

WA PARKS FOUNDATION

2026 Year in Review

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PARKS

The WA Parks Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Owners of our national parks, conservation, nature and marine reserves and honours the deep connection and care of Country.



Turquoise Bay, Cape Range National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Western Australia's parks and reserves are among our state's greatest assets, enriching our lives, supporting biodiversity and connecting people with nature. Protecting these special places for future generations remains at the heart of the WA Parks Foundation's work.

This year saw pleasing progress, enabled by strong partnerships, generous supporters and a shared commitment to conserving and celebrating our natural environment.

Collaboration is an essential element of everything we do. By working alongside government, corporate and community partners, as well as volunteers, members and supporters, we bring people and organisations together to support lasting conservation outcomes and create meaningful opportunities for people to connect with nature.

A highlight of the year was our collaboration with Kings Park and Botanic Garden on the launch of the Eremophila nivea 'Pink Pearl'. Developed through Kings Park's internationally recognised Plant Development Program, this unique cultivar of the critically endangered silky emu bush provides the community with an opportunity to contribute to conservation through their own gardens. Royalties from every plant sold through participating nurseries support the conservation of Western Australia's native flora and the ongoing work of both Kings Park and the WA Parks Foundation.

Encouraging people to spend time in nature remains central to the Foundation's mission. Our annual *Spring into Parks* program once again inspired thousands of Western Australians to discover the health and wellbeing benefits of visiting our parks. Through guided walks, family activities, cultural experiences and volunteer opportunities, the program continues to foster a deeper appreciation of the extraordinary places that belong to us all.

We have also continued to expand initiatives that improve access to and understanding of our parks. Our *Smartreka* mapping program, developed in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), is making it easier for visitors to explore parks safely and confidently, while our *Nature Connection Education Series* is inspiring young people to develop a lifelong appreciation of the natural environment. Readership of our monthly online newsletter, prepared by Board Director Ainslie de Vos and our staff, continues to grow and remains a key channel for engagement.

The revitalisation of John Forrest National Park, Western Australia's first national park, also progressed during the year. The Foundation acknowledges the leadership of DBCA in delivering this important project, which is enhancing visitor facilities and experiences while protecting the park's natural and cultural values. We are proud to have contributed to the development of the business case and to support the shared vision of creating a world-class gateway for people to experience Western Australia's unique natural heritage.

While the Foundation continues to grow its impact, securing long-term financial sustainability remains an important priority. Building a diversified funding base will help ensure we can continue supporting conservation, education and community engagement initiatives well into the future.

None of this would be possible without the generosity and commitment of our supporters. I sincerely thank our Platinum Partners, Fortescue and Coogee, and our Bronze Partner, The Jock Clough Marine Foundation, for their continued investment in our work. I also acknowledge the support of our Founding Partners, Chevron Australia, Fortescue, Wesfarmers and Woodside Energy, whose early commitment helped establish the Foundation and continues to underpin our success.

My thanks also go to our General Manager, Melanie Wilshin, and our dedicated staff for their professionalism and commitment throughout the year. I also acknowledge the valuable pro bono

Western Australia's conservation estate now spans over 34.4 million hectares and includes 123 national parks, 21 marine parks and three natural World Heritage Areas.

support provided by Deloitte, KPMG and Hamilton Locke, together with the expert investment management services provided by Shakespeare Partners.

I extend my sincere appreciation to my fellow Board Directors for their leadership and commitment, and offer special thanks to our Honorary Treasurer, Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz. I also acknowledge the outstanding contribution of retiring Board Director Dr Richard Walley OAM, whose wisdom, knowledge and guidance have been greatly valued, and warmly welcome Katie Tovich to the Board.

My thanks also extend to our committee members, Park Ambassadors, members, donors, volunteers and supporters for their invaluable contribution to the Foundation's work.

Finally, I thank our Joint Patrons, His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of Western Australia, and Mrs Darrilyn Dawson, for their continued encouragement and support.

Western Australia is home to one of the world's most significant conservation estates, encompassing more than 34 million hectares of national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves. These remarkable places protect globally significant biodiversity while providing opportunities for recreation, education and wellbeing.

As we look ahead, October 2026 will mark 10 years since the WA Parks Foundation was established. It will be an opportunity to celebrate the many people, organisations and communities who have contributed to our journey, while renewing our commitment to protecting and enhancing Western Australia's extraordinary parks and reserves.

With the continued support of our partners, donors, volunteers and the wider community, I am confident the Foundation will continue to grow its impact and help ensure these remarkable places remain healthy, accessible and inspiring for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support.



Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC CVO
Chair, WA Parks Foundation

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR 3

YEAR IN REVIEW 6
- Vision 7
- Mission 7
- Strategic Directions 8

IMPACT 10
- *Spring into Parks* 10
- *Smartreka:* your ultimate outdoor companion 12
- Pink Pearl: planting for conservation 13
- Children connecting and learning in nature 13
- Capturing WA's wild wonders 16
- Upgrading a natural jewel 17
- Volunteers caring for nature 17
- Connecting with community 18

GOVERNANCE 20
- Patrons 20
- Board of Directors 20
- Nomination Committee 21
- Strategic Partnerships Committee 21
- Ambassador Advisory Committee 21
- Steering Committee 21
- Management Team 21

SUPPORTERS 22
- Partners 22
- Donors 23
- Members 24
- Ambassadors 24
- Volunteers 25

GET INVOLVED 26

OUR VALUES 27

Cover image:
Rock formations in the Mirima National Park, Kununurra.
Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

Cape Peron, Francois Peron National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

YEAR IN REVIEW

The WA Parks Foundation

continued to strengthen connections between people and nature through programs that inspire exploration, support conservation and encourage community participation. The year was marked by significant achievements across the Foundation's flagship initiatives, expanding opportunities for more people to experience, understand and value the state's parks and natural places.

