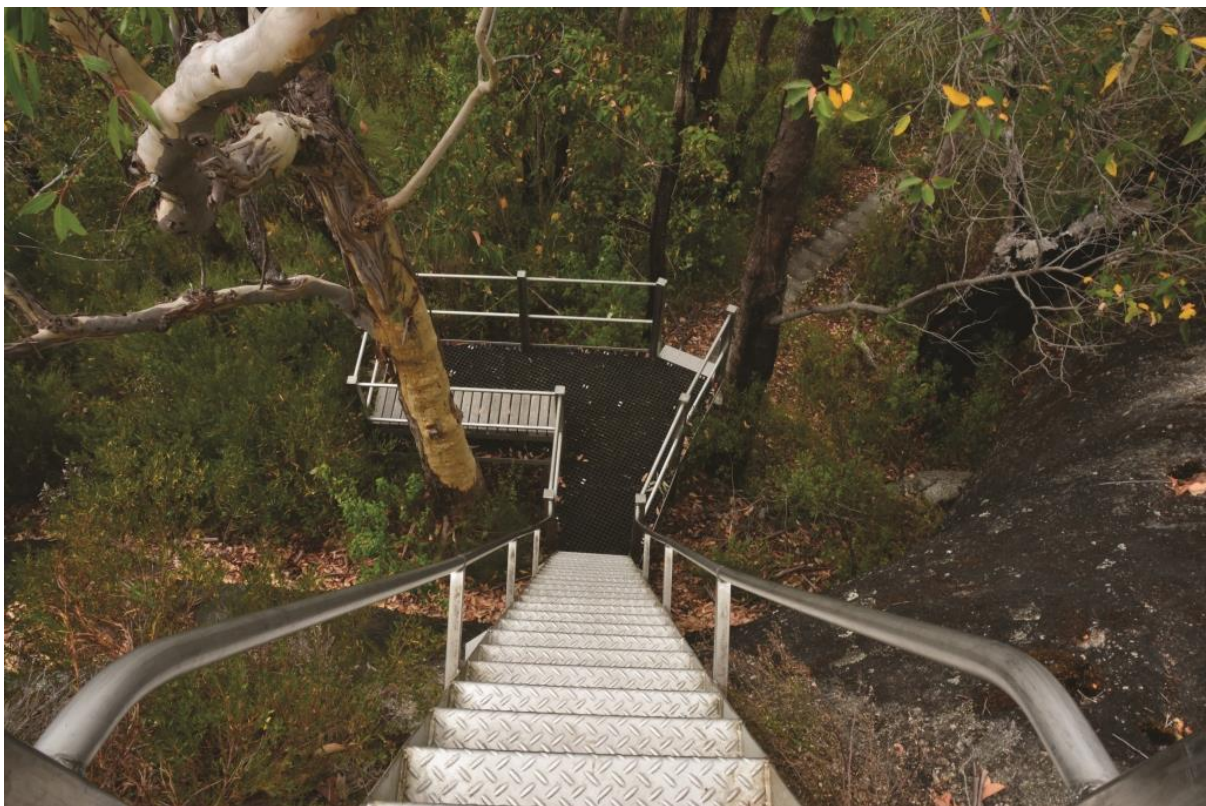


[Meet our Park Ambassadors, Outdoors October and more...](#)

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Issue 9, October 2016



*Mt Frankland National Park. Photo - Peter Nicholas*

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Welcome to the ninth issue of *WA Parks Foundation News*, where you can find updates on the progress of the WA Parks 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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- [Case study: Zoo Run](#)
- [Feature park: Karijini National Park](#)
- [Video: A Camino de Santiago story](#)
- [Tell us what you think!](#)

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## Introducing our Park Ambassadors

A number of Western Australians who take a keen interest in the State's natural areas have agreed to play a public role in promoting their love for WA Parks as the WA Parks Foundation's first *Park Ambassadors*.

The *Park Ambassador* program aims to inspire people to appreciate our parks for their uniqueness, and to want to visit and enjoy them as well as increasing community pride in our parks.

Each issue of *WA Parks Foundation News*, we will introduce you to a Park Ambassador starting with the remarkable **June Butcher AM**, founder of Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre - the only community-based wildlife carer organisation to be accepted as a Zoo and Aquarium Association member and winner of their 2016 In-Situ Conservation Award. June herself is a member of the Order of Australia for services to wildlife and Senior West Australian of the Year in 2010. She is a passionate advocate and educator about wildlife and conservation, a leader in captive breeding of endangered mammals and supporter of the [Western Shield wildlife recovery program](#).



