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Spring 2017

Hi Lisa

Duck for cover! Spring is upon us and protective parents are guiding adventurous young ducklings as they explore new surroundings and investigate the wetland for the first time. Wildflowers are bursting into colour, with new blooms reaching for the warmth of the spring sun and the distinctive calls of the local frogs tell us the breeding season has begun. Yanchep National Park is vibrant at this time of year - join us for a spring experience in nature soon.

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Campground trial concludes

The trial is over! Thank you to each camper who stayed with us during the last 12 months and who took the time to provide feedback. We are pleased to report the campground will stay, with permanent facilities to be developed. Your valuable input

Park manager Julia Coggins said campground improvements to date included the installation of an effluent dump point, building of fences, designation of individual site pods and planting of trees, shrubs and other vegetation which will grow to provide much-needed shade and natural pod boundaries.



Camping pod at Yanchep National Park

“Further upgrades are planned for the ablution block, along with a new barbecue shelter with gas barbecues and interpretive signage. Road upgrades will eventually complete the planned infrastructure,” Julia said.

The Henry White campground at Yanchep has 23 campsites. Ten sites are on bitumen for campervans or caravans and 13 sites are suitable for tents. Bookings are available online only via DBCA's Parks and Wildlife Service [ParkStay WA](#) website.

For information about becoming a volunteer Campground Host please call 9303 7772.

Busy volunteers at Yanchep National Park

The wonderful winter rains have provided the perfect opportunity for volunteers to get stuck into revegetation and beautification projects at Yanchep National Park.

and privacy for campers, as well as habitat for native animal species.



Some of the wonderful volunteers at Yanchep National Park

The park operations crew have erected fences to keep kangaroos and rabbits away from the tasty new additions. Lots of planting has also been done in the wildflower garden and park entrance gardens to showcase the beauty and diversity of local flora species to our visitors.

Volunteers have also been kept busy in our native plant nursery, collecting rubbish from recreation areas and walk trails and continuing the ongoing battle with introduced weeds throughout the park. In fact, over the last year, Yanchep National Park volunteers contributed more than 20,000 hours to conservation, maintenance and visitor services projects – an amazing effort by our team!

Thank you to all our volunteers for your hard work, enthusiasm and pride in our park.

Carnaby's cockatoo a holiday focus

Our visitor services team has been working hard on an exciting spring school holiday program with a focus on the conservation of Carnaby's cockatoos.

Visitor services officer Madonna Mulholland said the program would provide a unique opportunity to engage the community in an enjoyable and educational activity highlighting endangered Carnaby's cockatoos.



“The program not only promotes Yanchep National Park's conservation values, but gives us an opportunity to partner with

Information displays and craft activities will also focus on the Carnaby's cockatoo and how the community can help with conservation efforts.

The school holiday program will be available in the Wangi Mia area weekdays from 26 September to 6 October (excluding 29 September and 5 October) from 11am-2pm.

Yanchep National Park staff will also be celebrating Save the Koala Day on Friday 29 September with extra free koala talks and visits from Millie, our koala mascot, on the koala boardwalk.

[Australian Koala Foundation](#) fundraising tattoos and merchandise will be available from McNess House Visitor Centre during September. All proceeds go directly to the [Australian Koala Foundation](#).



Meet our park manager, Julia Coggins

Julia first joined the Yanchep National Park team as a volunteer in 2004 and became a departmental employee in 2006, working as a visitor services officer. Julia later held the positions of volunteer coordinator and visitor services manager before becoming manager of Yanchep National Park in 2016.

Julia's passion for the park is unquestioned and she has a real soft spot for Carnaby's cockatoos, having participated in weekly cocky counts for several years.

What's your favourite thing about Yanchep National Park?

Nature! The scenery, particularly the magic of the early misty mornings.

What do you like most about your job?

Fantastic staff/colleagues and the opportunity to achieve our goals.

What are three words that best describe you?

Strong-willed, compassionate, honest.

What is your favourite food, sport and place?

Stir-fried Asian, AFL footy, home.



It's a sunlit spring with *Nearer to Nature*

DBCA's *Nearer to Nature* program is offering a wonderful mix of interactive, fun activities specifically designed to get kids out and about in nature these school holidays.

As part of the 'Sunlit Spring' program, children are invited to explore a wild cave with the popular 'Adventure caving' activity available on Friday 29 September.

Hard hats and torches are provided so participants just need to bring their sense of adventure as they prepare to take a journey into an underground wonderland and discover all its magnificent secrets.

