

Business Plan update, Uncovering WA's unique sense of place and more...

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WA Parks Foundation

NEWS

Uniting the community to protect our natural areas



Echidna. Photo - Rick Dawson

Issue Five, June 2016

Welcome to the fifth issue of *WA Parks Foundation News*, where you can find updates on the progress of the Foundation, which aims to increase community appreciation and involvement in the conservation of the State's national parks and conservation reserves.

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Business Plan update

Consultants Steve and Valerie Pretzel from PX2 tabled the WA Parks Foundation Business Plan at the recent Steering Committee meeting, marking the completion of the three-month project.

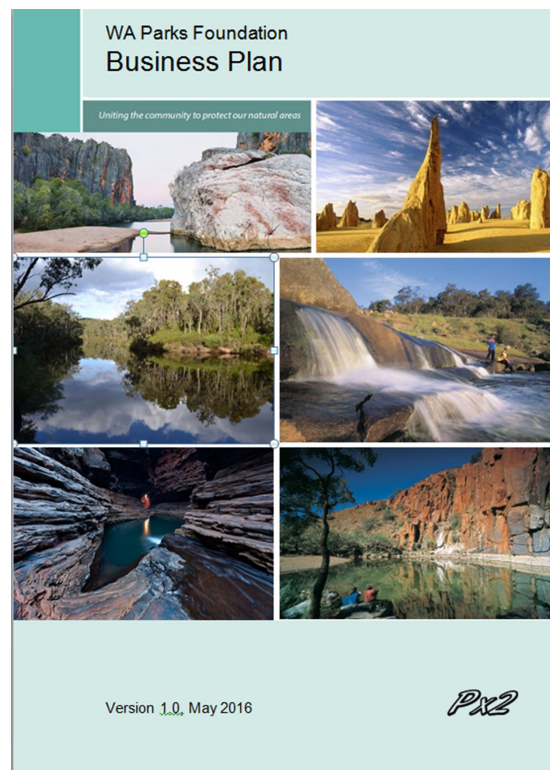
Steve and Valerie commented in the plan, saying the Foundation could “make a very significant and enduring difference to the natural landscape of Western Australia.”

Her Excellency, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, Governor of Western Australia said the plan sets a clear path for the organisation and the focus now turns to the establishment of a board, securing funding and staffing.

“It is an exciting stage in the development of the Foundation and there is much work to be done,” Her Excellency said. “It is now more important than ever to gather support from those who share the common goal of protecting, sustaining and enriching our parks and connecting people to our parks.”

“The strength of the Foundation will be drawn from the strength of the individuals and groups who value our natural places and their desire to ensure the plants, animals, natural features and culture within our parks are protected and appreciated into the future.

“Our strength will come from taking a collaborative approach.”



Uncovering WA's unique sense of place

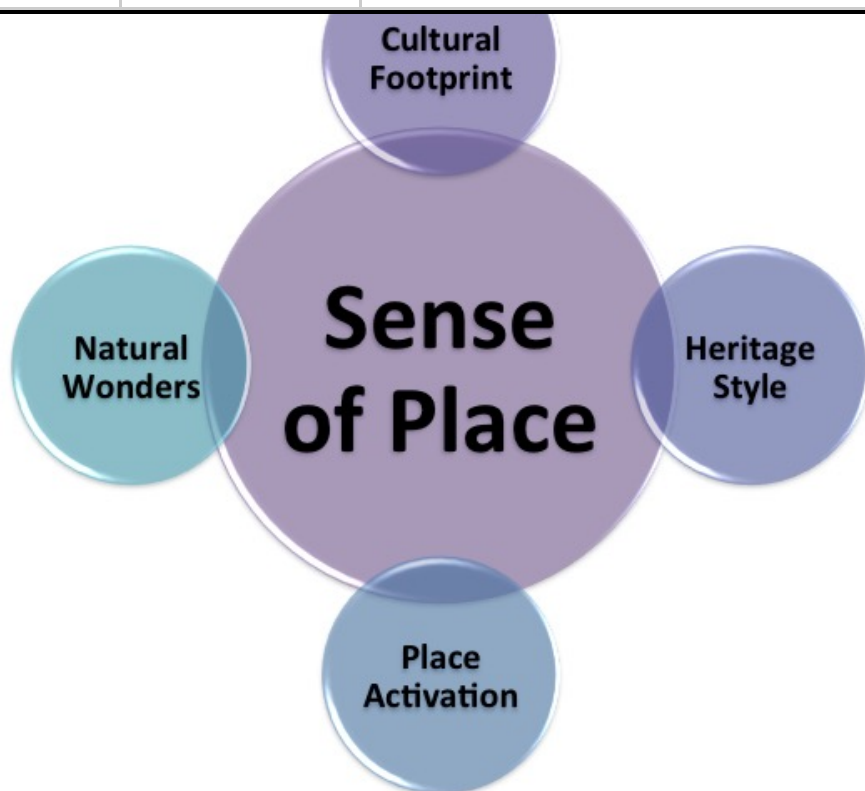
A sense of place is one of the most important human experiences. It comes from the relationship we have with a location because it is special and unique to us and gives us a feeling of belonging.

At the heart of the WA Parks Foundation is the importance of promoting that sense of place and a love for our natural areas.