Spring into Parks remained the Foundation's premier community engagement program, promoting more than 200 events across 89 parks and attractions in collaboration with 78 organisations. A statewide digital campaign generated more than 1.7 million combined reach and impressions, driving more than 39,000 visits to the *Spring into Parks* website. From guided hikes and cultural experiences to citizen science, festivals and family activities, the program inspired thousands of people to discover and enjoy Western Australia's remarkable parks and reserves. The Memorable Moments in Nature Photo Competition further celebrated these experiences, attracting more than 980 entries, showcasing the beauty and diversity of Western Australia's parks.

Supporting safe and accessible outdoor experiences, the Foundation's *Smartreka* digital map series, developed in partnership with DBCA, continued to expand, with maps now available for 25 popular destinations across the state. Optimised for offline use, the maps make it easier to explore Western Australia's natural landscapes, with more than 92,000 downloads recorded to date.

A significant conservation milestone was achieved through the release of Eremophila nivea 'Pink Pearl', a new cultivar developed through a partnership with Kings Park. Derived from the Critically Endangered silky emu bush, 'Pink Pearl' provides gardeners with an opportunity to grow an endemic Western Australian plant while contributing directly to conservation. Royalties from every plant sold support the WA Parks Foundation and Kings Park, helping to fund conservation, research and community programs that protect Western Australia's remarkable biodiversity.

The *Nature Connection Education Series* continues to demonstrate lasting outcomes for students and teachers. Since its inception, the program has involved 17 primary schools across the Perth metropolitan and Peel regions, helping children build an enduring connection with nature through immersive outdoor learning experiences while equipping teachers to continue nature-based learning beyond the program.

Throughout the year, the Foundation strengthened community engagement through growing digital communications, collaborative partnerships and volunteer initiatives. Monthly e-newsletter subscriptions increased to 3,437, with open rates exceeding 45%, while Deloitte Australia's annual Impact Day once again brought volunteers together to support habitat restoration, wildlife conservation and park improvement projects.

These achievements were made possible through the ongoing support of our partners, sponsors, donors and volunteers. Together, we continue to build appreciation for Western Australia's parks and inspire more people to value, protect and enjoy these extraordinary places for generations to come.

The Bungle Bungle Range, Purnululu National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.



Bluff Knoll, Stirling Range National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia

VISION

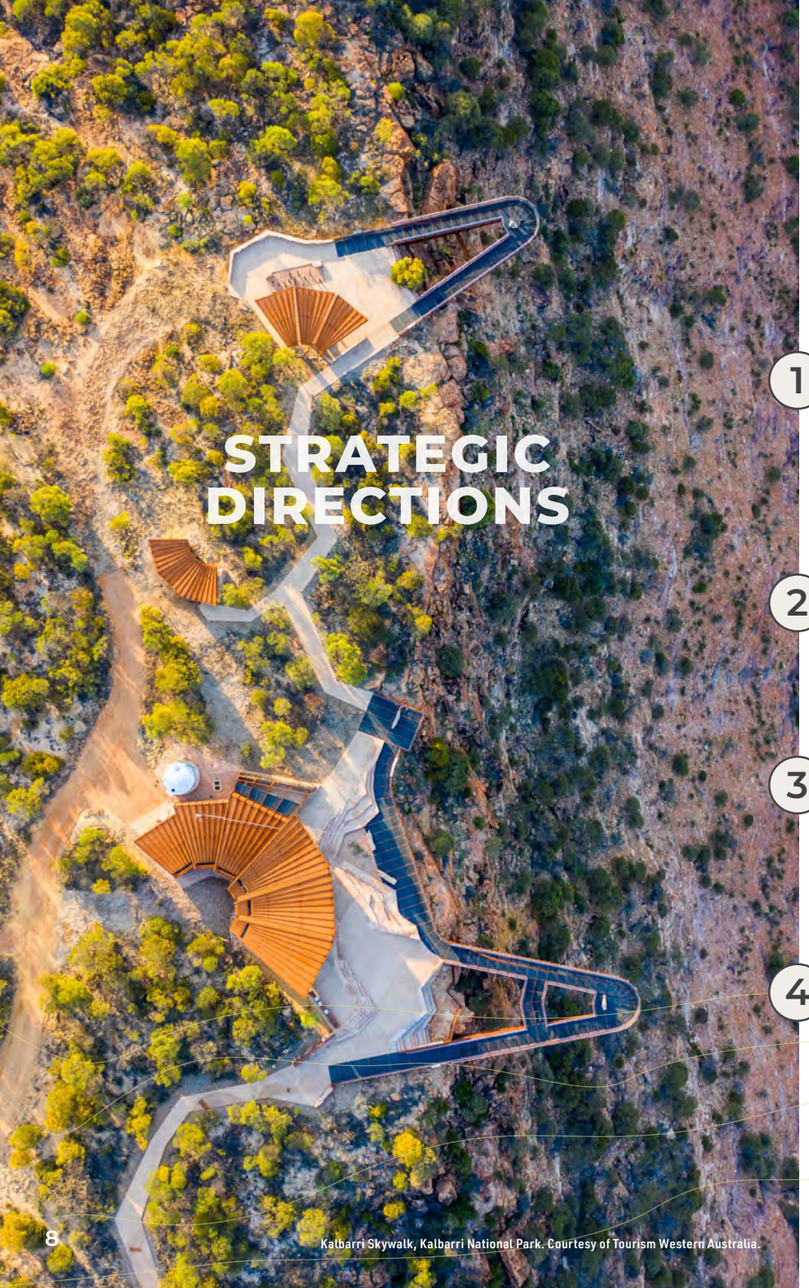
Our parks are increasingly loved and visited and the plants, animals, landscapes and cultural values they embody are protected and a source of pride for all Western Australians thus contributing to people's health, wellbeing and to ecotourism.

