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From: WA Parks Foundation <info@ourwaparks.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 30 January 2025 11:02 AM
To: Library
Subject: January Newsletter - Regenerative tourism theme for FACET, Exhibition dives deep and much more!

WA Parks Foundation | Connecting people to parks



January 2025



Wardandi Bibbulmun woman Dale Tilbrook, of Dale Tilbrook Experiences will be among the speakers at the FACET forum. Her presentation will be on Aboriginal culture and bush foods. Dale is a WA Parks Foundation Ambassador and former Board Director. Image credit: Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council

Regenerative tourism theme for FACET forum

FACET (Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco-Tourism) will open its program for 2025 with a Regenerative Tourism Forum on 20th February at Mandoon Estate in the Swan Valley, near Perth.

In simple terms, regenerative tourism seeks to ensure travel and tourism deliver a net benefit for people, places and nature.

With a focus on "Tourism that Gives Back", the forum will bring together industry leaders, researchers, policymakers and practitioners for an inspiring program of keynote presentations, expert panel discussions and interactive workshops.

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The Walpole and Nornalup of Gary Muir



Charles Biddle and Gary Muir, WOW Wilderness Eco Cruises

Dress code: bare feet.

Before you get too excited that applies only to the captain. You, the paying guest on Gary Muir's boat, must dress like a paying guest – that is to say, casually.

Gary, part farmer, part naturalist, part historian, comes from a long line of Muir family pioneers. Walpole and Nornalup are in his blood. The inlets and the stories that go with them are his passion.

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Exhibition dives deep into WA's marine parks



The exhibition celebrates the rich biodiversity of Western Australia's marine parks. Image credit: The University of Western Australia

The Wadjemup Bidi, a series of hiking trails taking in the spectacular coastal headlands, inland lakes, and other features of Rottnest Island, has been included in the innovative Smartreka mapping series.

The digital Smartreka maps use the built-in GPS on smartphone or tablet to plot real time locations without relying on network connections and without roaming charges, provided they are downloaded in advance while network connectivity is available.

This latest addition to Smartreka makes it easier to navigate the Wadjemup Bidi's 45 kilometres of bushland walks and coastal trails.

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Expanding tourism opportunities to experience Aboriginal Country and culture



The Wuggubun Aboriginal Community Campground about 40 kms west of Kununurra in the east Kimberley is a quiet, scenic and spacious facility with a spring fed creek and lots of birdlife. Image credit: Craig & Maria/ExplorOz

Aboriginal tourism in Western Australia is set to benefit from a Federal and State government injection of funds, enabling more visitors from across the nation and overseas to connect with the rich culture and stories of Indigenous communities.

The \$6 million investment as part of the Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects, will go towards three tourism ventures in WA, supporting the popular Camping with Custodians (CwC) program—part of WA's *Jina: Western Australian Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan*.

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Funding available for community conservation projects



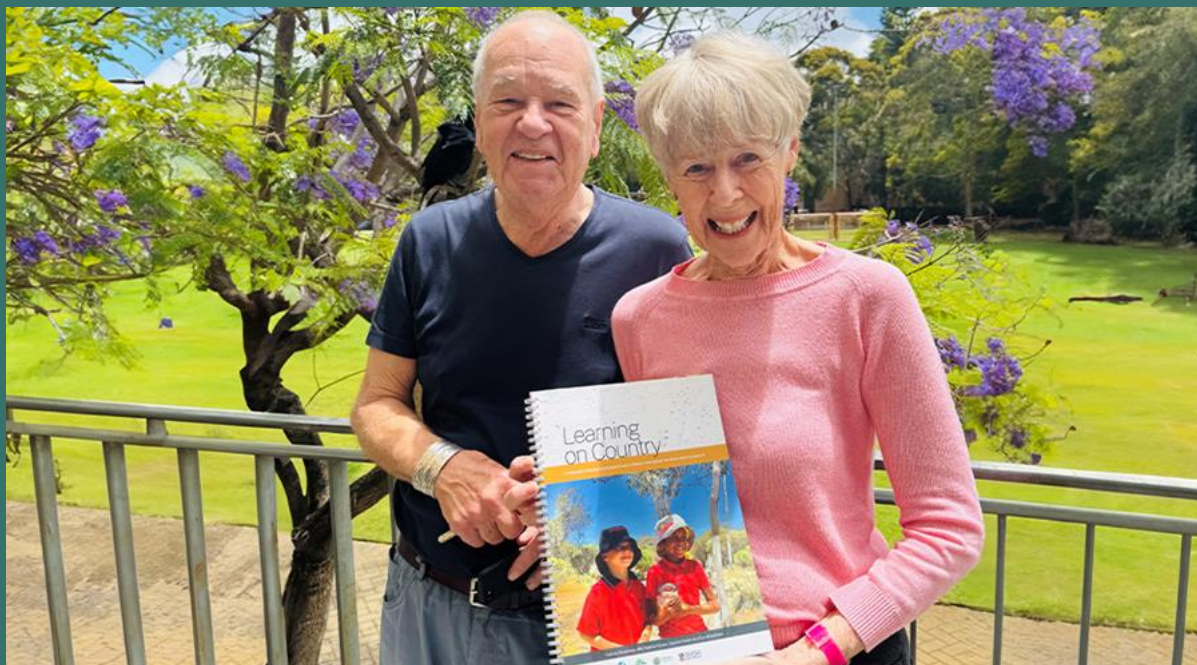
The Community Stewardship Grants recognise the value of local knowledge, volunteer efforts and strong partnerships. Image credit: Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Applications are invited for the next round of grants to support grassroots natural resource management projects.

The Community Stewardship Grants under the State Natural Resource Management Program assist the conservation of WA's natural assets and recognise the role of local communities in natural resource management.

[Read more](#)

Wheatbelt school program bridges Western science and Aboriginal knowledge



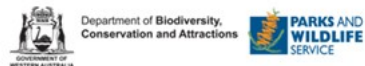
Emeritus Professor Don Bradshaw and Honorary Research Associate Felicity Bradshaw with the new schools resource Learning on Country. Image credit: The University of Western Australia

An innovative educational initiative is set to enrich science and literacy learning for students in WA's Wheatbelt.

Learning on Country: A Two-way Integrated Science and Literacy Program for Wheatbelt Schools merges Western scientific approaches with Aboriginal ecological knowledge, providing an engaging, place-based educational experience for students in Years 1 to 10.

[Read more](#)

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