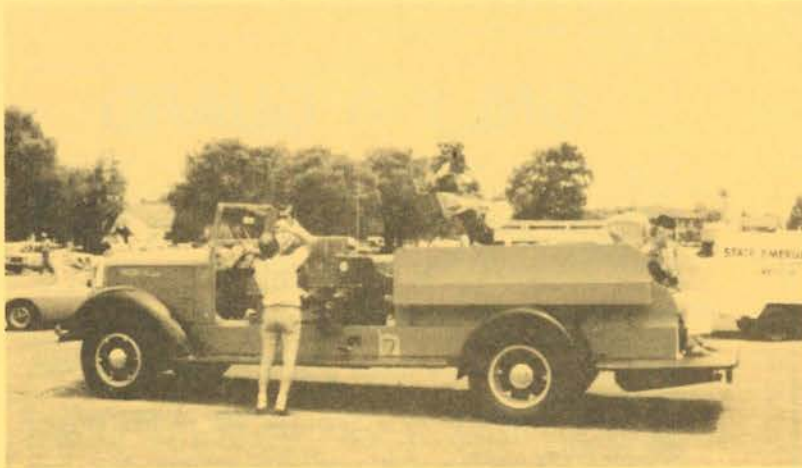


1(6) Mar 1984

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

# BUSSELTON FESTIVAL



## DRIVER COMES FORWARD

We have had a couple of calls regarding the old photograph published on page 1, Vol. 1, No. 4.

Most rewarding was the information supplied by Bob Thompson, the present overseer at Mundaring. If you look carefully you can just see his hand at the wheel of the 1935 Bedford pickup - he was 16 at the time.

The photograph was taken by Mrs Miller outside the W.D. Miller Store in Sawyers Valley (1942). The first lady in the line up was Mrs Baker (correction) and their servicemen belonged to the Australian Imperial Forces. (Thanks to Bill Russell.)

Each morning Bob and his father Sam Thompson (the overseer), picked up the ladies and went out to work. "Control burning at the time was particularly hard work", said Bob. "Because the adjacent blocks were 'locked up', we had to rake all the litter into heaps to burn it in small fires."

Phil Barret was the D.F.O. "Even when the men came back to forestry, women still played a big part." Bob said, "Until quite recently, we relied on the voluntary help of the women at fires for all meals and back-up supplies. They have done a great job." he said.

Sam Thompson retired in 1966 after 37 years forestry.

## Room at the top?

*Sir Humphrey Appleby:* Yes, I do think there is a real dilemma here, in that while it has been government policy to regard policy as the responsibility of Ministers and administration as the responsibility of officials, questions of administrative policy can cause confusion between the administration of policy and the policy of administration, especially when responsibility for the administration of the policy of administration conflicts or overlaps with responsibility for the policy of the administration of policy.

The annual Festival of Busselton has just concluded. This year the local gentlemen from the Forests Department again made a small contribution to the gala street parade. Ron Sparrow, John Schuts and Alan McKittrick drove three of the Forests Department's finest machines in the parade and, whilst the judges could not be persuaded to award us a prize, we all had a lot of fun. The team even tried to sign up some of the street clowns to change our public image, but (un)fortunately they wouldn't be in it.

Cameron Schuster



Above: The Department's museum piece, a 1942 Mack, led two new Isuzus in the parade.

Below: The Ideal D.F.O.'s vehicle (as recommended in the Land Management Report. - Appendix 33A, part iii), also took part in the parade.



# EDITORIAL

I was examining Dave Ward's circular contribution on information (p. 3), and his idea that information is the fuel that powers the corporate motor --- What West Australian forestry needs now is a positive pitch on the circular motion, so that the whole craft is drawn forward.

Recent changes to government policy have highlighted the state's supply problem - that the slower growing native forests are inadequate to provide all the demands made for timber products, utilities, recreation, and the conservation of flora and fauna. 'Future' planners predict that a slight decline in per capita consumption of wood products will be more than offset by the steady rise in the State's population (2½ million by 2020), and that overall world demands for timber are increasing. Few countries are planning to provide an export surplus, so the Department's strong case for self-sufficiency will require a continued positive approach to pine plantations. To meet the future needs, some 3000 ha will need to be established annually, much of it in the Bunbury-Manjimup area close to processing facilities and the developing markets.

Pine forestry (or unnatural land management if you must) does have enormous potential for social benefit. Growing pines provides jobs, part time employment, more sophisticated local government with a broader tax base, improved social structure in rural communities, and takes the heat off the natural forest environment. As well, wood has its own attributes, being biodegradable and using less energy (with less air, water and ground pollution) in its production than any other material that can be used as a substitute.