MISSION

To connect people to our parks and nature and through collaboration, deliver projects that celebrate, protect, increase understanding and enrich our parks to increase people's sense of connection.

GOALS

- Help protect and enrich WA's parks and their conservation values.
- Develop people's love of, pride in and connection to parks.
- Build and support a network of partners, drive community and corporate engagement with parks and promote philanthropy.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Identified priority focus areas are:

1. Attract support and work with community and corporate organisations and government to improve conservation outcomes (flora, fauna and ecological systems).
2. Implement creative and innovative campaigns to improve connection to and support for our parks.
3. Collaborate to increase cultural awareness and awareness of the importance of the health of our natural environment.
4. Build a sustainable organisation.

GOALS	STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
CONSERVE **Help protect and enrich our parks and their conservation and cultural values.**	Work with government, community and corporate organisations to improve conservation outcomes (flora, fauna and ecological systems). Collaborate with aligned organisations to support and grow cultural responsibility and respect, and stewardship of the conservation estate.
CONNECT **Develop people's love of, pride in and connection to parks.**	Increase profile and reach for the Foundation and its objectives through a strategically defined brand that resonates and connects with our audience. Build opportunities for lifelong learning and connection to our natural areas. Increase community understanding, appreciation and awareness of our natural environment including through interpretation and increasing awareness of cultural heritage.
COLLABORATE **Build and support a network of partners and drive community and corporate engagement with parks.**	Review and expand relationships with current stakeholders, explore and develop new partnerships. Increase corporate and community engagement through the growth and development of signature programs (*Spring into Parks*, *Smartreka*). Implement creative and innovative campaigns to attract support from corporate and community organisations. Build a portfolio of fundable projects with short, medium and long-term horizons.
CAPABILITY **Build organisational capacity and sustainability.**	Build a sustainable organisation. Increase organisational capability and continue to explore and use innovative technologies. Build fit-for-purpose organisational capacity through engaging appropriate internal and external resources.

Kalbarri Skywalk, Kalbarri National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

Rottnest Island. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

IMPACT

Spring into Parks

The 2025 *Spring into Parks* program featured an extensive calendar of activities designed to foster connection and strengthen engagement with nature across Western Australia. With a focus on engaging youth and families, the program combined online resources with place-based experiences.

More than 200 events were promoted across 89 parks and attractions throughout the state. A comprehensive digital marketing campaign amplified the program's visibility, generating more than 1.7 million combined reach and impressions and attracting over 39,000 visits to the *Spring into Parks* website, contributing to continued growth in the Foundation's digital presence.

Through the *Spring into Parks* calendar, the Foundation promoted a diverse range of experiences that encouraged people of all ages and abilities to connect with nature. Featured events included the Kings Park Everlasting Festival, Perth Hills WanderFest, the Six Seasons Trail Series with The Hike Collective, Accessible Hikes with Off the Beaten Track, Grounded Festival cultural and community hikes, the Walpole Bioblitz, and a vibrant program of music, art, culture, wellness and nature events at Herdsman Lake. The calendar also featured bird watching walks, forest bathing, bushfood experiences, children's festivals, astronomy events and many other nature-based activities delivered by a broad range of organisations across Western Australia.

As part of our commitment to connecting children and families with nature through creative experiences, the Foundation sponsored the Native Creative activity station at the 2026 FRONT Festival. The interactive station invited children and their families to explore Western Australia's native flora and fauna through hands-on art and craft activities, encouraging creativity while fostering an appreciation for the natural environment. By bringing nature-inspired experiences into a vibrant cultural festival, the activation introduced new audiences to the importance of parks, biodiversity and outdoor spaces in an engaging and accessible way.

A special feature of the program was the *Spring into Parks* commemorative quilt, created by the West Australian Quilters Association. Displayed at the WA Museum Boola Bardip in October as part of the Community Showcase Exhibition, the quilt was a vibrant, visual celebration of the biodiversity and inspiration found in Western Australia's parks and reserves.

The exhibition included student artworks created through the FORM Creative Schools program, celebrating Western Australia's flora, fauna and the importance of caring for our environment.

