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1(4) Feb 1984

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

HOME FIRES BURNING



• Forty years ago this group of ladies were the "control burning crew" at Mundaring Division. They were (L-R) Mrs K. Barker, Mrs. L. Wilson, Mrs. Rumbold, Mrs. B. Farrell, Mrs. P. Colqhoun, and Miss O. Warren. Their husbands and sons were in the Australian Infantry Forces at the time.

If anybody remembers their forestry exploits, would you like to share them with us?
See page 2 for details of fire seminars.

Sailors share a 'bond'

'Work on the land - play in the sea' seems to be the motto of many F. D. personnel.

The "Bluebird", 9 m with a five man crew, was 4th overall.

Keith Sclater (Wanneroo) was away at the National Tornado Championships in Sydney during January, and then went on to compete in the World Championships held at Port Phillip Bay, in Melbourne.

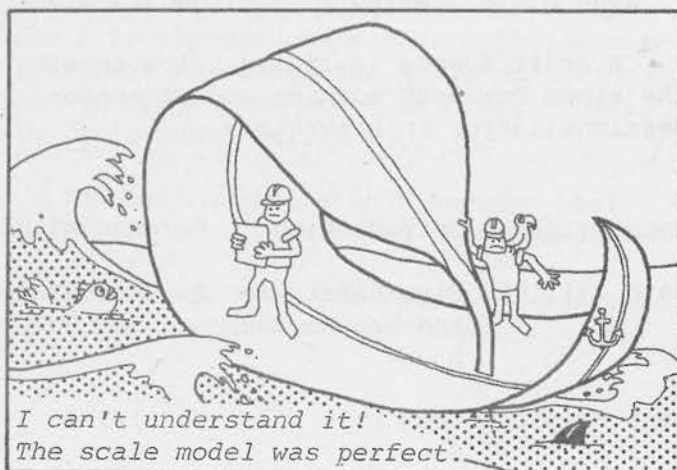
Later in the month, Cliff also crewed on "Castille" (16 m) in an ocean race from Fremantle to Albany. It was Cliff's 23rd time around Cape Leeuwin and "Castille" took line honours.

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"Cohete" (Keith's boat) was the 15th Australian to finish in the National Competition and the 44th in the world fleet of 63.

Tornados are olympic class catamarans with a two man crew, and many of the overseas crews are well into pre-olympic training schedules.

Cliff Winfield (Como) raced as a sail-trimmer on "Bluebird" in the Australian S80 Championships held in Cockburn Sound over Christmas/New Year.



SEMINARS FOR FOREST COMMUNITIES

The Forests Department, in conjunction with the Bush Fires Board, will be conducting a bush fire awareness seminar at seven forestry settlements during the week of 20-24 February 1984, as part of the Department's contribution to "Work Safety Week 1984".

The seminar will be run by F.D. Fire Protection and Bush Fires Board Liaison Officers, and will be directed at the wives of F.D. employees and other women in the forest communities of Mundaring, Dwellingup, Collie, Kirup, Nannup, Pemberton and Walpole. Other centres were not included as most of these were either already covered by similar B.F.B. seminars, or were not considered to be affected by forest fires.

The dates and times for each 2½ hour seminar are as follows:

Monday 20 February

0900 hours Mundaring (Mundaring Hall)
1300 hours Dwellingup (Shire Hall)

Tuesday 21 February

0900 hours Collie (Hockey Club)
1300 hours Kirup (Arthur Kelly Memorial Hall)

Wednesday 22 February

0900 hours Nannup (Recreation Hall)
1300 hours Pemberton (R.S.L. Hall)

Thursday 23 February

0900 hours Walpole (Country Club)

A draft Agenda is listed below showing the times for both morning and afternoon sessions (latter in brackets):

0900	(1300)	Introduction	R. Sneeuwjagt
0910	(1310)	Fire Safety in and around the house	R. Sneeuwjagt
0930	(1330)	Bush Fire Survival	G. Styles

0950	(1350)	Film on Bush Fire Safety	B.F.B. L.O.
1020	(1420)	Tea Break	
1040	(1440)	Burn Treatment and First Aid	H. Pears
1100	(1500)	Fire Extinguishers - Lecture and Demonstration	B.F.B. L.O.
1125	(1525)	Conclusion	

Divisional O.I.Cs will distribute posters to ensure that wives of F.D. staff and employees, as well as those of mill employees and the general community, are invited to attend.

Further queries should be directed to Protection Branch, S.H.Q.

'People Talk'

- very different from 'computerspeak' - and your chance to contribute without even trying. A two minute phone call is all we need if your pencil is broken.

* * *

Bruce and June Harvey (Bunbury) have just had a baby daughter. Mother and baby are well - Bruce is thinking about it.

* * *

John Lloyd leaves the seed store (Como) this month to resume his studies. John plans to do his first year science at W.A. University, before taking up the forester training at Canberra or Melbourne. (Penni Hewett, who left the seed store last year, starts her first year of Forestry this year.)

* * *

Mark Dalton, from the Information Branch at Como, will take John's place in the seed store. Mark's hobby is taxidermy, and he has recreated many life-like studies of native fauna. If you find any (fresh) beasties in good condition phone Mark on Como extension 334.

Getting the message

There is an art to good communication: it's finding someone prepared to listen.

AN ODE TO TWO-WAY DISCOURSE

I grew a *Pinus pinaster*
'twas called communication.
It's feeder roots were long and thin,
they covered half the nation.

On leached grey brains I planted it,
in nutrients most lacking.
So I hired a tissue culturist,
and gave him fiscal backing.

