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To: Green, Jennifer
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Hi Jen

Welcome to the Yanchep National Park eNews.

Well, spring is here and the wildflowers are starting to bloom. What a wonderful time to visit the park and view it in its true glory.

This is also mating season for a lot of animals, and there are several young babies to be seen in the park. It's important to be aware that during this time the adults are very protective of their young and can be aggressive. Please maintain a safe viewing distance and do not approach.

This edition of the Yanchep National Park eNews has a lot in store, including the latest Nearer to Nature activities, information about the management plan that has recently been released, how the park participated in the Australian Tourism Exchange, an update from Gloucester Lodge and also a very special event in Yanchep that proved to be a Western Australian first.



ANTS, FOSSILS AND WILD CAVES ON DISPLAY AT YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK

Visit Yanchep National Park these school holidays to explore wild caves, learn about fossils and discover the wonderful world of ants.

During October, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) will host a range of Nearer to Nature activities.

Programs coordinator Jill Francis said *BrilliANTS* provided an interesting look into the life of an ant and encouraged children to work in teams.

"Ants are such fascinating and interesting creatures to explore. During this activity participants will learn how these insects are excellent recyclers and that they have an intricate social structure necessary for survival," she said.

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MANAGEMENT PLAN LAUNCHED



In August, Environment Minister Bill Marmion released the state government's new management plan for Yanchep and Neerabup national parks and Neerabup Nature Reserve following extensive public consultation.

"Through the management plan, visitors will gain enjoyment from the natural, cultural and social environment of Yanchep National Park and provided with a range of nature-based recreation, education and interpretation activities," Mr Marmion said.

"It is known as Perth's natural and cultural meeting place and among the most popular parks in the state, attracting about 275,000 visits a year.

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YANCHEP PARTICIPATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN TOURISM EXCHANGE



Just 45 minutes north of Perth, Yanchep National Park offers an enjoyable Australian experience. Now, with the introduction of two new tours, there will be plenty for visitors to enjoy.

Yanchep National Park launched Culture and cocktails in Cabaret Cave and Afternoon koala and kangaroo encounter at the 2012 Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE), Australia's premier tourism industry trade event held in Perth in June.

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GLOUCESTER LODGE RECREATION CAMP POPULAR



Gloucester Lodge's new life as a recreation camp has well and truly begun. Schools, scouts, guides, cadets and community groups have been taking advantage of the lodge's fabulous location within Yanchep National Park, staying for their camps during winter.

Gloucester Lodge has welcomed more than 400 guests to its dormitories and campground in the past three months, with many more to come.

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GRANDMOTHER DRUM PROJECT THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN WA



Indigenous elders met at Yanchep National Park earlier this year to unite for world peace in what would be a Western Australian first.

A medicine woman from Alaska brought to Western Australia the Grandmother Drum -a two-metre-diameter kettle-shaped drum.

The Grandmother Drum was created by the Alaskan community over 13 months, with the hope of bringing their culture to the wider community and combining all people as one tribe.

The drum-which has travelled the world and encouraged the birth of other community drum projects-made its first Western Australian visit at Yanchep National Park.

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