An expansion of our productive resources would also save in other areas by reducing necessary benefits and the size of non productive departments responsible for welfare, employment and prisons.

In addition to our well evolved pine plantation operations, there have been major developments in the concept of combining forestry and farming - agroforestry - by Richard Moore and others in Busselton. Studies have shown that it is possible to grow a useful timber resource while maintaining up to 65% of the grazing ability of the farmland.

Just released, Research Paper No. 75, by G.W. Anderson (CSIRO) and Frank Batini, also sheds light on possible combinations of farm crops (oats) and trees.

We are poised to take off.

The unacceptable alternative is to stall now, and spiral ever downward, to the day - perhaps - when forestry only involves the harvest of enough pine to print the money we need for the price of stagnation.

I. K.

'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.

The following song was written at the Nannup Hotel after work one day by Gavin Ellis and a guy called Brian Doust. It was written on behalf of Brian, as a memento of his two years' service as a forest ranger in Nannup. The tune to which the song must be sung is that of "Only Nineteen", by Redgum.

On the recent long weekend, after a few intoxicants, Gavin sang "Only a Guard" at a Forestry party, held at the home of the new O.I.C. in Pemberton. Everyone was impressed and requested a copy - sorry we haven't got room for the sheet music Gavin.

## ONLY A GUARD

Me and Nev and Lindsay lived together in a shack  
down by the highway (it was a long march to my desk),  
The Baudin coupes were the next to cut and it was me  
who swung the axe,  
We did a toe mark and a blaze before we left.

And Nannup lines the footpath as we drove down to  
the shop,  
And Neville bought a dozen pies and a carton of  
dairy choc,  
And there's me with my steel caps and my hat that  
was so hard,  
God help me - I was only a guard.

A clean cut operation, every tree was felled and  
snigged into the dump (it made a stack a mile high),  
But ya couldn't let the mill down so you marked on  
thru the block,  
We cut the 2.1's and chipped the bloody lot.

And then someone yelled out "PINUS" and the bloke  
behind me swore,  
We planted them for weeks on end though we never were  
quite sure,  
If they could replace the native forest we had to  
discard,  
God help me I was only a guard.

And can you tell me Davo why I still can't get to  
sleep,  
And why the Bunning's Grapple Skidder chills me to my  
feet,  
And what's the reason for this mess, is the answer much  
too hard,  
God help me, I was only a guard.

And old Bill Russell didn't mention smoke and ash and  
beers,  
And when I saw my first D/F it conjured up my fears,  
I scored a transfer to the North, I'm sure I'll be a  
stranger,  
God bless you, I am now a Ranger.

## EAVESDROPPING

I heard a couple of fellows talking in the local  
hotel, and the story went something like this ....

1st fellow: I got pulled up for speeding last  
night.

2nd fellow: What was your speed?

1st fellow: 90 kmh in a 70 kmh zone. I said to  
the patrol man, "Do you know Sergeant  
Bloggs? He's a good friend of mine".

2nd fellow: What did he say?

1st fellow: He just kept writing the ticket, and  
then he handed it to me. "Yes I know  
him", he said, "would you like to tell  
him you got caught for speeding or will  
I tell him?"

D. J. Rowe.

# UNDER PRESSURE

Des Forrest is king pin in the Forests Department's fire protection programme. With his offsider Charlie Chapman, Des pressure checks, cleans and dries some 18 000 metres of fire hose every year. All the Department's fire hose comes into the Collie Fire Store at the end of each fire season.

Des and Charlie roll each hose out on the concrete pan, couple it to the water pressure tester (pictured), and put it through its paces. They also flush out any residual fire retardant chemicals, as these very quickly destroy the hose in storage.

The canvas hoses are water checked first at 200 lb/square inch. If the hose weeps excessively or pinholes, the pressure is dropped to 150 lb and the check is repeated. If the hose is still unserviceable at the third test level of 100 lb, it is rejected. Des uses a colour code; yellow couplings for 200 lb, white for 150 lb, and blue for 100 lb. "Of course," said Des, "the grading indicates the hoses work. We can only use the best (yellow) on the heavy duty units, and the smaller utes and trailer pumps get the lower pressure graded hoses."

At the moment, most of the hose is imported from Scotland (\$4.10/metre). Des and Charlie cut the hose to length and fit the couplings. After testing and drying on the tower, all the hoses are bagged and stored at 75°F, ready for shipping to the Divisions in September.

But the hoses are just part of the picture. When Protection Branch make up the new season's schedule for each station - pumps, hose reels, hoses, drums of retardant, ignit ers, nozzels, etc. etc - the Collie Fire Store checks and supplies the lot.

