & Enterprise.



Ken Ninyyette demonstrates aspects of the new Djildjit the Noongar way excursion. Photographs by J. Date.

MREDC has an all day teacher PD scheduled for **Friday 2 April**, from 9am to 3:30pm.

The cost of each PD is \$42 and includes morning tea, lunch, activities and resources. Remember the 10 per cent GST can be claimed for all curriculum based activities.

Contact Kristy for bookings or enquiries.

Special excursion prices

At MREDC

As part of an introductory offer, bookings made for standard day excursions conducted during Term 1 will be \$165 per group. The group size is limited to Department of Education and Training's (DET's) class sizes (maximum 32).

At WDF

Wellington Week 22 to 26 March:

All standard day excursions \$5.50 per student.



Contacting EcoEducation in the South West

For any bookings, excursion or professional development, please contact:

Kristy Pengelly at the CALM Wellington District Office.

Ph: 9734 1988

Fax: 9734 4539

Email: wdf@calm.wa.gov.au

For the development of programs and educational liaison, please contact:

Janet Date at the CALM South West Regional Office.

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Further resources and information can be obtained by logging onto CALM's website at www.naturebase.net/schools