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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:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Library  
**Subject:** Spring into Parks, revitalisation of John Forrest National Park, wildlife tunnel recommendations, new national park + more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



August 2023



## Go Wild this September and *Spring into Parks*

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

This initiative, now in its fifth 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.

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# Revitalisation of John Forrest National Park



Waterfalls are among the many attractions in the John Forrest National Park. Credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Work is underway on a new day use area at John Forrest National Park in the Perth Hills. This will include landscaped gardens, accessible picnic and barbeque facilities, and sealed pathways to the planned park hub complex.

The day use area will have accessible pathways connecting to new picnic and barbeque facilities. The work, which is part of the Western Australian Government's \$17 million transformation of the park, is expected to take up to six months.

From August, Scenic Drive will be closed for the duration of construction of the new 730-metre access road.

Read more

## Wildlife tunnel recommendations to help endangered turtles



Credit: Saving our Snake Necked Turtle group. [Saving Our Snake-Necked Turtle | Perth WA | Facebook](#)

Researchers from Murdoch University's Harry Butler Institute have found that making some design changes to wildlife tunnels could improve survival rates of the southwestern snake-necked turtle.

Freshwater turtles are among the most threatened groups of vertebrates globally and in the modern world of highly urbanised wetlands, they fight a constant battle for survival once they leave the safety of their aquatic home to nest on land, the Institute says.



Until now, information on the effective design of eco passages to enable their safe movement from one side of the road to the other has been limited.

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## New national park in the Goldfields



The new park 160-kilometres east of Wiluna, is home to 133 species of birds and 20 different mammals. Credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

A new national park and nature reserve in the remote Goldfields has added more than 800,000 hectares to Western Australia's conservation estate.

The creation of the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara National Park and the Lake Carnegie nature reserve is a significant step in the State Government's Plan for Our Parks initiative.

The reserves protect Martu Aboriginal cultural heritage values and the area's biodiversity.

The Tarlka Matuwa Piarku Aboriginal Corporation will jointly manage Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara National Park and nature reserve at Lake Carnegie with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

## Valley of the Giants infrastructure upgrades



Winding Jarrah boardwalk. Credit: Ryan Smith, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

The Ancient Empire trail within the Valley of the Giants has undergone a transformation to enhance accessibility and improve the visitor experience.

Since its opening alongside the famed Tree Top Walk in 1996, this trail located within the Walpole Nornalup National Park has captivated tourists from around the world. Providing an up-close, ground level, encounter with the awe-inspiring Tingle Trees, this destination has welcomed over 4.3 million visitors in its 27-year history.

Previously, the trail alignment was an 'out-and-back' route, duplicating the scenery for those on the journey and steps made it inaccessible for people in wheelchairs or with prams.



In January 2023, as part of the WA Recovery Plan, extensive works were started to extend the Ancient Empire and upgrade its timber decking structures.

[Read more](#)

## Outback Bloom – Mullewa’s wildflower festival



Wildflowers carpeting the roadsides, Mullewa. Credit: Perth Local

The Mullewa Town Hall will be filled with colour and interest during the wildflower festival over four days from 24-27 August. With displays of wildflower specimens and naturalistic bushland scenes, it is a great way to see and learn about the huge variety of spectacular and unusual flowers from the region.

Mullewa, in the heart of wildflower country, is a six-hour drive north of Perth and just over one-hour's drive east of Geraldton.

The Outback Bloom festival includes activities such as guided walks along the Mullewa Bushland Trail and Wildflower Walk and expert talks.

[Read more](#)

## New grevillea celebrates 150 years of memories



Boorloo Moon grevillea. Credit: Digby Growns, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

A colourful new Kings Park hybrid grevillea celebrates 150 years of the protection of Kings Park.

Pink grevillea hybrid, Boorloo Moon, is named for the wonder of a full moon rising over Perth city (Boorloo) as viewed from Mount Eliza.

The grevillea is a result of eleven years of breeding by the Kings Park Plant Development team.

Senior Plant Breeder Digby Growns said the masses of pink toothbrush flowers would quickly make the new grevillea hybrid a garden hit.

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Uniting the community through a shared love for our WA Parks to protect and conserve them for our physical and mental health, and so they can be enjoyed into the future.

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





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