The 30-day *Spring into Parks* Wellness Challenge was another successful initiative, encouraging people to prioritise wellbeing through time spent outdoors. The campaign engaged more than 4,100 accounts across Facebook and Instagram, reinforcing the connection between nature, health and community.

The success of *Spring into Parks* was made possible through the collective efforts of partner organisations, whose collaboration enabled communities across Western Australia to experience and celebrate the state's extraordinary natural places through accessible, engaging and inspiring events.

SPRING into PARKS
A WA PARKS FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

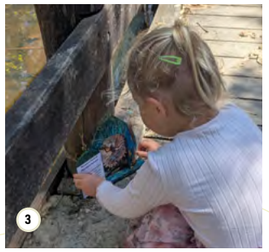
Images following page:
1. Image courtesy of WA Museum.
2. Scribblers FRONT images courtesy of Dan McBride.
3. Images courtesy of WA Gould League.



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SMARTREKA
THE SMARTER PARK MAPS

Your ultimate outdoor companion

The Foundation's *Smartreka* mapping initiative, developed in partnership with the Parks and Wildlife Service (DBCA), continues to enhance visitor experiences by making it easier and safer to explore Western Australia's national parks and reserves.

This year, the *Smartreka* network expanded to 25 interactive maps, providing visitors with comprehensive, easy-to-use digital guides for some of the state's most popular natural destinations. Designed for smartphones and tablets, the maps use built-in GPS technology to display a visitor's real-time location and provide detailed information on walking trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, lookouts, car parks, accessibility, facilities and important safety information.

Maps can be downloaded through the Avenza Maps app while internet access is available, before travelling. Once downloaded, they remain fully functional without mobile coverage or internet access, making them particularly valuable for visitors exploring regional and remote Western Australia.

The continued growth of *Smartreka* reflects increasing demand for accessible digital visitor information, with more than 92,000 map downloads since the initiative was launched. As one of the Foundation's flagship visitor engagement programs, *Smartreka* is helping more people experience Western Australia's extraordinary parks with greater confidence, safety and enjoyment.

Smartreka was a finalist in the 2025 Outdoor WA Industry Awards in the Encouraging Participation category, recognising its contribution to outdoor recreation in Western Australia.



WOW Wilderness Eco Adventures. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

Pink Pearl: planting for conservation

One of the year's most exciting initiatives was the release of the Eremophila nivea 'Pink Pearl', a beautiful new native plant that gives Western Australians the opportunity to help conserve one of the state's rarest species simply by planting it in their own gardens.

Developed by Kings Park's internationally recognised plant development program, 'Pink Pearl' is a cultivated form of the critically endangered silky emu bush (Eremophila nivea). While the species is best known for its striking purple flowers, this exceptional cultivar showcases a rare soft pink form, helping to preserve valuable genetic diversity while broadening the plant's appeal to home gardeners.

Through our partnership with Kings Park and Botanic Garden, the Foundation is helping connect conservation with the community in a practical and lasting way. Every 'Pink Pearl' plant sold through participating nurseries generates royalties that support the conservation of Western Australia's unique native flora and the ongoing work of both organisations.

The initiative demonstrates how horticultural innovation can inspire people to become active participants in conservation, ensuring one of Western Australia's most threatened plant species has a brighter future both in the wild and in home gardens.



L-R: Minister for the Environment, Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC; Kings Park Senior Plant Breeder, Digby Growns; and WA Parks Foundation Chair, Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO with Eremophila 'Pink Pearl'.

Image Credit: Cam Campbell, Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

Children connecting and learning with nature

The *Nature Connection Education Series* helps children in disadvantaged communities develop a lifelong connection with nature through hands-on outdoor learning experiences. To date, the program has reached 17 primary schools across the Perth metropolitan and Peel regions, helping hundreds of students build curiosity, confidence and environmental stewardship.

Designed for schools with limited resources, the program combines weekly outdoor learning experiences with professional development for teachers, enabling nature-based learning to continue beyond the program itself.

Independent evaluation demonstrates the program delivers lasting benefits for students, teachers and families.

OUTCOMES

100%
of parents would like their child to participate in projects like this again in future.

100%
of parents noticed a change in their child's attitude to school and learning.

100%
of teachers said the program enhanced their ability to teach outdoors.

100%
of school leaders thought the project had a positive impact on student learning and development.

89%
of students enjoyed participating in the *Nature Connection Education Series*.

65%
increase in words used to describe knowledge of local birds, plants, and parks.

30%
increase in children spending 2-5 hours outdoors each week.

24%
decrease in children spending 2-3 hours a week on screens.

Wildflowers at Datjoin Rock. Image courtesy of Educated by Nature.

"It's really calming just looking at all the nature and all of the animals and all of the things and I really like just closing my eyes and just listening to the sounds."
Student

"I'm in the best spot ever, sitting in a tree, because it is high up and you can hear the birds better. I am actually pretty good at this observation. Everyone can be good at nature."
Student

"I've learnt how to treat nature how to love nature."
Student

What did they say about the program?

