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Autumn 2015

Hi Lisa

Welcome to the Autumn 2015 issue of *Yanchep National Park e-news*.

Autumn in Yanchep National Park means large flocks of Carnaby's cockatoos are active, and it's the perfect time of year for a barbecue or a stroll along one of the walk trails.

The April school holidays are not too far away and the friendly crew from *Nearer to Nature* will again be conducting a range of exciting children's programs including the popular *Adventure caving* plus *Camouflage capers* and *Funky fossils*.

This issue of *Yanchep National Park e-news* includes how you can help endangered Carnaby's cockatoos, information about this year's ANZAC Day commemorations, the availability of great offers at Chocolate Drops and Yanchep Inn, and details on the Retro Rewind festival held earlier this month.

***Nearer to Nature* April school holidays**

Visit Yanchep National Park these school holidays to explore wild caves and discover how animals adapt to their local environment.

During April, the Parks and Wildlife will host a range of fun *Nearer to Nature* activities

for children at the park.

Marketing coordinator Jennifer Green said the popular *Camouflage capers* activity allows participants to gain an insight into how animals camouflage as a survival technique.

“In this activity, kids learn some fascinating facts about camouflage and how they can make their own camouflage cape to take home,” she said.

“*Camouflage capers* will be held on the morning of Thursday 16 April and is suitable for children aged between four and seven.”

“Children see the evidence of tiny animals that have been trapped in limestone at the *Funky fossils* session on the afternoon of 16 April.”

Learn how limestone is made and create your own fossil. This session is aimed at seven to 12-year-olds.



National park guide Inga Price said *Adventure caving*, to be held on Friday 10 April, was another popular school holiday activity that filled up quickly.

“Kids can enjoy the magnificent world of the underground as they crawl and explore their way through one of the park’s wild caves,” she said.

“They will also discover large chambers filled with stunning natural decorations such as stalactites, stalagmites and columns as they make their way through the cave by torchlight.

“We have had a lot of interest in these activities so bookings are essential.”

To secure a spot please contact *Nearer to Nature* on 9295 2244.

2015 Great Cocky Count – get involved!

The seventh annual Great Cocky Count will be held on Sunday 12 April, and is

Western Australia's biggest survey of endangered Carnaby's cockatoos. Populations have decreased by 50 per cent over the past 50 years.

On Sunday 12 April, hundreds of volunteers across the south-west will count Carnaby's at night-time roost sites, and this year will also include the threatened red-tailed black cockatoo.

Help identify more roost sites for both white-tailed and red-tailed black-cockatoos!

To be involved, register your interest via BirdLife Australia's [website](#) before Sunday 29 March. For more information, contact greatcockycount@birdlife.org.au.



Free school activities in the Wangi

Head to the Wangi Mia these school holidays for some fun free activities. This autumn's theme is 'Why water matters', which focuses on the effects of water on our environment. Yanchep National Park officer Peta Bolz said there will be plenty of activities on offer.

"The Wangi Mia sessions will have lots for the kids to do, including activity sheets, craft activities and seedling planting. Plus, you can find out more about our endangered Australian water rat, the rakali," Peta said.

'Why water matters' will be held between 11am and 2pm on April 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 17.

"We look forward to seeing you throughout the holidays," Peta said.

Please be aware that while the activities are free, park entry fees do apply.

Yanchep commemorates ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day is always a busy day at Yanchep National Park, and this year's event, which commemorates the 100th anniversary since the ANZACs landed at Gallipoli, will be no different. This year's service will include a brass band, choir and ANZAC parade, and will be located at the memorial garden in front of Yanchep Inn. People are encouraged to get in early for the 11.30am service, to ensure that they don't miss out.

Photo - Outback Bob Photography



Chocolate Drops Easter goodies

A selection of Australian-themed chocolates will be located at Chocolate Drops Tearooms from 30 March. These goodies, make unique Easter gifts and have been developed by proprietor, Sue Dash. Pop in store to pick up a special present.

Chocolate Drops Tearooms is privately run and licensed to operate in Yanchep National Park.



Parma night at Yanchep Inn

Friday nights are now officially parmigiana night at [Yanchep Inn](#) with a selection of 10 types of parmigiana to suit all appetites for only \$19.50. Choose from classic, Mexican, pineapple, marinara or Aussie parmigianas, plus many more!

Evening meals can be ordered between 5pm and 8pm, and there's live music inside to liven up the mood.

If you're concerned about driving, the inn's courtesy bus picks up at Yanchep and Two Rocks at 6 and 7pm and will return you at 9pm and 11pm. Contact the inn on 9561 1001 for more information on the courtesy bus and to book your evening meal.

Yanchep Inn is privately run and licensed to operate in Yanchep National Park.

Yanchep volunteers clean up Australia

Yanchep National Park volunteers and staff took part in a bushland clean-up earlier this month as part of the 25th annual Clean Up Australia Day. Rubbish that had been dumped along internal bush tracks within the park was targeted, and despite it being a very hot day, participants collected about 45 bags of small items and four truckloads of larger items including old fencing, beds, televisions and building materials.

As a thank you for their efforts, the Yanchep National Park Volunteer Association provided a sausage sizzle and welcoming cool drink following the successful morning event.

About 526,270 volunteers across the country stepped up to contribute towards Clean Up Australia Week (24 February to 1 March), collecting 13,563 tonnes of rubbish at 6165 clean-up sites across Australia.

For those that missed out on the designated clean-up week, but would still like to participate making Australia a cleaner place, visit the Clean Up Australia Day [website](#) to find out how you can participate.



Recap on *Retro Rewind*

More than 3000 people kicked their heels up at this year's *Retro Rewind* at Yanchep National Park.

The City of Wanneroo supported event showcased an assortment of retro activities, including a vintage photo booth, side-show alley, hot rod display, jive dance classes and some live bands that played songs from the 1920s to the 1970s.

For more information, or to spot yourself in one of the event photos, check out our Facebook [page](#).



Photo – Daniel Grant

Chocolate Drops sponsors events

Chocolate Drops were asked to develop hand-made chocolates for two high profile events this month. The first event, the Order of Australia Association National Conference, was held at the Duxton Hotel and provides recognition to Australian citizens for their service to the country. Staff at the Tearooms busily made 250 chocolate bilbies for one of the conference dinners.

The second, a tourism industry function was held at Parliament House and provided an opportunity for the tourism industry to network with other tourism businesses, Members of Parliament and the Premier, and sample Western Australian's fine produce at a buffet dinner. Chocolate Drops has participated in this industry event for the past six years.

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