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Welcome to Touring WA, a selection of the latest news from the Department of Parks and Wildlife for visitors to Western Australia's national parks. In this issue you can find out about things to do in parks, new and improved park facilities, camping opportunities, new publications and conferences.

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Parks and visitor information

Visiting parks in summer

Summer is a great time to enjoy national parks so when you're planning your visit, plan to stay safe.



- Choose parks that are more enjoyable from November to March, especially those with water or with plenty of natural shade. If you travel inland, plan for high temperature and take precautions.
- If you plan to camp at a busy time like holidays and long weekends, check our [Peak Period Availability](#) guide on the [Park Stay WA](#) website for the current and expected status of campgrounds.
- Light fires is not allowed during the summer months. Use your own gas-fuelled barbecue or camping stove or use one of the many hot plates provided free for visitor use in campgrounds and picnic areas. Search for picnic areas and campgrounds with gas barbecues in [Park Finder](#) or the booklet [National, marine and regional parks in Western Australia](#).
- Take extra care when travelling or camping. Be prepared to modify or cancel your plans, especially if it is hot and windy. Be aware that on days of very high to catastrophic fire danger ratings parks and reserves may be closed. The best way to check if a park is closed is to visit [Parks, trails and road closures](#).
- Check for [current bushfire alerts and warnings](#) on the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website.

Trees Adventure forges ahead

Trees Adventure Lane Poole Park has re-opened after the recent devastating bushfire. Fortunately the tree-top ropes courses and all of the major campgrounds were untouched by the fire and are all now back in business and taking bookings.

Trees Adventure Lane Poole Park is located 100km from Perth, in Lane Poole Reserve near Dwellingup. The courses are built in the beautiful pine and jarrah trees near Nanga Brook Campground and contain over 80 challenges and a kilometre of flying foxes.

Bookings for two hour sessions are essential. Check out the video and all information at [Trees Adventure Lane Poole Park](#).



Win tickets to the 2016 RAC Perth Caravan and Camping Show

Tickets are now available online for the [2016 RAC Perth Caravan & Camping Show](#). This will be your best opportunity to see everything you could possibly need for your next outdoor adventure, all in the one place. The show runs from 9.00am until 5.00pm daily from 16-20 March at the Claremont Showgrounds.



Your tickets include free transport with Transperth. Alternatively, free parking with shuttle bus transfer is available nearby or parking is available onsite for \$5 if you need to load up new gear.

For a chance to **win a double pass** to the show in Parks and Wildlife's pre-show lucky draw, email Touring.WA@dpaw.wa.gov.au by 4.00pm on Friday 29 January and say "I'd love some free tickets!" in the subject line. The first five readers drawn will receive a free double pass to the show.

Want to **win a new van**? The Caravan Industry Association of WA has organised a \$50,000 raffle for Telethon with a van as first prize!

Help support Telethon and go into the draw to **WIN a \$50,000 Columbus Aquarius Caravan Package**. Tickets are \$5.00 and are on sale now until 5.00pm (WST) on

Sunday 17th April 2016. To purchase tickets, SMS caravan and your full name to 0428 520 199 or visit www.galabid.com/caravan. The prize is courtesy of PMX Camper Trailers and Gold Star Caravans and 100 per cent of all proceeds go to Telethon.

While you are at the show, come and visit the Parks and Wildlife stand in the Tourism Pavilion, check out what's happening in national parks and have all your questions answered.

See you there!

New campground open at Credo

New camping facilities are open at [Credo Conservation Reserve](#), 75km north of Coolgardie.

The campground has new access roads, new directional signs and two new toilet blocks. The 16 multi-purpose camping sites can accommodate caravans, camp trailers and tents and each have their own picnic tables and barbecue rings. The homestead and shearers' quarters have also been upgraded.



Credo is becoming an increasingly popular stopover and the upgrades will help look after the homestead precinct while accommodating more visitors in greater comfort.

Make sure you check in at Credo on your next Goldfields adventure. Camping fees apply and bookings can be made through the department's Kalgoorlie office on **(08) 9080 5555** or with the caretakers on-site on **(08) 9024 2063**.

The \$250,000 project, funded by the State Government's Royalties for Regions program, is part of the \$21.05 million *Parks for People* initiative aimed at encouraging people to experience the State's spectacular natural assets and provide affordable holidays.