"The curiosity is amazing. The excitement and enthusiasm for learning is great out here. They are enjoying it, so they are learning. It intrigues them, so they want to learn more."
Teacher

"They are also learning about teamwork and strategy, as well as nature. It is really a good way to incorporate lots of different elements into the learning. Just look how eager they all are. It is brilliant."
Teacher

Scan the QR code to watch short videos of students, parents and teachers sharing their Nature Connection experiences.



Winner: 'Sunrise on the King George River' Richard Bolto.

Capturing WA's wild wonders

The Memorable Moments in Nature photo competition was once again a highlight of the *Spring into Parks* program, attracting more than 980 entries.

The competition invited people to capture the special moments, unexpected encounters and unforgettable places that make our parks and natural landscapes so special. The outstanding quality of entries reflected the community's deep appreciation for Western Australia's diverse environments and the experiences they inspire.

Congratulations to Richard Bolto, winner of the competition for Sunrise on the King George River, captured in the Kimberley. Second prize was awarded to Julie Guglielmana for Afternoon Snack, photographed at Capel River. Congratulations also to runners-up Rita Atkinson (Shall we dance?, Coondanup Foreshore Reserve), Keeley Ward (Making a Break for It!, Ningaloo Marine Park) and Lex Porebski (Torndirrup Sunrise at Salmon Holes, Torndirrup National Park).

We thank everyone who entered the competition and acknowledge the generous support of RAC Parks & Resorts, Heyscape, Matagarup Zip+Climb, Two Feet and a Heartbeat, Camera Electronic, Mindful in Nature and DBCA whose prize donations helped inspire people to discover, enjoy and celebrate Western Australia's extraordinary parks.



Second Prize: 'Afternoon Snacky' Capel River.
Julie Guglielmana.



Runner up: Rita Atkinson.
(Shall we dance?, Coondanup Foreshore Reserve)



Runner up: Keeley Ward.
(Making a Break for It!, Ningaloo Marine Park)



Runner up: Lex Porebski (Torndirrup Sunrise at Salmon Holes, Torndirrup National Park).

Upgrading a natural jewel

The WA Parks Foundation and the DBCA share a vision to transform John Forrest National Park into a gateway national park through the revitalisation of visitor facilities and experiences.

Just 30 minutes from the Perth CBD, John Forrest is Western Australia's first national park and one of the most visited parks in the metropolitan area. Renowned for its spectacular waterfalls, jarrah forest and rich Aboriginal heritage, the park continues to evolve as a destination that welcomes more people to connect with nature. Visitors to John Forrest National Park can now enjoy an elevated perspective of one of its outstanding natural features, with the opening of a new 250 metre walkway above Glen Brook.

Positioned among mature eucalypts and overlooking granite outcrops, the walkway provides an immersive experience of the Glen Brook valley. Constructed from corten (weathering) steel and reclaimed spotted gum, the structure has been designed to sit sensitively within the landscape, while offering expansive views across the creek environment.

The walkway is a key element of the broader rejuvenation of John Forrest National Park. Improvements include the new day use area featuring landscaped gardens, accessible picnic and barbecue facilities, and sealed paths. The new West Ridge carpark provides improved access, with trailhead signage guiding visitors to walking trails, off road cycling routes and the Railway Reserve Heritage Trail. Scenic Drive has also reopened as a one way route between the Great Eastern Highway western entry and the new carpark access road.

Still to come is the Park Hub, which will include a café and an interpretation space to support visitor learning and connection to the park's natural and cultural values. The WA Parks Foundation was pleased to contribute to the development of the business case for this transformative project.

Volunteers caring for nature

The Foundation was once again delighted to partner with Deloitte Australia for the company's annual Impact Day. Each October, Deloitte staff across the country set aside their usual work to make a meaningful contribution to their communities.

More than 90 Deloitte volunteers contributed to habitat restoration and wildlife conservation through weed control and planting with the Woodvale Waters Friends of Beenyup Channel, maintenance projects at the Perth Hills Discovery Centre, and support for the Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre. At the Discovery Centre, volunteers also constructed a quenda cabin as part of the Nearer to Nature Quenda Cabins program, creating an important refuge for native wildlife.

Together, the WA Parks Foundation and Deloitte Australia have engaged hundreds of volunteers in conservation and park improvement projects, demonstrating the lasting value of corporate partnerships in protecting Western Australia's natural environment and connecting people with nature.

Connecting with community

The Foundation continued to strengthen community engagement through collaboration with partner organisations, leveraging cross-promotion to showcase projects, events and campaigns across multiple channels.

Subscriptions to our monthly e-newsletter grew steadily over the year, reaching 3,437 subscribers. Open rates consistently exceeded 45%, well above industry benchmarks, demonstrating strong public interest in, and trust of, the Foundation's communications.

Growth across the Foundation's digital platforms reflected increased campaign activity and a continued focus on authentic, audience-centred narrative. Instagram followers increased to 6,384, Facebook followers grew to 8,795, and LinkedIn followers increased by 10% to 724.

Our social media channels generated significant organic engagement throughout the year, extending the Foundation's reach well beyond its follower base. Strategic campaigns and wide-ranging and relevant editorial content enabled us to connect with new audiences, increase awareness of our work and encourage community participation.

The Foundation's website remained a key destination for information, attracting more than 63,572 users during the year. As the central hub for programs, events, news and opportunities to engage with nature, the website complemented our social media activity and played an important role in converting digital interest to deeper engagement.

Collectively, our digital channels achieved substantial organic reach across the year, strengthening the Foundation's visibility, expanding our audiences and reinforcing our position as a trusted source of information, inspiration and opportunities to connect with Western Australia's natural environment.

Subscriptions to our monthly e-newsletter grew steadily over the year, reaching 3,437 subscribers. Open rates consistently exceeded 45%, well above industry benchmarks, demonstrating strong public interest in, and trust of, the Foundation's communications.

FOLLOWERS

FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	LINKEDIN
8,795	6,384	724



Deloitte.

Image Credit: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

GOVERNANCE

During the year, management focused on progressing key projects, advancing business development, and streamlining processes to improve efficiency and strengthen organisational capacity. Maintaining high standards of corporate governance remains central to the Foundation's operations.

Global economic conditions and cost-of-living pressures continued to influence the Foundation's financial position. With support from the Strategic Partnerships Committee, the Board continues to respond through a focused strategy to strengthen the Foundation's financial sustainability. We remain committed to reinforcing our valued alliances while pursuing new opportunities for support beyond our existing networks.

All mandatory reporting obligations were completed on time, and the reporting requirements of our partners were met.

PATRONS

The WA Parks Foundation is honoured to have the Joint Patronage of **His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson** AC APM, Governor of Western Australia, and his wife, **Mrs Darrilyn Dawson**.

This Vice-Regal interest and support is very much valued.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The membership of the Board of Directors for the year ending June 30, 2026.

- **Chair: The Hon Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO
  Former Governor of Western Australia, former Chancellor Edith Cowan University, Chair St John of God Health Care
- **Hon Treasurer: Ms Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz** CA
  Group Director, Shakespeare Total Financial Solutions
- **Mrs Ainslie de Vos** GAICD
  Former Manager External Affairs, Fremantle Ports
  Communication Adviser, Perron Institute
- **Hon Albert Jacob** GAICD JP
  Lawyer, Thomsons, former Mayor, City of Joondalup
- **Mr Elisha Jacobs-Smith**
  Senior Training Manager, First Nations at Murdoch University and Cultural Educator at Indigenous Economic Solutions
- **Mr Richard Simpson**
  Director, Euroz Hartleys Group, Non-executive Chairman, Aurum Resources Limited, former Chair Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, former member State Emergency Management Committee
- **Ms Katie Tovich**
  (from December 2025 - August 2026)
  Former Chief Financial Officer and Chief Commercial and Human Resources Officer at South32 Limited, risk advisor at the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research
- **Dr Richard Walley** OAM (to December 2025)
  Director of Aboriginal Productions
- **Ms Rickeeta Walley**
  Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority; Educator and Researcher, Aboriginal Productions; Lecturer/Tutor, The University of Western Australia

Other attendees:

- **Ex-officio attendee: Mr Luke Bentley**
  Executive Director, Parks and Visitor Services, DBCA
- **Board Secretary: Ms Melanie Wilshin** GAICD
  General Manager, WA Parks Foundation

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nomination Committee identifies and evaluates the necessary and desirable skills, knowledge, experience and diversity of the Board. Membership is determined on a case by case basis, and where applicable composition is as required under the Constitution.

Chair: Mrs Ainslie de Vos

- **Hon Albert Jacobs**
- **Ms Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz**
- **Ms Heather Zampatti**

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

The Strategic Partnerships Committee fosters corporate and community engagement with our parks and promotes philanthropy by guiding the strategic direction of major programs and projects. Membership is:

Chair: Ms Tanya Trevisan OAM (to August 2025)

- **Hon Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO
- **Ms Deborah Attard Portughes** OAM
- **Mr Richard Simpson**
- **Ms Heather Zampatti**

AMBASSADOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Ambassador Advisory Committee seeks to engage Park Ambassadors and to assist with the achievement of the Foundation's goals. Membership is:

Chair: Mr Jim Sharp

- **Hon Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO
- **Professor Lyn Beazley** AO
- **Mrs Ainslie de Vos**
- **Ms Kim Eckert** OAM
- **Dr Regina Flugge**
- **Mr Ryan Mossny**
- **Ms Tracy Shea**

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee provides strategic oversight and guidance for Foundation initiatives and supports their effective development and implementation. Membership is:

Chair: Mr Richard Simpson

- **Hon Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO
- **Mr Daniel Gaughan**
- **Ms Katie Tovich**
- **Mr Steve Wade**

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Ms Melanie Wilshin GAICD, General Manager

Ms Sally Stabler, Marketing and Partnerships (to December 2025)

Ms Danielle Costley, Marketing and Engagement Specialist (from April 2026)



Mimbi Caves, The Kimberley. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

SUPPORTERS

The WA Parks Foundation deeply values the support of the Western Australian community and is proud to recognise the generous contributions of our corporate partners, donors, members, ambassadors and dedicated volunteers.

With special thanks to our partners.

Platinum Partners

Coogee

Fortescue

Bronze Partner

THE JOCK CLOUGH MARINE FOUNDATION

Supporting Partners

Deloitte.

Hamilton Locke

KPMG

localista

Government Partners

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

KINGS PARK & Botanic Garden

The WA Parks Foundation acknowledges the invaluable early support from our Founding Partners: Chevron Australia, Fortescue, Wesfarmers and Woodside Energy.

