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From: WA Parks Foundation <info=ourwaparks.org.au@cmail20.com> on behalf of WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 22 August 2022 12:00 PM
To: Library
Subject: Popular Spring into Parks 2022 connects with nature.

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks.



August 2022



Spring into Parks runs from September to November 2022. Photo credit: Tourism WA, The Hike Collective, WA Gould League, & Dabungool Cultural Events.

Spring into Parks and Connect with Nature

National parks and reserves across Western Australia will be showcased in the WA Parks Foundation's Spring into Parks campaign, supported by Lotterywest.

This initiative, now in its fourth year, focuses on the benefits of spending time in nature for improved mental health and wellbeing. It also promotes WA's incredible biodiversity, the importance of conserving our magnificent parks and reserves for present and future generations and the cultural significance of these areas.

"The Spring into Parks program the Foundation has put together in partnership with community groups is a special opportunity for people to reset, reboot and recharge," said the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC CVO, WA Parks Foundation Chair.

The 2022 campaign will run from September to November and include the Memorable Moments in Nature photo competition with prizes from RAC Parks & Resorts, the Matagarup Zip and Climb, Camera Electronic, Two Feet and a Heartbeat, Mindful in Nature, and Naturally WA – Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

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Support for rare parrot shows promising results



The critically endangered Western Ground Parrot (known as Kyloring by the Noongar people) is one of the world's rarest parrots. Photo credit: Brent Barrett, Parks and Wildlife Service

Important work to save Western Australia's rarest bird, the Western Ground Parrot from extinction is continuing, with some encouraging results.

It is thought there are fewer than 150 Western Ground Parrots left in the wild.

Researchers and volunteers have completed a wild-to-wild translocation of seven birds this year to a remote site east of Albany to support the establishment of an additional population.

These parrots join seven released in 2021 as part of a threatened species partnership between the Western Australian and Australian Governments, non-government organisations and community volunteers.

The Western Ground Parrot is one of one hundred species prioritised for recovery by the Australian Government. Recovery actions for this flagship species will also benefit other threatened species such as the Western Bristlebird and the Noisy Scrub-bird.

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Nature Know-how: Birds along the brook



Simon Cherriman and chicks in a hollow. Photo credit: Simon Cherriman

Ever wondered what bird it is making that particular call in your backyard? What does it look like? Its species? Its Noongar name? And what does its nest look like? More importantly, how you can create habitat for it in your garden?

Join Perth Hills ornithologist Simon Cherriman for a guided nature-walk on Noongar Country at Susannah Brook Lakes in Gidgegannup from 8 am to 10 am on Saturday 3 September. The walk will follow 1.5km of existing bush tracks and will focus on teaching participants how to spot and identify both bush and water-bird species. Also, how to record and submit information using BirdLife Australia's Birdata App.

His Birds Along the Brook walk is presented as part of Nature Know-How, a series of free programs hosted across the City of Swan's libraries and bushland reserves. Spaces are limited, so please book in at this [link](#). For more Spring into Park 'Explore Events', click [here](#).

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Citizen scientists invited to track turtles



Southwestern snake-necked turtle. Photo credit: Gian De Poloni, ABC News

Citizen scientists have a key role in a new project to save declining populations of the south-western snake-necked turtle. Dwindling numbers of this semiaquatic freshwater species are due to a number of threats, including predators, road strikes and lack of sustainable nesting habitat.

A grant of \$131,700 from Lotterywest will be used to train volunteers as 'turtle trackers' by ecologists from Murdoch University's Harry Butler Institute, and a Turtle SAT app will monitor and record the native species.

The project will be led by The South West Group, an alliance of six local governments in the south west metropolitan region, working with Murdoch University researchers who are collaborating with a national consortium dedicated to conserving freshwater turtles across Australia.

Community members interested in this important conservation initiative can learn how to get involved by emailing the Saving our Snake-Necked Turtle (SOSNT) project team [here](#)

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New marine parks in the Buccaneer Archipelago



Buccaneer Archipelago. Photo credit: Australian Traveller

Following an extensive consultation and planning process, three new marine parks have been established in the Kimberley's breathtakingly beautiful Buccaneer Archipelago. The Bardi Jawi Gaarra, Mayala and Maiyalam marine parks together total more than 600,000 hectares.

In a WA first, the parks have been co-designed and will be jointly managed by Traditional Owners and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. The zoning will ensure that areas of conservation and areas of cultural significance to the Dambeemangarddee, Mahala, Bardi Jawi saltwater people are protected.

Fringing reefs have formed around the coast and between the many islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago, withstanding a tidal range in excess of eleven metres. The wide intertidal areas are home to a diversity of plants and animals, all adapted to their coastal environment.

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Answering the call of the wild



On safari in Botswana. Photo credit: The Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC CVO

A recent safari holiday in Botswana for our nature-loving and conservation-minded Chair, the Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO, delivered everything she had hoped for and more. An inspiring, immersive way to become acquainted with the beauty and drama of the African wilderness and its famous fauna.

“The visit to Botswana with my family was a wonderful, unforgettable experience. Botswana lived up to its reputation as one of the greatest safari destinations in Africa and indeed the world,” Kerry Sanderson said.

“With the help of our expert guides, we were thrilled to observe and photograph so many animals, some at very close range, and our accommodation was excellent.

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“Woolshed” tourist hub opens at Bullara Station



Bullara Station, Exmouth Gulf. Photo credit: Bullara Station, Ben Teo

Pastoral tourism continues to grow in popularity in Western Australia and Bullara Station, situated between Coral Bay and Exmouth on the Ningaloo coast has built a reputation over the past 12 years for providing an authentic station stay experience.

Bullara offers a range of accommodation from two self-contained cottages and the traditional Shearers Lodge, to the Outcamp and authentic and spacious bush camping.

The recent opening of the “Woolshed” Tourist Hub on this family-run, working cattle station has expanded its capacity to accommodate guests and support strong regional tourism growth. The development includes two new high-end glamping tents, sixty new camping and caravan sites, a new ablutions block and hot water system, shearing shed hub, upgraded power systems, and a commercial kitchen and café.

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Campsite booking system improved



Osprey Bay Campground, Cape Range National. Park Photo credit: Tourism Western Australia

WA's parks receive about twenty million visits per year, and camping has become hugely popular. An upgraded Park Stay WA online campsite booking system allows for better management of campsites and gives campers more flexibility to cancel or change bookings.

Park Stay WA is used to book campsites managed by the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attraction's Parks and Wildlife Service in Western Australia's national parks.

The recent upgrades to this booking system give campers more autonomy when booking by allowing people to create an account, make a booking, and then make changes or cancel the booking if needed. It is hoped the changes will reduce the number of bookings that go unused when campers do not take possession of the site on the booked date, arrive at the site late, or leave early.

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South West bushwalk coming up soon



Balingup to Donnelly River is a multi-day hike through beautiful country. Photo credit: [Off the Beaten Track](#)

Members of the Great Walk Network will be heading to the southwest in September for a walk from Balingup to Donnelly. This family-friendly event takes place from 29 September to 7 October. Walks will be varied with both longer and shorter options daily, and while people are encouraged to join the walk for the full ten days, it is okay to also join in for a shorter time.

There will be opportunities for some overnight camps for those feeling more adventurous. The Great Walk Network organises food, walks, activities and provides equipment including a bus, kitchen facilities and a marquee for shelter.

The Network, a not-for-profit organisation, welcomes new members. More about the Great Walk Network and its event [here](#). For more Spring into Park events, click [here](#).

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