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## Issue no: 18

Wednesday, 23 April 2014

Welcome to the latest issue of *Touring Western Australia*. This is one of the best times of the year to be outdoors and connecting with nature in Western Australia's world-class parks. Look out for the many special offers in this issue, exclusive to our readers.

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## Park and tourism information

### Go camping at Martins Tank

To celebrate the recent redevelopment of Martins Tank campground we are offering our Touring Western Australia readers a free weekend camping getaway with a free ranger-guided walk thrown in.

The offer is subject to site availability and is for a family of up to two adults and their



children.

Email [Touring.WA@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:Touring.WA@dpaw.wa.gov.au) and say "Martins Tank" in the subject line to be in the running.

### Tree Top Walk chalks up three million visitors

The magnificent Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk in Walpole-Nornalup National Park reached a significant milestone on 26 March when it [welcomed its three-millionth visitor](#)



To celebrate this milestone we are offering our Touring Western Australia readers the chance to win a family pass to the Tree Top Walk. (Please note, numbers are limited)

Simply email [touring.wa@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:touring.wa@dpaw.wa.gov.au) and say "Congratulations Tree Top Walk" in the subject line for your chance to win. Entries close 4pm Wednesday 30 April.

### Rediscover the Pinnacles Desert Discovery centre

If you're wanting to enjoy an easy day trip from Perth, why not visit Nambung National Park. Visit the Pinnacles Desert Discovery centre and pick up some unique merchandise at the shop.



Until Monday 12 May, readers can claim a 10 per cent discount by saying "I read *Touring Western Australia*".

If you really want to see the park from a different angle, try the new helicopter ride. Visit [Pinnacle Helicopter Flights](#) for booking information.

### It's Whale shark season!

Our Exmouth office reports that the whale sharks have arrived!



Whale sharks cruise the waters of the Ningaloo Marine Park every year from mid-March to the end of July to feed in the plankton rich waters. Visitors from all over the world flock to swim with the biggest fish in the sea.



Whale shark interaction tours operate daily from both Exmouth and Coral Bay. Tours include transfers from accommodation, lunch, refreshments and all snorkelling gear with wetsuits available on request. Now is the best time for this amazing experience.

Contact the [Exmouth Visitor Centre](#) for information and bookings.

## Stay in touch: information from Parks and Wildlife

### Parks Alerts and camping

Stay in touch with the latest Parks and Wildlife news via [Explore Parks WA](#) on Facebook, [@ExploreParksWA](#) on Twitter and [DPaW Alerts](#).

Alerts are now available in apps for mobile devices. Download by searching for DPaW Alerts in the iTunes app store or in Google's Play Store.



## Publications

### Snakes of Western Australia eBushBook

Learn more about our wonderful snakes with this 72-page field guide about the snakes most commonly found in Western Australia. Download your copy of Snakes of Western Australia straight to iPad or iPhone for easy reference wherever you go. Versions for Android and Kindle devices are coming soon.

Stay tuned for the release of more eBooks of the ever-popular Bush Book series.



You can let WA Naturally Publications know what you think about any of its products and services at [customer.service@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

### Download on iBooks

## Combine the new-look LANDSCOPE with annual all-park pass

Why not take out a [Goldstar subscription](#) and receive four issues of the new-look LANDSCOPE, WA's parks, wildlife and conservation magazine, and unlimited entry into all WA national parks for a year?



LANDSCOPE is a WA-focused magazine, full of informative stories and stunning photography to inspire your next adventure and develop your knowledge of our wonderful natural environment.

For your chance to win a free Goldstar subscription valued at \$110, email your name and address details with the words 'Goldstar' in the subject line to [customer.service@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@dpaw.wa.gov.au) by 7 May.

## How to be involved

### Volunteer opportunities

Ever wanted to volunteer for the environment but didn't know where to start? Parks and Wildlife now has [updated information for volunteer opportunities](#) across WA.



### Join NaturePlay WA

For ideas on connecting your kids to nature, the Department of Parks and Wildlife recommends [NaturePlay WA](#), the community group with a focus on getting kids aged three to 12 years old into unstructured play outdoors.




If your kids haven't already got a 'Passport to an Amazing Childhood' then [register here](#).

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## Industry news

### 2014 FACET Conference

 This year's [Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco-Tourism \(FACET\)](#) conference will focus on *"Creating Connections: Interpretation - Practice, Principles & Tools"* and will be held at venues in Guildford, Swan Valley and Perth from 9 to 12 June 2014.

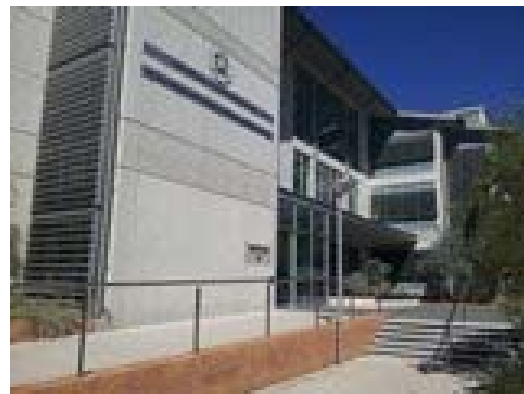


International experts will join presenters from WA to share their skills and knowledge of how to make the most of your interpretation opportunities in a program that incorporates practical field trips, traditional conference-style presentations and interactive workshops. The conference is designed to allow you to pick elements that are most relevant to you.

Early bird registration is now open. [Click here for information](#) about FACET and the conference.

### Tourism studies conference

The [5th Biennial International Tourism Studies Association Conference](#) will focus on Tourism, cities and the environment in the Asian century; and will be held at the Parks and Wildlife headquarters in Kensington from 26 to 28 November 2014.



The conference brings together China's leading experts on the country's outbound tourism market to raise the profile of Western Australia and to effectively position Perth in the China market. It also provides a forum for international researchers to partner with Murdoch University to address environmental issues, which both directly and indirectly impact tourism.

[Click here for information](#) about attending, sponsoring, exhibiting or speaking at the conference.

## Promote your trails on Trails WA

Trail managers, shires and visitor information centres are invited to upload their trails to the new [Trails WA website](#)

Building on the popular Top Trails website, the new site enables trail managers to upload their own content and to promote all well-managed trails to encourage use by locals and attract visitors to their region.



The website features a detailed profile for each trail, downloadable maps, social media integration and ATDW integration. Users can search by region, trail type, name or experience and further refine searches to show only Top Trails, dog friendly or wheelchair accessible trails.

For advice and more information visit [Trailtalk](#)

## Trail design and maintenance training program now online

If you are involved in planning, building or maintaining trails then this new [online training course](#) is essential.

Topics covered are:

- good design principles
- inspection and planning
- problems and how to fix them, and
- tools and safety.



Developed by Parks and Wildlife and funded by the Department of Sport and Recreation, the course is rich with photos, videos, sample forms and practical advice and an excellent resource.



Department of Parks and Wildlife



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If you would like to contact us, provide feedback or are experiencing problems opening stories please email the Touring WA Team at [touring.wa@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:touring.wa@dpaw.wa.gov.au).

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