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Moving ahead - Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status,
"Celebrate Our Parks" Conference and more...

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Issue 14, May 2017

*Basalt Columns at Black Point in
D'Entrecasteaux National Park Photo - L-A Shibish*

Welcome to the 14th 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 of our State's wonderful national parks and

conservation, nature and marine reserves and community involvement in their conservation.

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[WA Parks Foundation granted Deductible Gift Recipient status](#)

The Federal Minister for Environment has recently endorsed the WA Parks Foundation as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) entering it in the Register of Environmental Organisations. This provides the Foundation with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status meaning any donations of \$2.00 or more are eligible for a tax deduction under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



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[FACET Conference will 'Celebrate our Parks'](#)



Celebrating our unique, stunning and biologically diverse parks and reserves, will be the focus of the Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco Tourism Inc (FACET) annual tourism conference being held from 9-11 October 2017 at Government House.

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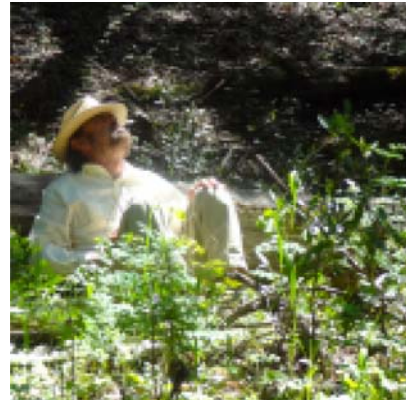
FACET

Forum Advocating Cultural
& Eco-Tourism Inc

Forest Bathing boosts the immune system claims Japanese study

Forest bathing is being in the presence of trees and became part of a national public health program in Japan in 1982. The Japanese have spent millions of dollars studying the physiological and psychological effects of forest bathing.

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Meet our Park Ambassador, Pat Barblett

Pat Barblett is a leader in the field of conservation and protection of Western Australia's unique environment and a life long advocate of parks. She was a member of the Conservation Commission for 17 years, and Chair in the last three years of her term and a member of the Rottnest Island Authority for 16 years, and Chair for three years.

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Family's Flock to Yanchep National Park to Build Cubbies

Kids building cubbies was a bustling activity that drew approximately 5,000 people to Yanchep National Park on Sunday 30 April for WA's first ever "Cubby Town" event, an initiative of Nature Play WA. Children were encouraged to build cubby structures and enjoy other outdoor activities including crafts made from supplied natural materials.



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Healthy Wildlife, Healthy Lives website launched on World Wildlife Day

Keeping wildlife healthy is the aim of a new website launched by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC), in conjunction with long-term partners Murdoch University, Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation and Native Animal Rescue.



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Park tales: Opera in the Region

Open-air opera, it's an experience like no other. The West Australian Opera has been taking live opera to iconic and inspiring WA locations such as The Pinnacles, Greenough and in November



to the Valley of the Giants, in celebration of its 50th Anniversary.



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Feature park: Ningaloo Marine Park Celebrates 30 Years

The home of Australia's largest fringing coral reef, Ningaloo Marine Park, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. Ningaloo Marine Park coordinator Peter Barnes said that within 15 minutes of jumping on a boat, visitors can encounter sea turtles, dugongs, manta rays, dolphins, killer whales and of course the wonderful whale sharks.



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Government House Open Day - A Great Day

More than 4,000 visitors enjoyed the opportunity to visit Government House, and spend time in the house, ballroom and gardens on 30 April 2017. Visitors stopped by the WA Parks Foundation display to meet and chat with General Manager Melanie Wilshin, Robin Piesse, (Board Adviser, Strategy Governance) and volunteer Lori-Ann Shibish.



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National Volunteer Week

Volunteers make an enormous contribution to



society and the third week of May is designated National Volunteer Week, which serves to acknowledge those people who so generously give of their time and services.

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Volunteering Video: Campground Hosts

Have you ever thought about volunteering in Western Australia's parks in one of many roles, including becoming a Campground Host? To find out more about volunteer opportunities with WA Parks Foundation go to <https://www.ourwaparks.org.au/volunteering/>



Hear from other volunteers who spoke at the Annual Campground Host Workshop 2015 in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXEJ2dVYmko>

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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 WA Parks Foundation.

[Contact us at info@ourwaparks.org.au](mailto:info@ourwaparks.org.au)





The WA Parks Foundation is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission. Any donations of \$2.00 or more are eligible for a tax deduction under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

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