When Des takes his pipe home, he is still busy - renovating. Charlie is developing a marron farm, which is why he didn't get his photo taken. (It's first in - first served, and only I know what he looks like.)

## 'People Talk'

We would like to relay a request from Des Carter and his team, looking after the gardens and lawn at Como.

They make a beautiful job of the whole scene, but Des sez "The most difficult part is keeping the edges around the car parks neat and tidy. We have got acres of asphalt," he said, "but people like to park so their cars can sniff the flowers." (Goes back to the days when we all rode horses to work).

Please folks - keep those V8 noses back on the asphalt and let the 2/mower men have a fair go.

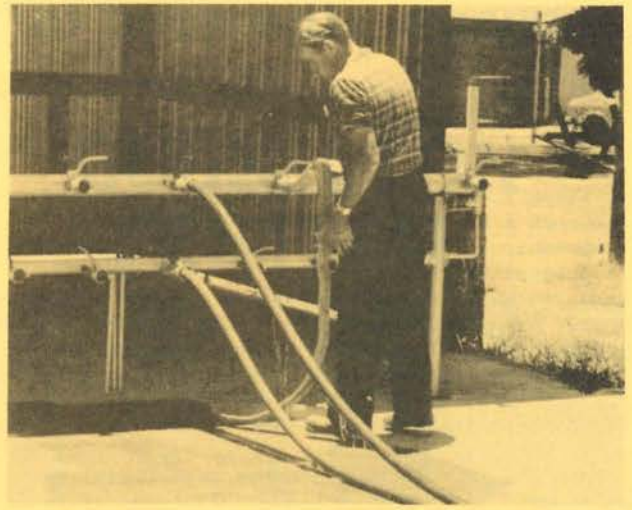


Safety week and the fire control demonstrations at Como lead to some interesting discussions at morning tea.

New comers were surprized to learn that the head office does not yet have an established (or practised) evacuation procedure - but some older hands are more concerned with the water supply.

It seems that, although the new buildings have a 4" water system, there is not a separate system for fire control. And, the new buildings and water system were just "added-on" to the old 4" research system, which has a 2" choke at the take off from the mains.

What happens if the domestic system is damaged in a fire? - where do we go for water? What happens if two fire hoses are used at once from the system which has only a 2" inlet?



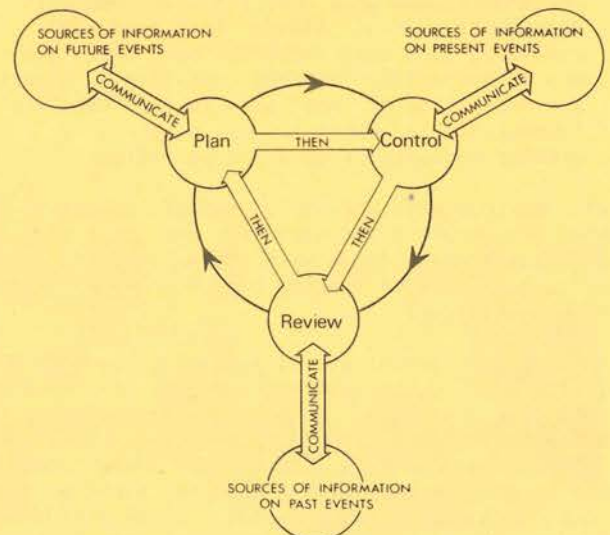
## Mandala for Management



The Swiss psychologist C. G. Jung, in attempting to escape the bleak Freudian climate, delved into mythology and magic. In his review of past human belief he became absorbed by the mandala, an ancient circular design which can invoke deep contemplation.

In pondering the types of information needed in an organization such as ours, it seems to me that the following mandala may be worth contemplating:

It occurs to me that if we regard 'management' not as a group of people ('them'), but rather as a process in which we all can take part, then the diagram is applicable to all activities by all staff at all levels. Although any resemblance to a Sarich Orbital Engine is accidental, perhaps information is the fuel which drives the management engine. Would it be worth reviewing past sources of information, planning for future supplies, and trying to control the flow?



P.S. Don't get too lost in contemplation!

David Ward

# Language - the need for change

## Part 2 : Sexism and Sexist Language - why we should be concerned.

Last issue I discussed how language reflects and reinforces a culture and indicates a speaker's relationship to the world. An often used example of this process is the wide range of words used by eskimos to describe various states of what our society can only name 'snow' and 'ice'. This usage reflects eskimos' close relationship to snow and ice, one in which precise distinctions in meaning are crucial to survival. They must 'think' snow-ice in different ways to Australians.

So, language is not the innocuous superficiality that many would have us believe. