



Out of Sight!

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Updating you on the latest happenings in the Great Southern Region

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Greens Pool Marine Monitoring

The Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee and South Coast Natural Resource Management are carrying out marine monitoring of Greens Pool in the William Bay National Park.

Monitoring is carried out by a dedicated bunch of volunteers, including our very own Dr Dave, who don wetsuits and snorkels to observe and record all marine animal sightings in the natural sea pool.

The volunteers venture out one day every month and are building up a database of fish, eels, crustaceans and other marine life. The database will be used to monitor bio-diversity and any impact that climate change and recreational fishing are having on this important national park.



Rose Banjine

Spring wildflower spectacular!

The spring wildflowers bloomed throughout the Great Southern. This year's crop of coastal wildflowers and forest orchids were spectacular.

Visitors were impressed with the large variety flowers on display throughout Quarram Nature Reserve. Favourite sightings included Southern Cross; White, Coastal and Rose Banjines; Pineapple Bush; Cottonheads; Bacon & Eggs Pea; Bird orchids; Donkey orchids; and Enamel orchids ... just to name a few.



A walk through Mt Hallowell Nature Reserve revealed Flying Duck Orchids, Many-flowered Fringe Lily, Scented Sun Orchids, Cow Kicks, Dunsborough Donkey Orchid, Purple Flags, and Native Wisteria.

And in our own backyard, local botanical artist Margaret Pieroni discovered a previously unknown sun orchid - stay tuned for more news on this new exciting finding!

Denmark hosts regional conferences

Denmark is fast developing a name as a conference venue. In October the picturesque town was host to more than 280 representatives at the PULSE: 2007 State Regional Arts Conference.

Delegates from both regional and metropolitan arts organizations met to share their experiences and ideas on how to promote innovation and creativity in regional WA.

A week later, the town hosted the WA State Coastal Conference, which attracted 230 delegates and speakers from throughout Australia.

A key topic of discussion was climate change and management of the coastal environment. Delegates also participated in a range of fieldtrips to observe firsthand the superb coastal and marine habitats that the area has to offer.

Dr Dave acts as FACET guide

Our very own Adventure Doctor was called upon by the Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco-Tourism (FACET) to act as a field guide for their Regional Conference held in Albany in November.

Dr Dave introduced delegates and speakers to the amazing sights of Torndirrup National Park, including an interpretive walk through Stoney Hill and the Albany Windfarm.

The fieldtrip would not have been complete without a chance to venture on to King George Sound and catch a glimpse of the local sea life.



King George Sound, Albany

Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre Opens

The Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk has recently opened a new Discovery Centre showcasing the biodiversity of the Walpole Wilderness region, which stretches from Denmark to Walpole and beyond.

The new discovery centre includes interactive displays, giant beetles, and maps of the wilderness area.

New sections of the wilderness are now open to 4WD vehicles - providing visitors with an opportunity to mingle amongst the giant tingle trees.

Out Of Sight! Tours provides exclusive half-day tours into the heart of the wilderness - a 'must do' activity on your next visit to the region.

Out Of Sight! Tours

25 Ravenhill Heights
Denmark, WA, 6333
Australia

Phone:
(08) 9848 2814

E-mail:
OutOfSightTours@westnet.com.au

Web:
www.OutOfSightTours.com