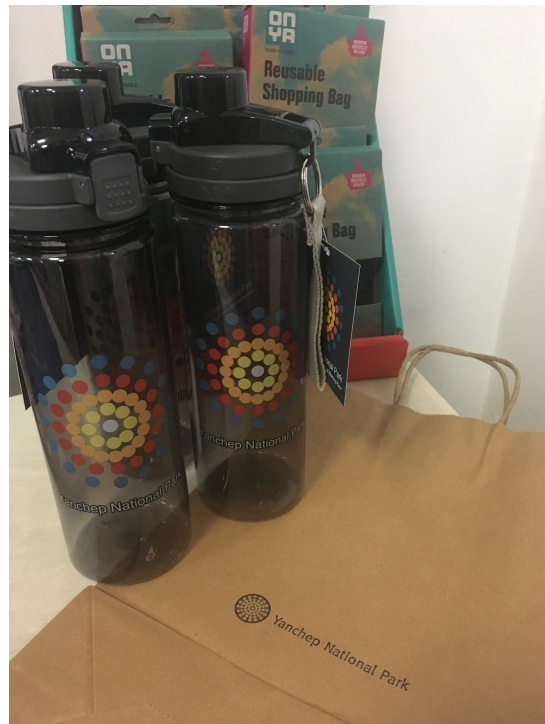
On Thursday 5 October children aged four to seven years can enjoy learning about waterbird babies in the 'Downy Ducklings' activity, while children aged seven to 12 years can take a journey with a Nyoongar guide in 'Discovering the Six Seasons'.



Bookings for these activities are essential. To secure a spot please contact *Nearer to Nature* directly on 9295 2244 during business hours.

Were you one of the millions of people from 159 countries worldwide who went plastic free this July? The Plastic Free July initiative by the Earth Carers Waste Education team at the Western Metropolitan Regional Council of Western Australia aims to raise awareness of the problems associated with single-use disposable plastic and challenges people to do something about it.

To support the Plastic Free July initiative, McNess House Visitor Centre staff did not offer plastic bags to customers throughout the month, instead encouraging the use of recycled bags or paper bags as an alternative.



Those who have chosen to continue to make plastic-free choices beyond July will be pleased to know we are now stocking a new line of refillable Yanchep National Park drink bottles and a range of eco-friendly reusable Onya bags. Call in and check them out on your next visit.

Resilience - by Lee-Anne Groenewegen

We hear the word resilience being thrown around all the time, but what is resilience? Resilience is simply 'having a go' and, if you fall, getting up and having another go, again and again if necessary.

How does being resilient help us and our children? Think back to challenges that you have faced when you've fallen down, or made a mistake, and got back up. What have you learnt? Where would you be if you hadn't picked yourself up, learnt from the experience and carried on?

How does nature build resilience in children? When children walk along a path, they stumble and get up; they balance on a log, wobble and get up; they see a tree stump they want to jump off, so they climb up and have a go.



How does this transfer to school and to learning? Once children have built up resilience and felt the discomfort of falling or failing and getting up and trying again, it anchors in their mind. Later, when they are faced with other challenging situations, they remember and feel what it's like to get up and have a go.

What should we as parents and educators do? Encourage our children to learn

encourage them in a loving and kind way.

“By simply not giving up, brushing yourself down and trying again, you’ll be amazed at what you can achieve” - Richard Branson.

Little Gumnuts runs nature education programs in Yanchep National Park for children: pre-kindy for 2-4 years, holiday programs for K-Y6, school excursions for K-Y3. Email leeanne@littlegumnuts.com.au or 0424 684 549 if you would like more information.

What’s on this spring at Yanchep National Park

- September is Save the Koala month! Join us on Friday 29 September to celebrate **Save the Koala Day**.
- Follow us on Facebook to see which creature we feature on **Threatened Species Day** on Thursday 7 September and check out our post celebrating **World Habitat Day** on 2 October.
- We are open every day of the school holidays, including the **Queen’s Birthday public holiday** on Monday 25 September, for Crystal Cave tours, camping, koalas, barbecues, walk trails, Aboriginal Experience (Sunday and public holiday Monday) and the holiday program.
- **Nearer to Nature Sunlit Spring** activities including ‘Adventure caving’ on 29 September and ‘Downy Ducklings’ and ‘Discovering the Six Seasons’ on 5 October. Please call 9295 2244 for bookings and information.
- Register at <http://aussiebirdcount.org.au/> to take part in this year’s **Aussie Backyard Bird Count** and help build a picture about the suburban populations of our feathered friends from 23-29 October 2017.



- The **2017 Cabaret Cave Ball for Telethon** is Arabian Nights-themed and will be held on **Saturday 14 October**. For tickets, donations and information please contact Heather on 0421 776 828.
- A **Remembrance Day Service** will be held by the RSL of Australia Yanchep/Two Rocks sub-branch on **Saturday 11 November** at the Memorial Gardens.

To keep updated with all news and events don't forget to 'Like' [Yanchep National Park on Facebook](#)

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