Captive bred numbats go wild

Ten young numbats born at Perth Zoo earlier this year were among fifteen numbats released into [Dryandra Woodland](#) in December as part of a joint project between Parks and Wildlife and the Perth Zoo. They follow 17 zoo-bred animals that were released in 2014.



The translocations are part of a recovery plan to protect the numbat underpinned by Parks and Wildlife's flagship wildlife recovery program [Western Shield](#) which has been working to minimise predation from foxes and feral cats, the greatest threat to numbats in the wild.

Valuable assistance has been provided by community action group [Project Numbat](#) by contributing funding for radio-collars so that the numbats' progress could be followed. Accommodation to assist monitoring efforts has been kindly provided by the [Lions Dryandra Woodland Village](#) Board.

If you are lucky enough to see a numbat in the wild, don't forget to take a photo and share it on the [Explore Parks WA Facebook page!](#)

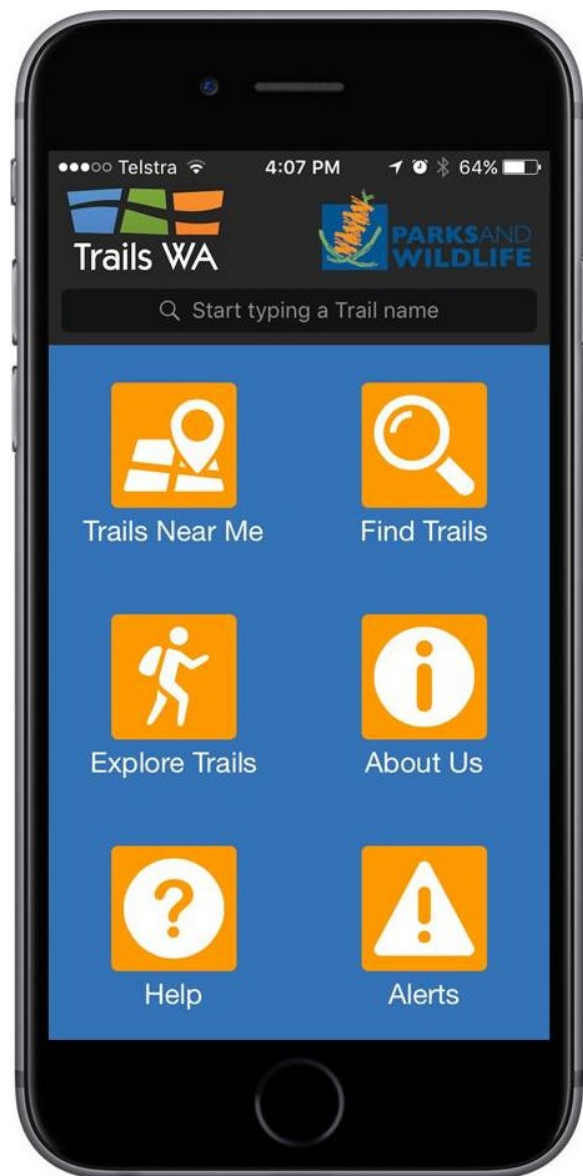
The best way to see some of WA's threatened native marsupials in a natural setting is to book a guided night tour in a predator-proof enclosure at [Barna Mia](#).

Download the new Trails WA app

Whether you walk, ride, paddle or drive, there's a new trail experience waiting for you at the touch of a button. Find trails you will like, right across Western Australia. There is something for everyone!

Each trail description is packed with information such as how long it will take, directions to the start, best time to try, facilities on site, road access and more so you can be prepared with whatever you need for your adventure.

The Trails WA app is a companion to the [Trails WA](#) website and was developed in partnership between Trails WA and Parks and Wildlife, with support from the Department of Sport and Recreation and the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.



Progress at The Gap

The Gap Road was open for a while over the peak holiday season to allow locals and holiday makers a chance to visit and make use of the completed work at Natural Bridge in [Torndirrup National Park](#).

The site has now closed again until mid to late March 2016 to allow workers and machinery back to complete the new Gap lookout.



It won't be long now and the site will be finished, fabulous, accessible and safer for visitors.

