



ABN: 92 590 455 748 Email: Geoparkswa@gmail.com Facebook: Geoparks WA LinkedIn: Geoparks WA

Geoparks WA Reflections January 2024

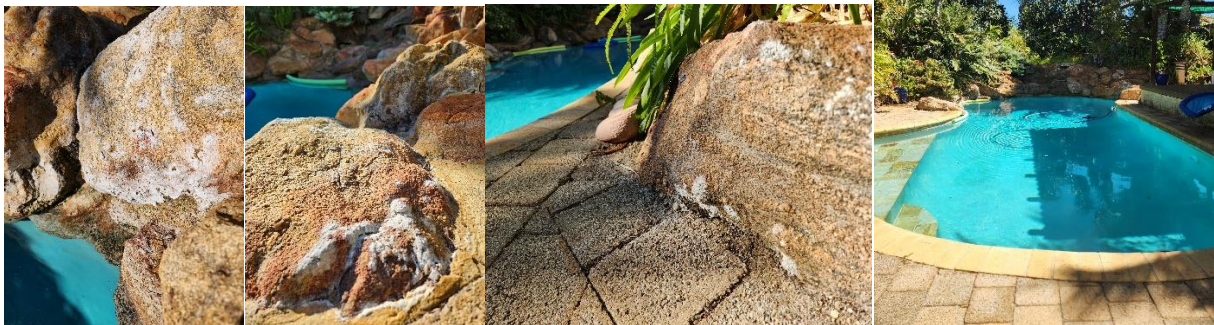
Welcome to 2024

The end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024 often bring about a time of family and of reflections. I had time to do both and rather enjoyed it.

A Geological Quandary

One thing geological that struck me, and this is indulgent I know, but having converted my swimming pool to salt water I have noticed large amounts of salt appearing on the surface of the granite rocks surrounding my pool. I wonder, did the designers and installers all those years ago realise just how much water is taken up through the rocks and evaporated into the atmosphere. I was concerned earlier when the pool was just chlorinated water that I had to top the pool up on a regular basis. Now, it has become more obvious where much of the water has been going.

So, it appears that in the later 1970s and early 1980s there was a landscaping move to place granite rocks around and in around the edges of the newly established swimming pools. I thought I would share the consequences of that movement with some photographs. It would take a considerable effort to remove the rocks and it does look very aesthetic, and that's why I don't have a cover over my pool just in case you were wondering.



Onto Geoparks.

2024 will hopefully see two major events take place. The launch of the Nannup Western Australian Geopark and, finally, the launch of the Binjareb-Peel geodrive trail at Mandurah.

Ongoing activity will see Wanneroo/Joondalup move a step forward towards community engagement and Murchison Georegion will continue its quest for incorporation.

Several other community groups have expressed interest in establishing a geopark in their region including the Porongorup region which surrounds the excellent Porongorup National Park with its Castle Rock centrepiece in the South West of Western Australia.

Geoparks WA

Following on from our Annual General Meeting in October 2023, we will be drafting a Strategic Plan to set out our longer-term plans drawing on the Objectives of our Constitution. This should be in a draft form to be reviewed at the 2024 AGM.

Best wishes for 2024.

Dr Alan Briggs

President – Geoparks WA

Acting Chair – Australian Geoparks Network