We also greatly value the support of our Government Partner, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

DONORS

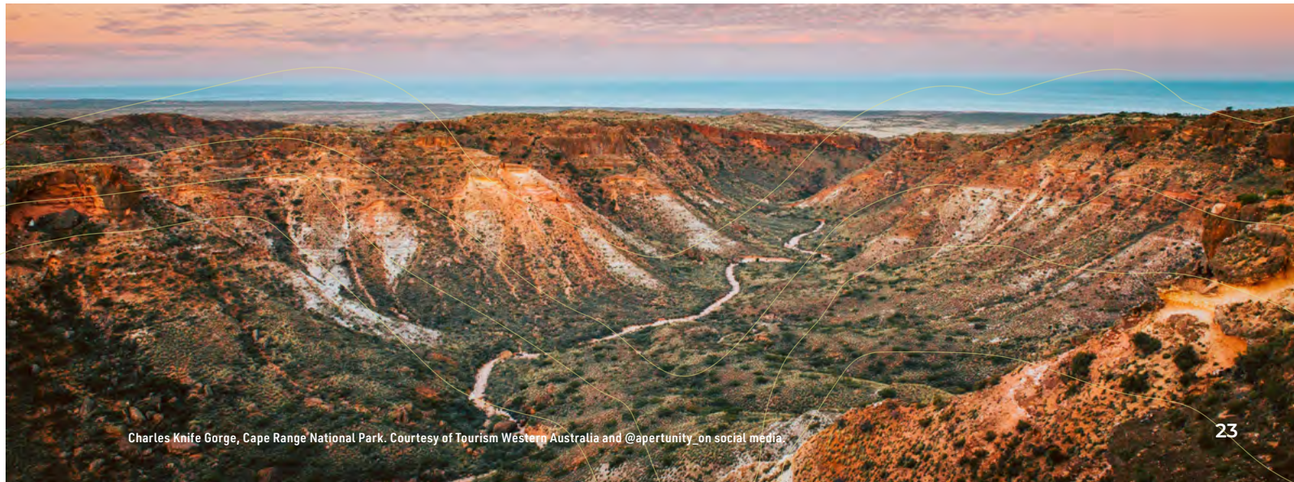
Our appreciation and thanks also go to the other individuals and organisations who made contributions during 2025/26:

Kangaroo Paw Silver Circle

- **Janet Holmes à Court** AC
- **Hon Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO

Park Steward

- **Explore Caravans**
- **John van Bockxmeer**
- **Sara Cuthane**
- **Ainslie de Vos**
- **G Millon**
- **Katie Tovich**
- **Andy Wong**



Charles Knife Gorge, Cape Range National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia and @apertunity_on social media.

MEMBERS

The Foundation is a membership-based organisation and at 30 June 2026, there were 91 members, comprising student, individual and family memberships. All Foundation members are eligible to receive a 50% discount on the annual All Parks Pass from the Parks and Wildlife Service (DBCA) as well as a range of exclusive discount offers.

AMBASSADORS

Our Park Ambassadors share a common love of our parks and a commitment to the Foundation's objectives. They bring extensive and varied experience of Western Australia's national parks, as well as expertise across a range of other fields. Through their knowledge, advocacy and networks, our Ambassadors play an important role in raising awareness of the value of our parks and the work of the Foundation.

During the year, we were saddened by the passing of Park Ambassador Mrs June Butcher AM. A tireless advocate for Western Australia's wildlife and co-founder of Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, June made an outstanding contribution to wildlife conservation and inspired generations through her dedication to the care of injured and orphaned native animals. We are grateful for June's valued support of the Foundation and honour her legacy.

Founding Ambassadors

We thank the Founding Ambassadors for their contributions and time volunteered.

- **Pat Barblett** AM • **Hon Fred Chaney** AO • **Janet Holmes à Court** AC

Park Ambassadors

We thank the Park Ambassadors for their contributions and time volunteered.

Liz and Simon Bailey, Lifestyle Pioneers
Professor Lyn Beazley AO
June Butcher AM
Simon Cherriman
Jock Clough
David and Ainslie de Vos
Professor Ross Dowling AM
Kim Eckert OAM
David Flanagan AM
Dr Regina Flugge
Sophia Forrest
Nat Fyfe
Kate Gibson
Shaun Hardcastle
Dr Tom Hatton PSM
Professor Stephen Hopper AC
Hon Albert Jacobs JP
Elisha Jacobs-Smith
Ezra Jacobs-Smith
Josie Janz-Dawson
Victoria Laurie
Professor Stephen van Leeuwen
Mayor Peter Long and Vicki Long
Griffin Longley
Janelle and Adam Marr
Eric McCrum OAM
Richard McLellan
Brendon Moore
Karen Morrissey OAM
Ryan Mossny
Gary Muir
Philippa Nikulinsky AM
Dr Brad Norman AM
Jane O'Malley
Robin Piesse
Tracey Roberts MP
Chandra Salgado Kent
Verity Sebire
Jim Sharp
Tracy Shea
Richard Simpson
Eva Skira AM
Andrew St Pierre White
Dale Tilbrook
Katie Tovich
Dr Richard Walley OAM
Rickeeta Walley
Mark Webb PSM
Melanie Wilshin
Tim Winton
Mike Wood AM
Ben Wyatt AO

Carr Boyd Range, East Kimberley Ranges. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

VOLUNTEERS

Our sincere thanks to the many volunteers who generously contributed their time, skills and expertise throughout the year. Your support has made a valuable contribution to the Foundation's work.

