

Imagine

GREATER WELLINGTON NATIONAL PARK



creating innovative eco-tourism opportunities for the Preston Valley and beyond

Year in review...and the year ahead!

Hi everyone

It has been a big year for Promote Preston and the 'Greater Wellington National Park' campaign. We started the year with a corker of a fundraiser at the Wellington Forest Cottages.



And we were delighted with the pledge by *WA Labor* to *expand the Wellington National Park* in the lead up to the WA state election.

Given Labor won the state election, our vision for an expanded Wellington National Park was given a huge boost.

And so far Labor is staying true to their word with the inclusion of the expansion in the 2017-2018 State Budget.

“The WA government has commissioned the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to expand the Wellington National Park with the view of enhancing tourism and recreation options in the area.”

2017-2018 WA State Budget, Vol 1, p 198.

They also made an announcement about the expansion at the regional Community Cabinet Town Hall meeting held in Bunbury in November.

These announcements have enabled us to start a second round of stakeholder consultations and to formally launch Promote Preston.



We had a great response to our Spring Program which has been a great way to trial potential business activities that could be undertaken in an expanded National Park. It has also been a great way to build partnerships.

Preston River Valley

FREE *So much to love and do*
Spring Program

<h3>Write and Walk</h3> <p>November 11 A chance to explore nature reading and writing while we walk through the bush. 10am - 12pm Meet at Yabberup Hall Bring notepad, pen, hat, water and walking shoes</p> 	<h3>Native Seed Plant Propagation</h3> <p>November 25 10am - 12pm Yabberup Hall Cost \$10 Learn how to grow local natives from seed. You will take home a tray of seeds.</p> 
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For more information go to www.imaginegnwp.com/events or email promotepreston@gmail.com

Preston River Valley

FREE *So much to love and do*
Spring Program

<h3>Let's go fly a kite</h3> <p>October 8 10am - 12pm Follow the signs from Yabberup Hall Cockatoo talk and kite flying BYO morning tea & picnic rug</p> 	<h3>What wildflower is that?</h3> <p>October 15 Meet at Yabberup Hall at 10am for a leisurely wildflower walk BYO hat, walking shoes, water, camera and pen</p> 
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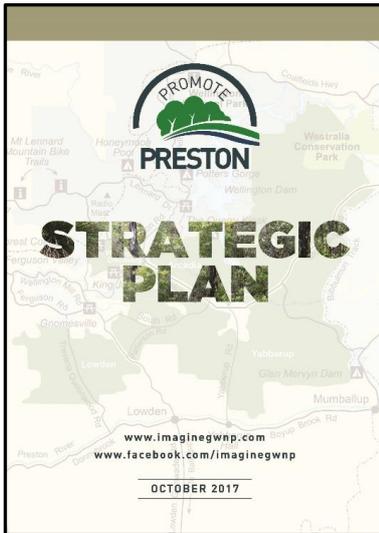
Sponsored by Promote Preston, Donnybrook-Balingup Shire Council & Carnaby's Community Action Group 2017



We also had a great day out with students from Donnybrook Primary School. Big thanks to Steve from [Wlid Movement Perth](#). The kids loved it!

You can read more about how each event via our [Facebook page](#).

And **Thankyou** to the Donnybrook-Balingup Shire Council for funding and our community partners, Forest Nursery, the Seed Shed and the [Carnaby's Community Action Group](#).



We have met with many, many organisations and community members since we started about 20 months ago. You can get an idea of who we have spoken to [here](#).

And based on all the conversations we have developed a [strategic plan](#) to outline the vision for creating a sustainable ecotourism industry in the Preston River Valley.

VISION

To establish a Greater Wellington National Park as a place where people can actively engage with nature.

“National Parks provide economic, social and environmental dividends to generations forever.”

Tom Perrigo
CEO - National Trusts of Australia

A circular logo with a dark teal center containing the text 'SUSTAINABLE JOBS'. The outer ring of the circle is divided into four segments with the words 'TOURISM', 'EDUCATION', 'RESEARCH', and 'CONSERVATION' in a light teal font. The word 'COMMUNITY' is written vertically along the bottom edge of the circle.

Our vision is for an interactive park that enables people of all ages and abilities to access and engage with our beautiful Jarrah/Marri forests. A place where people can learn more about Noongar ways of caring for country, participate in citizen science volunteer programs or challenge themselves by doing something a little 'wild and adventurous'.

The following is a bit of a diagrammatic summary of the many ways we would like to foster how people engage with nature.



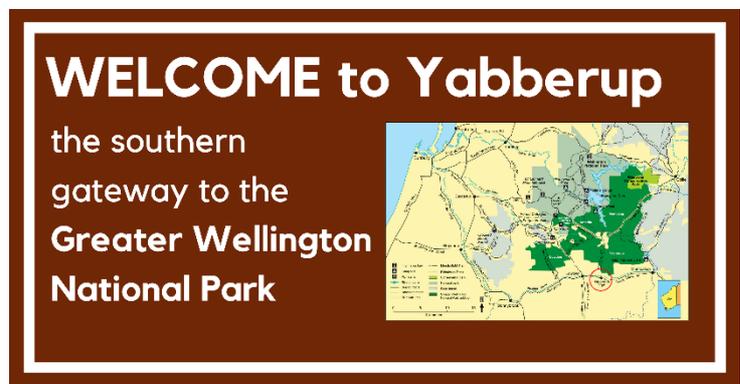
Thank you to David Kerr Consulting and Scott West for your support with our strategic plan.

What's next for 2018?

First and foremost, we are hoping that there will be an announcement that the boundaries we have suggested have been accepted and Yabberup will become the southern gateway to an expanded national park. This will kick start our strategic plan.

Promote Preston also plans to continue to trial tourism and recreation activities including:

1. Bringing the Dardanup Art Trail further down Ferguson Rd and into Yabberup. We will set up a pop-up café and art exhibition at the Yabberup Hall.
2. Looking for funding to enable us to partner with the local noongar community to collect the history of this area and offering 'Camping with the Custodians' opportunities.
3. Installing signage to mark the new boundaries of the Wellington National Park.
4. Holding a seed collecting-propagating-planting series that will support rehabilitation projects in the area.



Do you have any ideas or opportunities? We would love to hear from you. Email us at promotepreston@gmail.com

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards



~ the Promote Preston team

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