Workshop
Monday, 14 May, 2018, 8.30am - 3.00pm
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
17 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington
www.facet.asn.au

The Business of Geotourism and Geoparks
An International Workshop

Geotourism brings the earth beneath our feet to life as we learn about how it evolved, sustains us and provides the landscape and setting for so many of our natural attractions. Geotourism is also a driver for economic development. It is a significant piece of the tourism experience jigsaw, as travellers world wide are looking for more interaction and knowledge than ever before.

Thus there is a growing global interest in geotourism and geoparks. Geotourism is a holistic type of tourism in natural areas which integrates its geology, plants and animals and culture. Geoparks are community based areas which start with geology then foster sustainable regional economic development through geotourism. Geoparks can occur at a number of levels including local, national and international.

There are a large number of geoparks around the world. At the highest level there are 127 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 35 countries with a further 23 areas currently seeking UNESCO status. At present Australia has no geoparks but there are a number of communities working towards establishing ‘Pre-Aspiring’ geoparks. Such development needs to be initiated by local communities and local government and then supported at the state government level.

A number of regions in Western Australia are now working towards securing their economic futures through geotourism. Some have the end goal of establishing geoparks with the aim of generating jobs and income. Thus the time is ripe for WA to seriously look at the business of geotourism and geoparks.

Event Partner

**Date & Time:**
Monday, 14 May 2018
8.30am – 3.00pm

**Venue:**
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
17 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington
(parking available at rear of restaurant)

**RSVP:**
Register online [www.facet.asn.au](http://www.facet.asn.au) by 7 May or email: admin@facet.asn.au

**Cost:**

- $100    FACET members
- $150    Non-members
- $ 50    Students / Concession

Includes morning tea & lunch.

Join FACET now and receive membership discounts.

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Monday, 14 May 2018

www.facet.asn.au

International Workshop Presenters

Nick Powe, United Kingdom
Nick is Director & Proprietor of Kents Cavern Prehistoric Caves in Torquay, Devon. He was instrumental in establishing the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, one of 6 in the UK. He is Chair of its Geopark Management Board and is a Member of the European Geoparks Network (EGN) Coordination Committee. He is an approved UNESCO Global Geoparks Evaluator and he was the Chair of the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks held in the UK in 2016.

Angus M Robinson, Australia
Angus is Chair of the Geotourism Standing Committee of the Geological Society of Australia and is the designated Geotourism Spokesperson for the Australian Geoscience Council. He is also a Member of the Geotourism Forum of Ecotourism Australia. He is an exploration geologist by profession with his own business, Leisure Solutions®, specialising in geotourism and ecotourism.

Dr Young Ng, China
Young is the founder of the Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark. Today he is Advisor to a number of Geoparks and is considered a world authority on Chinese Geoparks. He is co-author of the book ‘Principles of Geotourism’ and is currently working on the ‘Dictionary of Geotourism’. His PhD on ‘Geoparks & Geotourism’ from the University of Sydney, was the first in the world.

Albert Teo, Malaysia
Albert is founder and CEO of the multi award-winning ‘Borneo Eco Tours’ and ‘Sukau Rainforest Lodge’ in Sabah. He was a keynote presenter at the Second Global Geotourism Conference in Mulu, Sarawak, 2010. He is an Adjunct Professor, University Malaysia Sabah and an ECU Fellow.

Shahrzad Khodayar, Iran
Shahrzad is an MBus student at Edith Cowan University. Her thesis is examining residents’ perceptions of geotourism in the Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Iran.

Alan Briggs, Chair, Geoparks WA
Alan was the driving force to establish Geoparks WA. He is Director of the consultancy Natural Heritage and Culture. Alan is currently completing a PhD at Murdoch University focusing on stakeholder perceptions of establishing a Geopark in the Wheatbelt Region.

Professor Ross Dowling OAM, Workshop Convenor
Ross is Foundation Professor of Tourism at Edith Cowan University. He is co-editor of four global books on geotourism. Ross is a UNESCO Advisor on Geotourism, a former member of the Advisory Committee of the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network and Deputy Chair of Geoparks WA.

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International Workshop Program

8.30 Registration
9.00 Welcome & Overview
**Introducing Geotourism & Geoparks**
*Prof Ross Dowling OAM*, Past Chair FACET; Deputy Chair, Geoparks Western Australia

**Part 1 – Geotourism**

9.30 **Geotourism as a Sustainable Business** – Kents Cavern, Torquay UK
*Nick Powe*, Managing Director, Kents Cavern

9.50 **Geotourism Developments in Australia**
*Angus M Robinson*, Chair Geotourism Standing Committee, Geological Society of Australia

10.10 **Geotourism Initiatives in Western Australia**
*Alan Briggs*, Chair, Geoparks Western Australia

10.25 Wrap Up

10.30 **Morning Tea**

**Part 2 - Geoparks**

11.00 **The English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark**
*Nick Powe*, Chair English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark

11.25 **Economic significance of geotourism & geoparks in China**
*Dr Young Ng*, Founder Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark

11.45 **Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Iran**
*Ms Shahrzad Khodayar*, Master’s Student Edith Cowan University

11.55 **Geopark Initiatives in Australia**
*Angus M Robinson*

12.15 **Lunch**

**Part 3 – Western Australia Initiatives**

1.15 **Geopark Initiatives in Western Australia**
*Alan Briggs* – Chair, Geoparks Western Australia

1.40 Geotourism and Geoparks in Regional WA

2.20 Open Forum – Q & A Session

2.50 Conclusions and Thanks

3.00 Workshop Concludes

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Registration Form

Registration also available at www.facet.asn.au

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Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions, 8.30am – 3.00pm

_____________________________ Contact Details __________________________

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