Cities around the world strive to be named 'most liveable city' and this month FACET is bringing together experts in the areas of nature, culture, heritage, the arts, community development and urban activation over two days to share lessons and start the conversation about what makes WA unique.



Above: Marcus Westbury will be running a workshop. Photo - FACET



June 13 – Fremantle workshop. Marcus Westbury will share his approach and provide inspiration and ideas on his formula for reactivating places.

June 14 – Forum Program at State Library, Perth. A range of engaging and provocative speakers to stimulate discussion about how we can contribute to uncovering WA's unique sense of place.

To register, visit www.facet.asn.au

Case study: Active in Parks

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australians of all ages have never been so inactive.



Active in Parks
A Healthy Parks Healthy People program

Australia has some of the most beautiful and accessible outdoor spaces in the world that should be enjoyed from a young age.

To help curb this trend, the Victorian People and Parks Foundation established the Active in Parks program that encourages, inspires and facilitates people getting outdoors and enjoying our natural areas. The program connects people to thousands of outdoor activities across Australia and provides support and ideas.

www.activeinparks.org

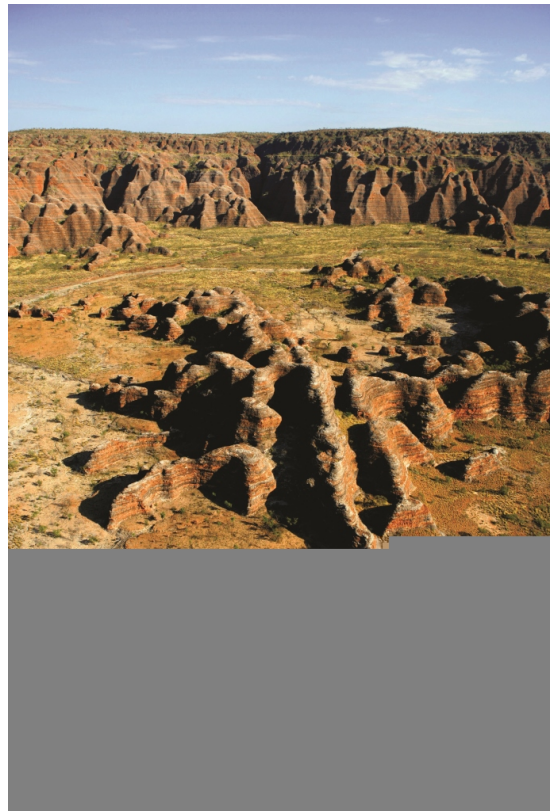


Running amok in Geelong as part of the New Migrants program with Active in Parks. Photo - People and Parks Foundation

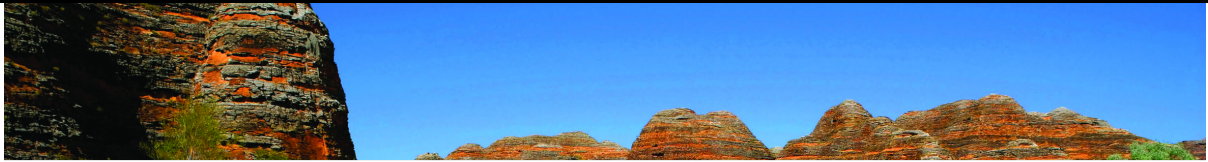
Feature park: Purnululu National Park

The spectacular World Heritage listed Purnululu National Park in Australia's North West attracts visitors for a whole range of reasons; the sheer grandeur of the sandstone massif, watching it change to a golden colour late in the day, walking through some of the marvellous gorges and, for the really well-prepared, a walk along Piccaninny Creek for an overnight camping experience like no other.

The Bungle Bungle Range in Purnululu National Park is one of the most striking geological landmarks in Western Australia. The banded sandstone domes feature in more than 45,000 hectares of the park. The dramatically sculptured natural formations are unrivalled in their scale, grandeur and diversity of form anywhere in the world.



Above: Aerial shot showing the banded domes. Photo - Rod Hartvigsen



Picanniny Creek showing the incredible banded domes. Photo - Rod Hartvigsen

Other highlights include Echnidna Chasm, Mini Palms, Kungkalanayi Lookout, Cathedral Gorge, the Domes, Homestead Gorge, Piccaninny Creek Lookout, Whip Snake Gorge and the Northern Escarpment.

Aboriginal people have lived in this part of Australia for more than 20,000 years. In 1885 gold was found at Old Halls Creek, sparking the first gold rush in Western Australia. Pastoralists arrived, bringing sheep and cattle, and setting the foundation for a pastoral industry that surrounds in the region today.



Walanginjdi Lookout. Photo - Rod Hartvigsen

Video: Prescription-strength nature

Set in the world of a spoofed prescription drug commercial, Nature Rx offers a hearty dose of laughs and the outdoors - two timeless prescriptions for whatever ails you. Side effects may include confidence, authenticity, remembering you have a body, and being in a good mood for no apparent reason.

[Watch the full video here](#)



Tell us what you think!

We'd love to hear from you about what you think of *WA Parks Foundation News*, what you would like to see and if you have any questions about the progression of *WA Parks Foundation*.

[Contact us via www.ourwaparks.com.au](http://www.ourwaparks.com.au)



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