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Nurturing Native Nature

Hello, it's **Week 4**, the final week for #NaturePact 2022 AND here in Australia it's [Biodiversity Month](#), which is really on topic for this week's theme (that's no coincidence 😊).

#NaturePact is always a great opportunity to reflect not only on the ways nature benefits all of us, but also what we can and should be doing to support nature and improve biodiversity wherever we live, work, rest and play.

The evidence is clear, [spending time with nature makes us healthier humans](#).

Thinking about how we can give back to nature strengthens our reciprocal relationship with the natural world. Nature doesn't exist to serve our needs, and yet we've found that it does in so many ways. Our relationship with nature is stronger when we give back to nature, because [we're a part of nature, not apart from it](#).

Today, [over 50% of the global population](#) lives in cities.

[Urban nature](#) has a central role to play in helping to address a number of public health challenges associated with urbanisation, particularly the prevalence of [social isolation and loneliness](#) among city dwellers. Here in Australia, initiatives to bring native nature back to urban areas are increasing.

We're extremely proud to be partnered with [Phillip Johnson Landscapes and Parks](#)

We're extremely proud to be partnered with [Philip Johnson Landscapes](#) and [Parks Victoria](#) to deliver one such initiative - a massive **Nurturing Native Nature** project in the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden – the [Chelsea Australian Garden at Olinda](#).

The garden will contain over 400 species of Australian native plants, including the [Wollemi Pine](#) – which is so rare and endangered that up until 1994, it was thought to be extinct in Australia. The great news is that Wollemi can be grown relatively easily at home – indoors or outdoors, even in a pot on a balcony (I can personally vouch for this having just been given one!). Growing native Wollemi Pine is an excellent way to support Australian native nature and build up stock of a species that up until very recently was thought to be lost forever!



We want visitors to the garden, from near and afar, (both IRL and virtual) to appreciate the immense variety of colours, textures and scents of Australian native plants and to be inspired to [find ways to nurture native nature at home](#) and in their local area. We hope that people who visit the garden will take away from the experience the importance of **Nurturing Native Nature** and creating habitat for wildlife to support sustainability and biodiversity. Planting native plants brings pollinators of all kinds (birds, bees, butterflies to name a few) to nature spaces, and they play their part in propagating more plants – the circle of life is sustained!





What native nature do you notice at home and in your neighbourhood? Have you thought about how you can support native nature in your local area to survive and thrive? Is there something you can do at home, or as part of a local neighbourhood group – for example, do you know of any Friends of groups in your local area?

Share pics of yourself with your favourite native plant, and any tips or hints you have for others in how to Nurture Native Nature.

Time in nature is always time well spent.

Kind regards

Alison Hill

Managing Director

[People and Parks Foundation](#)

PS Share your experiences with us for the chance to win beautiful, sustainable plant-based prizes from our valued #NaturePact campaign principal supporter and partner, [Koala Eco](#).

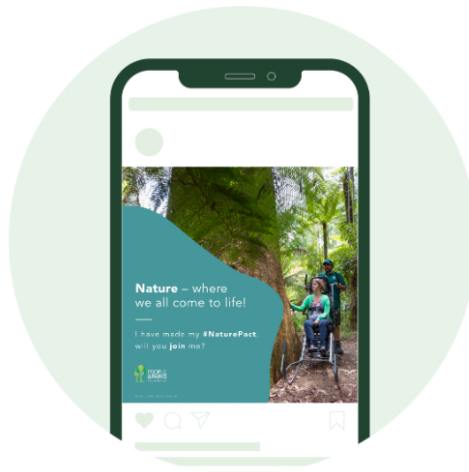




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Have you made your
#NaturePact?

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