WA Parks Foundation Board

Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC CVO, **Ainslie de Vos, Hon. Albert Jacob, Elisha Jacobs-Smith, Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz, Richard Simpson, Katie Tovich, Dr Richard Walley** OAM, **Rickeeta Walley**.

WA Parks Foundation Committees

Professor Lyn Beazley AO, **Ainslie de Vos, Kim Eckert** OAM, **Daniel Gaughan, Dr Regina Flugge, Hon Albert Jacob, Ryan Mossny, Deborah Attard Portughes** OAM, **Hon. Kerry Sanderson** AC CVO, **Jim Sharp, Tracy Shea, Richard Simpson**, **Katie Tovich, Tanya Trevisan** OAM, **Steve Wade and Heather Zampatti.**

PRO BONO SUPPORT

The Foundation greatly values the contributions of its Supporting Partners, Deloitte, KPMG and Hamilton Locke. During the year, Deloitte provided pro bono accounting services, KPMG delivered pro bono audit services, and Hamilton Locke continued to provide pro bono legal support.

We also acknowledge Shakespeare Partners for their expertise in managing the Foundation's financial reserves, helping to optimise returns and support our ongoing programs.

The generous contribution of these professional services strengthens the Foundation's capacity and provides confidence that robust financial management and high standards of corporate governance are being maintained.

Financial Services

- **Deloitte: Thomas Hodgkins, Nashwa El Hosseny**
- **Shakespeare Partners: Leigh-Anne Meyerowitz, Nicholas Chetkovich, Dillon Hellmrich**

Audit Services

- **KPMG: Trevor Hart, Bobby Joung, Darcy Maurich**

Legal Services

- **Hamilton Locke: Shaun Hardcastle, Liesl Ellies, Janice Lau**

Communications and Marketing Services

- **Ainslie de Vos**

Information Technology Consultant

- **HAAE Consulting: Harrison Thomas, Amelia Thomas**

The Bungle Bungle Range, Purnululu National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.

GET INVOLVED

Western Australia's parks are known and loved for their spectacular scenery, diverse plant and animal life and the unique experiences they offer. Together, we can make a real difference to help everyone enjoy our parks now and make sure future generations can do the same.

Become a Member

Individual, family and concession/student memberships are available. Members receive a 50% discount on the Parks and Wildlife Service Annual Park passes, which offer both convenience and excellent value for money when exploring our stunning parks and reserves. Members also enjoy a range of exclusive discounts with participating retail and tour operators.

Donate

Donations directly contribute to programs that promote the many benefits of spending time in nature and raise vital funds for park improvement projects that would not otherwise be possible.

Leave a bequest

By making a gift to the Foundation, you can help make a real difference to conserving our parks and creating a legacy.

Volunteer your time

With more than 34.4 million hectares of national parks and reserves across Western Australia, and more continuing to be created, every little bit of help makes a difference. If you love parks and you want to help conserve or improve park experiences, please let us know!

Ways to partner

There are many opportunities to partner with the Foundation with a wide range of corporate and community projects requiring financial, in-kind and volunteering support.

Western Australia's parks belong to all of us. By becoming a member, donating, volunteering your time or partnering with the Foundation, you can help protect these wonderful and extraordinary places for future generations.

www.ourwaparks.org.au/get-involved

OUR VALUES

WE ARE...

COLLABORATIVE - **We understand that we can achieve more by collaborating with others.**

We collaborate and work together with Traditional Owners, land managers, cultural leaders, scientists, recreation professionals and our community. We are inclusive and make collaboration part of how we do business.

WE ARE HERE TO...

CONSERVE - **Our park experiences have shaped us and hold deep meaning and value. Our wish is to gift this value to our children and future generations.**

We are stewards of our parks and help conserve and protect our natural environment.

WE VALUE THE...

OUTDOORS - **We value the natural treasures on our doorstep. We love getting outdoors and encouraging others to experience and enjoy our amazing land and marine parks.**

Everything we do is to encourage the experience and appreciation of nature and the outdoors.

WE SEEK...

UNDERSTANDING - **Through increasing understanding we help people to gain greater appreciation of our parks and build the emotional value and sense of stewardship to conserve them.**

We are here to further explore and discover what our parks can teach us and through this, better understand and celebrate their true meaning and intrinsic value. Our role is to help increase understanding of the vital role nature holds for our lives and our connection to it, and our interconnection with it.

WE FACILITATE...

WELLBEING - **Positively connecting with our parks nurtures our physical, mental, spiritual, social and economic wellbeing. We understand that the health of our parks directly impacts our health and the health of our society.**

We are mindful that all of our choices will positively support the wellbeing of our parks and us. In our parks we find joy.

Sunset at the Pinnacles, Nambung National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia.



WA PARKS
FOUNDATION

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The Gap, Torndirrup National Park. Courtesy of Tourism Western Australia