He never really understood
Just what it was I wanted.
I tried to tell him, how I tried!!
in couplets convoluted ...

I gave him gallimaufry stews
of verbiage and syntax,
I drubbed him soundly 'round the ears
in periphratic vortex.

I sent him office memoranda,
wrote to him in person.
Yet still he wouldn't comprehend
the meaning of my vision.

He went and stripped off all the leaves,
Used surveys biometric.
To help establish (so he said)
A phloem dialectic.

I didn't understand the term,
I looked it up in Websters,
"A slartibrobdingnaggian krool"?
Oh damn, I think I'll sack the fool!!!

A. Cribb

Crossword Solution

1	C	O	U	P	E		4	P	I	C	N	I	C	
	O	N	D					U		F			O	
	M	D		7	G	8	U			9	A	N	D	
	P		10	E	V	E	N	A	12	G	E	D		O
13	A	G	R	O				I		U		14	D	I
	R		W			15				B		S		I
16	T	W	O			P		17	G			18	R	A
	M		19	O	S	20	P	O	R	E	S			A
22	E	N	D				23	I	D	O		H		N
	N			24	A					E		A	E	T
25	T	I	M	B	E	R			26	M	A	S	T	S

'Bush Telegraph' is the staff journal of the Forests Department in Western Australia. Any views or opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Department and articles published should not be taken as statements by the Department or the West Australian Government.

All enquiries and comments should be directed to Ian Kay, the editor, phone Como HQ ext. 329.

COMMITTREE?

For the past 5 years the Forests Department has been active on the "Day of Trees" committee - a part of W. A. Week.

Having a "Day of Trees" and an Arbor Day was often quite confusing because W.A. Week (and hence Day of Trees) falls in early June, whereas Arbor Day was traditionally the first Wednesday in July.

In recent years a move was made to overcome this confusion and Arbor Day and Day of Trees were held on the same day in June. In 1983 the day was officially known as "Arbor Day - the Day of Trees".

To add to the growing confusion, the W.A. Week Council has decided to drop the idea of thematic days - day of sport, day of pioneers, day of trees etc., and allow a number of continual themes throughout the week. This year Arbor Day will still be in W.A. Week (Friday, 8 June to be exact) but the tag "Day of Trees" will be gone.

Now, the Day of Trees committee is stuck for a name. The ad hoc "Trees Committee" has been hung, but they would like a really good name that symbolizes the efforts of the committee - emphasizing the need to plant more trees in order to make W.A. more beautiful.

The Information Branch invites your suggestion for the name of this committee.

We plan to keep you regularly informed about the forthcoming Arbor Day.

Information Branch.

Look what's cooking



Western Australia's legendary and most deplorable forester, D.F.O. Walter Codswollop, is again in the news. He has recently published a slim volume of bush recipes called "Codswollop's Country Kitchen Cookbook". Each recipe covers Walter's favourite measures for capturing and cooking common forest mammals. These include: Barbequed Bush Rat, Phascogale Souffle, Tammar-on-Toast, Mardo-tail Soup, and Woylie Wine and Cheese Dip.

Here are two for you to try:

Numbat a la King

First catch your numbat (they are quite common in places like Dryandra or the Perup Fauna Priority Area). Remove the radio transmitter from around his neck, being careful not to over-excite the little fellow.

Carry him gently home in a gunny sack.

A merciful dispatching is best done with the back of the axe, down at the wood heap.

Cut the numbat into tiny pieces with the sharp part of the axe and mix these into a pre-cooked pot of a la King. Simmer on a hot stove for 5 minutes and serve with vegetables.

Pot Roast Possum

You will need about 6 good-sized Ring Tails or 60 Dwarf Honey possums for a really satisfying pot roast.

I have always found dingo traps to be an efficacious method of securing the little chaps. This also precludes the need for the merciful dispatch down at the wood heap.

The dish can be served with or without skinning, according to taste. Merely boil up a large vat of fatty water. Plunge in the possums and simmer for 5 minutes.

Serve with vegetables.

Sailors ...

Ian Hobbs (Como) also enjoys ocean racing. Crewing with world renowned sailor Jon Sanders, on "Perie Banou", Ian raced against Cliff in the Albany Race and had the chance to even the score on a return Race, Esperance to Perth, held last week (details not available at print).

Ian competes in smaller craft as well, and was a competitor in State Championships, racing dinghies at Safety Bay, at the end of January.

Sailing and racing dinghies are experiences shared by others in the Department. Don Grace (Como) races with his son-in-law in a Mirror class dinghy.

"A great family sport", said Don. "I race at club level only, but the 'Mirror' dinky is a great father and son craft."

It is interesting to note that Jock Sclater (Keith's father) is the tutor for advanced sailors in the Mirror class at the Nedlands Club (Como).

Are you receiving enough copies of 'Bush Telegraph' for everybody at your Branch?

If not, ring

Robyn at Publications Como, ext. 325.

Once bitten.....

Anyone bitten by a (dangerous) snake should have a broad bandage wrapped firmly around the bite and as much of the limb as possible on the heart side of the bite. The victim should be taken as soon as possible to hospital. Stimulants must not be given, and the patient must be kept calm; the whole point of first aid is to delay the spread of venom. If the snake was killed, take it to the hospital so that the proper anti-venom can be administered. Snake venoms are highly species-specific, as are the anti-venoms that neutralize them, hence the importance of correct identification in cases of snake bite.

For further information on snake bites consult G. M. Storr's *Dangerous Snakes of Western Australia* - available from the Western Australian Museum for \$2.50 (postage 60c extra). A condensed form of this booklet is also available as a poster (price \$1.00, postage 60c).