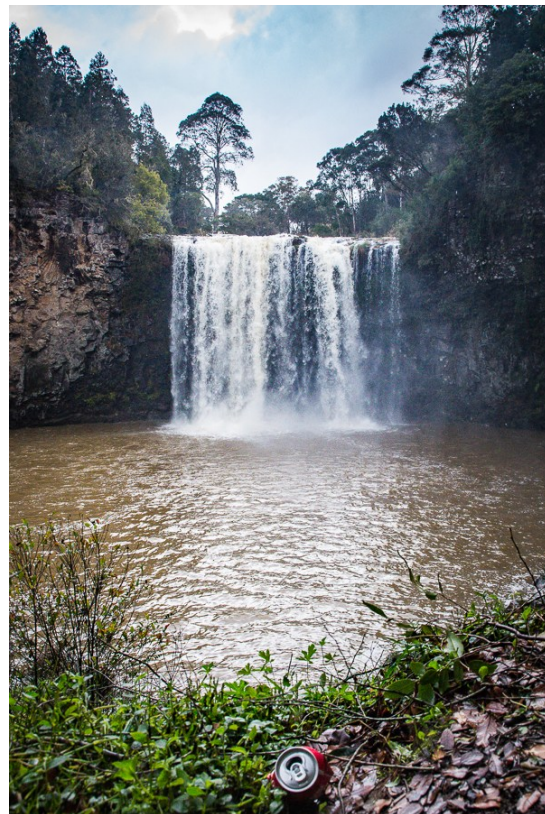
animals, plants and places that can renew our energy and our spirit. My love of animals led me to establish Kanyana and we now have a 16-acre site where our 300 amazing volunteers give sick, injured and orphaned native animals a second chance. Our Parks system in WA is vital to the long term survival of our rare and unique wildlife and Kanyana is honoured to play its part by caring, conserving and communicating.”

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## We need to talk

Any nature lover knows the disappointing feeling when you see rubbish discarded by a careless park visitor. When you love parks as much as we do, it's hard to conceive that someone could be so heartless as to despoil an incredibly beautiful natural place that has been here well before any human set foot on it.

Bloggers 'We Are Explorers' feel the same way and have penned a relatable article hoping to rally support to “take a stand against the current apathy around littering” in our national parks and reserves.



“We need to educate ourselves and our friends about the impact of our actions. We need to be considerate and thoughtful about where we camp, where we walk and where we drive. Be critical thinkers. Practice [‘Leave No Trace’](#) principles. Take out more rubbish than you brought in.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## Go on, get outside

It's that time of year again! Where the wonderful people at Outdoors WA get us all excited about exploring wonderful parks and having fun outside as part of Outdoors October. Even the



Outdoors WA has pulled together an exciting calendar of outdoor activities for you and your family to get involved in for the month of October.

With activities such as abseiling, ghost walks, canoeing and rock climbing - there is something for everyone.

Visit the [Outdoors October website](#) to find events and don't forget to take photos and share your outdoor fun with the hashtag #outdoorsoctober.



*Her Excellency will be bushwalking outdoors this month*

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## Case study: Zoo Run

“Zoo Runs” have been held around the world as a way of raising awareness and funding conservation projects. In a nutshell, participants run a section of track around an animal sanctuary through bushland. The idea being they will spot some native wildlife, have a unique fitness experience and be encouraged to donate towards maintaining the sanctuary.

Wildlife conservationist Trevor Evans operates the Secret Creek Sanctuary in Lithgow New South Wales, and is following suit by hosting one of these zoo runs.



*Wildlife conservationist, Trevor Evans, with Dusty the dingo pup at Secret Creek Sanctuary, near Lithgow NSW. Photo - ABC Central West*

Paired with their family-run vegan restaurant, Trevor said the Secret Creek Sanctuary Zoo Run brings new allies and avenues of income to continue our work in nature conservation.

“Ninety per cent [of diners] are a part of our foundation now; [they] have come to the restaurant looking for a good feed and gone away supporting some conservation,” Trevor said.

“The Zoo Run is a positive initiative that brings two interests of the general public together, and encourages support in an exciting and engaging way.”

[Read the full story](#)

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## Feature park: Karijini National Park

Set in the Hamersley Range in the heart of the Pilbara, the expansive Karijini National Park offers spectacular, rugged scenery, ancient geological formations, and a variety of arid-land ecosystems and recreational experiences.

This is Western Australia's second largest national park, encompassing some 627,441ha. Mountains and escarpments rise out of the flat valleys. The high plateau is dissected by breathtaking gorges, and stony, tree-lined watercourses

intriguing landscape and complex ecology.



*Fortescue Falls. Photo - Rick Dawson*

This is an ancient part of the Earth is one of Western Australia's most iconic national parks, and now it's connected with free public Wi-Fi!

As you are travelling into the park through the beautiful Karijini Visitor Centre you will now be able to connect and share your experiences through this free public service.



*Top Fern Pool. Above Joffre Gorge. Photos - Rick Dawson*

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## Video: A Camino de Santiago story

Arguably one of the most famous walking journeys in the world, the Camino de Santiago is the name of a number of pilgrimage routes to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain where it is believed the remains of St James the Great are buried. Many walk the Camino as a form of spiritual path, a retreat from their busy lives or simply for the adventure and the challenge of weeks of walking through different countries.

Hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world walk the Camino each year from various starting points across Europe. This is one man's story.

[Watch the video here](#)

[Read about WA's Camino Salvado in Issue 3 of WA Parks Foundation News](#)

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## 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

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