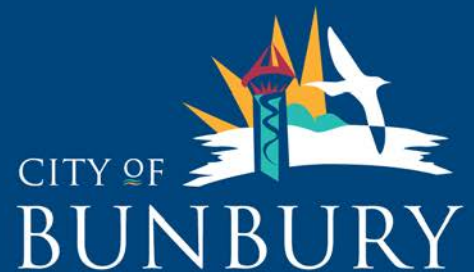


# MEDIA STATEMENT



Monday, 4 September 2017

## **Dingo pups to delight Bunbury Wildlife Park visitors**

Bunbury Wildlife Park's latest additions are ready to meet the public with two dingo pups adapting to their new surroundings so well that they have gone on display sooner than expected.

The pure-bred Alpine dingo pups arrived in Bunbury on 25 August and they have embraced their purpose-built enclosure quicker than expected, meaning visitors can get up close to these bundles of cuteness already.

While hands-on interaction is not possible at this point in time, the pups are proving to be playful and inquisitive which will make them a popular attraction at the Bunbury Wildlife Park.

Manager Tourism, Events and Promotions Isabell Evans said the pups – one male and one female - were very comfortable in their enclosure, which provided them with plenty of room to move and also areas to escape the elements.

"We are excited that the pups have adapted so well to their new home as it was expected they would take several more weeks before they were ready to meet the public," Ms Evans said.

"They have already shown their amazing personalities and we are sure they are going to be a big hit with locals and visitors alike."

The pups were born in the Eastern States and are a little over two months old.

Ms Evans said the Wildlife Park was keen to have dingoes join the popular tourist attraction as they have proven to be major drawcards in other wildlife parks around Australia.

"The addition of dingoes will not only add to our tourist attractions, but will also allow us to provide education on this often misunderstood native species," she said.

A naming ceremony will be held prior to the September school holidays, and the Wildlife Park will host a special event on the weekend of 23-24 September with an official unveiling of these cute creatures.

Free face painting, hot dogs and special deals on dingo merchandise will also be highlights of the weekend.

A "Name the Dingoes" competition was held in July with Maidens Park, Picton, Coinda, Djidi Djidi and Dalyellup primary school students creating colourful life-size dingo cut-outs, which were generously donated by the Capel Men's Shed, that went on display at the Bunbury Forum Shopping Centre.

Shoppers then voted on their favourites with the top two vote-getters getting to name the dingoes.

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Bunbury Forum Shopping Centre has provided generous sponsorship to help the Wildlife Park acquire the dingoes, while their enclosure has been supported by LD Total, Jetline, APH, Versace Lime and Holcim.

**ENDS**

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