

Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024:

Celebrating Natural and Cultural Heritage

Press Release: Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC) is proud to present the Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024 in collaboration with the Esperance Wildflower Society, Esperance Community Arts, and St Andrews Anglican Parish. This annual festival, a unique opportunity to immerse oneself in Nature's splendour, celebrates the stunning wildflowers of the Kepa Kurl/Esperance region, promising a kaleidoscope of colours and forms.

Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024 will be held **from Tuesday, September 17, to Saturday, September 21, 2024, at the Esperance Civic Centre.**

This year's festival theme, "Granite: A Treasury of Plants & Culture, " reflects the region's rich tapestry of cultural and botanical heritage.

"I am honoured to announce our collaboration in presenting the Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024. This partnership embodies our commitment to celebrating and preserving our Wudjari Country's natural beauty and cultural heritage." said Ms Gail Reynolds-Adamson, Chairperson ETNTAC

On behalf of the Esperance Wildflower Society, botanist Ken Mills said "The annual Wildflower Festival is a keenly anticipated event for Esperance Wildflower Society members. Each year we learn something new and get to share our appreciation of the local flora. We welcome the opportunity to continue working alongside ETNTAC to learn more about the role of plants in Wudjari culture".

Reverend Brett Guthrie from Saint Andrew's Anglican Church said "The Wildflower Festival bloomed into life 34 years ago within the Rectory of Saint Andrew's. It is with immense joy that we collaborate with Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation to nurture and expand the Wildflower Festival even further. Our Parish eagerly anticipates a lasting and fruitful relationship with this beloved festival's new chapter."

Our team is thrilled to host high profile scientists Professor Tim Flannery and Professor Stephen Hopper as our distinguished guest presenters in 2024, alongside professional botanists Dr Shelley James and Kylie Sadgrove from the WA herbarium.

Professor Tim Flannery is an Australian mammalogist, palaeontologist, environmentalist, conservationist, explorer, author, science communicator, activist and public scientist. He was awarded Australian of the Year in 2007 for his work and advocacy on environmental issues.

Professor Stephen Hopper is a science faculty member at UWA. He is a field-active Australian conservation biologist, widely travelled, and a well-published scientific author. He leads a research and teaching program on sustainable living with biodiversity at UWA's Albany campus. His current research focus is on old, climatically buffered, infertile landscapes (Ocbils), such as granite outcrops, and on cross-cultural studies with Aboriginal people.

About the Festival:

The Esperance Wildflower Festival is a cherished tradition that brings locals and visitors together to marvel at the rich colours and forms of the region's wildflowers. With over 600 species of wildflowers on display, the Festival offers a delightful opportunity to connect with the beauty of the natural environment.



Key Highlights:

- **Wildflower Displays:** Explore stunning exhibits showcasing a vast array of native wildflowers unique to the region.
- **Guided Tours:** Join on-Country tours with expert guides providing insights into the area's ecological significance and cultural heritage - co-delivered by Tjaltjraak Rangers and Professor Stephen Hopper.
- **Workshops:** Participate in arts-based community workshops with local and visiting artists and educational workshops led by local and visiting botanists.
- **Art and Craft Stalls:** Browse displays featuring work by local artisans.
- **Wudjari Ranger Presentations:** Gain insights from Tjaltjraak Wudjari Rangers into the cultural and environmental significance of local flora.
- **Guest Speakers:** Engage with experts, sharing their knowledge of local flora and landscapes.
- **Photographic Exhibition:** Experience the beauty of local wildflowers and environments through the lenses of the Esperance Photographers Club.
- **Artists in Residence:** Witness artists creating work inspired by local flora.

Key highlights of the Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024 include stunning wildflower displays, presentations by Tjaltjraak Wudjari Rangers, expert-guided tours, educational workshops, art and craft stalls, , guest speakers, photographic exhibitions, and artists in residence.

Whether you're a seasoned botanist, a nature enthusiast, or simply looking for family-friendly fun, the Esperance Wildflower Festival has something for everyone. Join us in celebrating Western Australia's natural beauty and promoting conservation efforts.

Join us at the Esperance Wildflower Festival 2024 as we celebrate the diverse wildflowers and natural beauty of Kepa Kurl / Esperance and showcase local conservation work.

The Esperance Wildflower Festival's website will provide a complete event schedule and workshop details closer to the event dates.

About Kepa Kurl / Esperance:

Nestled on the stunning coastline of Western Australia, Kepa Kurl / Esperance is renowned for its pristine beaches, rugged landscapes, abundant biodiversity and rich cultural heritage. Kepa Kurl, meaning where the waters (kepa) lie like boomerangs (kurl), is the Wudjari name for the bays where the town site is located. The Esperance Wildflower Festival is a testament to the region's natural beauty and a platform for promoting conservation and environmental stewardship.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Shraddha Satyapal

communications@etntac.com.au

(08) 9072 0094

Jane Mulcock

community@etntac.com.au

0412 091 245 / (08) 9072 0094