Have your say on the draft *Perth and Peel Green Growth Plan for 3.5 million*

The draft *Perth and Peel Green Growth Plan for 3.5 million* has been released for public comment.

It sets out to address the sustainable growth of metropolitan area and provide streamlined development approvals while protecting more areas of land with environmental significance.

The draft plan includes:

- upfront Federal environmental approvals and streamlined State environmental approvals for future development, basic raw materials extraction and pine harvesting
- the protection of an additional 170,000 hectares of new conservation reserves in Perth and Peel and immediate surrounds, including the improved protection and management of Bush Forever sites
- the establishment of the Peel Regional Park and Peel Harvey marine management area to help protect the habitat of migratory and shore birds while supporting recreational and commercial fishing
- a suite of measures to improve protection and management of threatened species, wetlands of international significance and threatened ecological communities
- the introduction of mandatory soil testing regulation to reduce nutrient runoff into the Swan Canning and Peel Harvey coastal plain catchments.



Submissions close at 5pm on Friday, April 8, 2016.

For more information, visit <http://www.dpc.wa.gov.au/greengrowthplan>

Industry news

Supporting nature-based tourism

Parks and Wildlife manages more than 28 million hectares of lands

and waters in Western Australia and is the largest provider of nature-based tourism opportunities in the State. Some of the department's most important work is providing access and facilities in these areas, producing and distributing accurate park information and providing services to the tourism industry.



The department offers support and advice to individuals, businesses and other bodies that offer commercial activities in the areas it is responsible for in many ways. For a useful summary of the services offered by the department, download a copy of the *Supporting nature-based tourism* information sheet from parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/for-business.

For more information on support for nature-based tourism in this newsletter please email touring.wa@dpaw.wa.gov.au.

Australian Indigenous Tourism Conference 2016

“Walking Together – Building Sustainable Futures”

The 8th AITC being held in Bunbury, Western Australia from 9 – 11 March 2016 will bring together Aboriginal tourism representatives, businesses and organisations from Australia and overseas to discuss the opportunities and challenges within the industry through plenary sessions and presentations by industry leaders in the field.



This is a must-attend event if you're in the tourism, hospitality and arts industry being the only conference in Australia showcasing successful and enterprising Aboriginal tourism businesses, discussing the latest trends, challenges and opportunities and increase your network within this tourism sector.

One of the keynotes is Daniel Levine, leader of the Avant-Guide Institute in New York City and head of a large team of trend spotters. A speaker at more than 300 events worldwide and consulting to a number of companies and associations helping them understand consumer trends and develop relevant profitable products and services.

To register and for more information and updates on speakers visit www.aitc2016.com.au or email info@aitc2016.com.au

Culture in Parks - Aboriginal tourism opportunities

Parks and Wildlife is encouraging traditional owners to conduct Aboriginal cultural events on lands and waters managed by the department.



If you are interested in hosting a commercial event or developing a tourism business that celebrates Aboriginal culture, please come along to a presentation on 9 March 2016 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm at the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre, prior to the start of the Australian Indigenous Tourism Conference.

Parks and Wildlife representatives will speak about the strategy, and how businesses can be supported, and current Aboriginal business owners will be there to share their experiences.

Contact Karim Khan, programs coordinator at Parks and Wildlife's Aboriginal Heritage Unit, by email at Karim.Khan@dpaw.wa.gov.au, by phone on (08) 9724 6167 or mobile on 0427 000 165.

Food, wine and China: a tourism perspective

The [Tourism Research Cluster](#) in collaboration with Curtin Business School's Asia Business Centre is conducting the 2016 International TRC Symposium on "Food, Wine and China – A Tourism Perspective."



The Symposium will be held on 4 – 5 February 2016 at Curtin University's [Margaret River campus](#), in Western Australia's south west. It will provide a forum for delegates from academia, government, industry and the community to discuss food and wine tourism for the growing China tourism market.

For more information and registrations [click here](#).

Image credits

All Parks and Wildlife except: Trees Adventure forges ahead -Trees Adventure; Culture in Parks- Aboriginal tourism opportunities on Parks and Wildlife managed land -Wula Guda Nyinda Eco Adventures, AITC speakers -Australian Indigenous Tourism Conference, Food,wine and China: a tourism perspective -Tourism Research Cluster.



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