

State's vision for major expansion of WA parks network, Aboriginal ranger program funding, Outstanding service recognised and more...

[View this email in your browser](#)



Issue 32, February 2019



Picture: Bend Lookout, Kalbarri National Park, Tourism Western Australia

Welcome to the WA Parks Foundation News, sharing news and events that celebrate Our WA Parks and helping to increase community appreciation and involvement in the stewardship of our incredible national parks and conservation estate.

In this issue:

- [State's vision for major expansion of WA parks network](#)
- [Aboriginal ranger program funding](#)
- [Outstanding service recognised](#)
- [Efforts to safeguard our rarest parrot](#)

- [Yanchep's koalas](#)
- [Boys' Own](#)
- [Socialise with us!](#)

[State's vision for major expansion of WA parks network](#)



Picture: Aerial view of Dirk Hartog Island National Park in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, Tourism WA.

Significant expansion of Western Australia's network of national parks and reserves has been included in a program of priority goals announced this month by the State Government.

The target is to create five million hectares of new WA national and marine parks and reserves over the next five years, increasing Western Australia's conservation estate by 20 per cent.

[Read more...](#)

[Aboriginal ranger program funding](#)

the \$20 million Aboriginal Ranger Program can be submitted to the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions until March 15, 2019.

The Aboriginal Ranger Program was developed by the State Government to create jobs, training and community development opportunities for Aboriginal people in regional and remote communities across Western Australia.

[Read more...](#)



Picture: Aboriginal rangers working on a crocodile fence at Ord River Nature Reserve, DBCA.

[Outstanding service recognised](#)



Picture: Foundation Directors Ms Eva Skira AM and Dr Richard Walley OAM (Boorna Waanginy Artistic Associate & Cultural Advisor)

Congratulations are due to WA Parks Foundation Director, Eva Skira, on her recognition in the 2019 Australia Day Honours. Eva, who is also a Parks Ambassador, was awarded an AM (Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia).

With a career background in banking and finance, Eva now has several professional roles. She is a Board Member of the Western Australian Cricket Association, a former Chair of the Water Corporation, the Forest Products Commission and of Westscheme, and has served on a number of other Boards.

[Read more...](#)

[Efforts to safeguard our rarest parrot](#)



Picture: Jennene Riggs. Taken at Perth Zoo for the filming of the documentary "Secrets at Sunrise"

The remote, wildly beautiful and biodiverse Cape Arid National Park on Western Australia's south coast is an important conservation area for 1100 species of plants and more than 160 bird species, several of which are threatened or endangered.

The rarest of its birds, the western ground parrot, is known only to exist in this near pristine wilderness and in the adjacent Nuytsland Nature Reserve.

[Read More...](#)

[Kalbarri Skywalk project underway](#)



The State Government's world class Kalbarri Skywalk project will provide visitors with spectacular views of the rugged Murchison River Gorge and surrounding environment.

The two 100-metre-high skywalks with a connecting boardwalk between them will jut out dramatically 25 metres and 17 metres beyond the rim of the gorge at one of its highest points.

[Read More...](#)

[Volunteering at the Western Australian Herbarium](#)



Picture: In the Herbarium's mounting room, volunteers attach (sew and/or tape) specimens onto card.

The Western Australian Herbarium, located in Kensington, is responsible for describing and documenting Western Australia's botanical diversity. It is the State's principal botanical research facility dealing with the taxonomy, distribution and status of native and introduced plants.

Yanchep's koalas



Picture: Snoozing Koala, DBCA

An opportunity to come face to face with some of Australia's unique wildlife is a highlight for many overseas visitors. Kangaroos and koalas, being among the most famous, tend to be high on the list and one of the best places close to Perth to see these fascinating marsupials is Yanchep National Park.

Although there is fossil evidence of the koala in the State's South West until the late Pleistocene age, they are not native to Western Australia. However, they have been on display at Yanchep since the 1930s when a colony originating from Victoria and Queensland was transferred from the Perth Zoo.

[Read More ...](#)

Boys' Own



Picture: Swan River

What middle-aged Perth bloke wouldn't want the chance to come back as a barefoot boy just messing about in a little boat on the Swan River with his mates, having adventures like Huck and Jim on the mighty Mississippi?

One fabulous February morning this year six veteran sailors, average age just north of 65, set off from East Fremantle on a Boys' Own expedition to sail as far up the Swan river as they could get in three days.

[Read More ...](#)

Get Involved!

There are a number of ways you can support the WA Parks Foundation. Together, we can make a lasting difference for the future of our national parks.

Become a member

WA Parks Foundation members take pride in our natural areas, enjoy spending time in nature and understand how important our Parks are to biodiversity and communities.

Make a donation

to recruit volunteers and to facilitate collaboration.

Join our community

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

You can share your park adventures and give us permission to repost your snaps by tagging @OurWAParks or #OurWAParks. Let's be social!



twitter.com/OurWAParks



facebook.com/OurWAParks



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.

Copyright © 2019 WA Parks Foundation, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

