

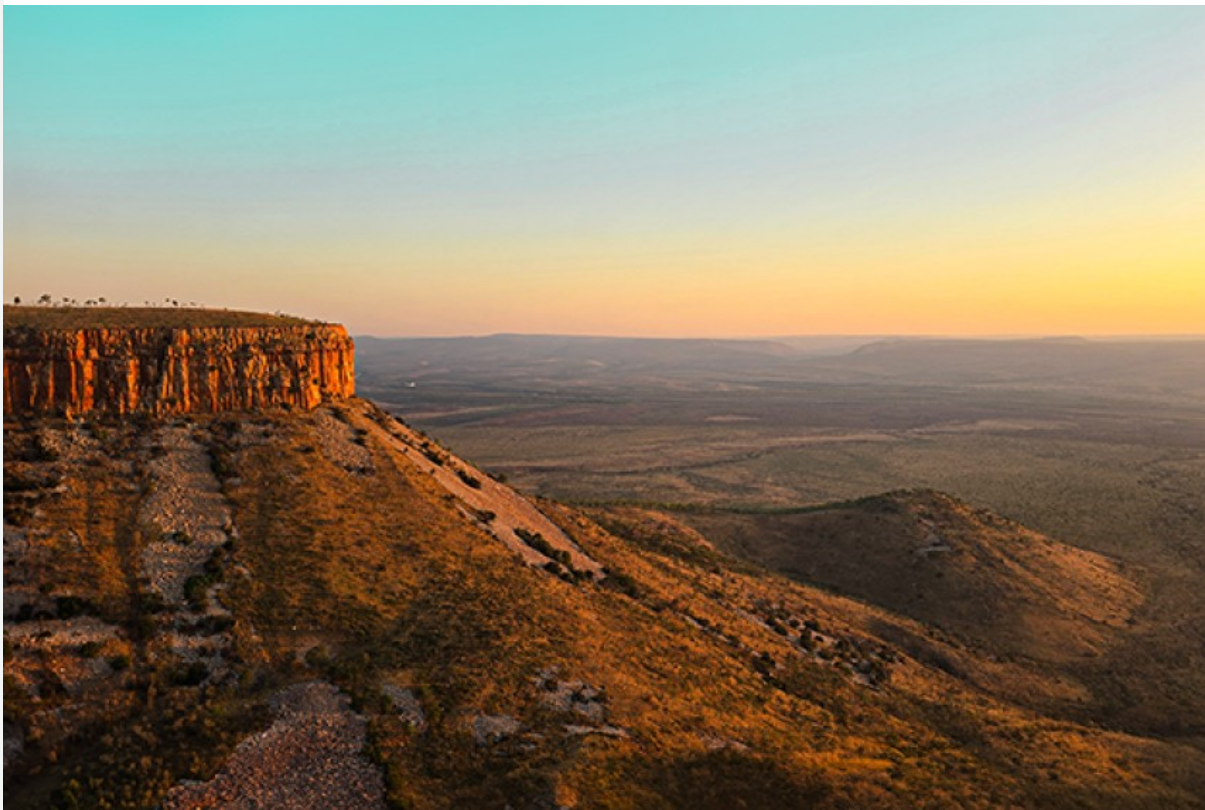
Nicole Wreford

From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2024 10:43 AM
To: Library
Subject: November Newsletter - Kimberley like never before, Adorable koalas at Yanchep and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



November 2024



The Kimberley's Cockburn Range, shaped like a vast round fortress, rises more than 600 metres above the plain. Image credit: Tourism WA.

Experiencing the Kimberley like never before

The Great Kimberley Wilderness, a 35-minute immersive virtual reality documentary being screened at WA Museum sites transports viewers to one of the world's most astounding landscapes.

The production filmed in 360-degree 3D format, takes audiences flying over the edge of thundering waterfalls, swooping across superb coastlines, and venturing deep, into the heart of the region's ancient interior.

Guided by scientists and Traditional Owners, narrated by Luke Hemsworth (Westworld, Thor: Love and Thunder) and produced by award-winning Australian production company White Spark Pictures, this outstanding documentary enables audiences to explore the vibrantly striped domes and majestic gorges of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Purnululu National Park, get up close to saltwater crocodiles and travel back 350 million years to the Devonian Reef.

[Read more](#)

Adorable koalas settling in at Yanchep



Louis explores his new home at Yanchep National Park. Image credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Yanchep National Park, about 50 kms north of the Perth CBD, is home to three new koalas.

The newcomers are Miffy, a seven-year-old female from Ballarat Wildlife Park in Victoria, and 18-month-old brothers Louie and Franklin Doogsie, from South Australia's Cleland Wildlife Park.

They have joined the park's existing residents, 19-year-old Kate and 14-year-old Koodah, who are descended from koalas brought to Yanchep National Park from South Australia in the late-1980s.

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South Coast Marine Park scheme finalised



The South Coast Marine Park covers more than 1000 kilometres of coastline from Bremer Bay to the South Australian border. Image credit: Bronwyn Wells/Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Following extensive consultation, the State Government has released the zoning scheme for the South Coast Marine Park.

This coincides with the park's formal creation, with the park's management plan striking a balance between recreation, commercial use, and conservation.

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Gimlets – a standout feature of the Great Western Woodlands



Eucalyptus salubris (Gimlet) is endemic to low-rainfall areas of the wheatbelt and goldfields regions of WA.
Image credit: Tripadvisor/ Norseman Visitor Centre.

Gimlet. Funny name for a tree.

That said, nothing marks your arrival onto the Goldfields better than the gimlet.

Picture this. You're heading east with Southern Cross way behind. Almost abruptly, the hard land with hard sheep changes to polished, toffee-coloured tree trunks catching the western sun.

[Read more](#)

Congratulations, rock star Ross



Professor Ross Dowling AM. Image credit: Edith Cowan University.

WA Parks Foundation Ambassador Professor Ross Dowling AM has been recognised for his contribution towards UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The Certificate of Recognition announced at the Global Geopark Network Regional Conference in Brazil, was awarded for significantly supporting GGN's development.

[Read more](#)

Virtual hiking on the Bibb track delivers wellness benefits

Bibbulmun Track Virtual Hike Challenge



Participants in the virtual hiking challenge were able to track their progress on a virtual map, discovering 32 milestones. Image credit: Bibbulmun Track Foundation.

An outdoors virtual hiking challenge hosted in October by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation with Outdoors WA attracted 356 participants. Between them, they logged up an impressive 63,000 plus kilometres.

Those taking up the challenge came from varied backgrounds, ranging from marathon trainees to recreational hikers, fitness enthusiasts and fundraisers.

They were encouraged to focus on their physical and mental health by virtually “hiking” the 1,000-kilometer Bibbulmun Track, renowned for its spectacular and diverse landscapes from Kalamunda to Albany.

[Read more](#)

Rottneest introduces late night ferry service



Late night ferries give day trippers the option of experiencing the Rottnest Island sunsets and enjoying dinner before heading back to Perth. Image credit: Rottnest Express.

Visitors to Rottnest Island will be able to enjoy WA's much loved holiday destination for longer this summer, with the introduction of a late-night ferry service.

The last ferry currently departs the island at 9pm from Thursday to Sunday, with this service continuing until the end of January and then operating Friday to Sunday between February and April 2025.

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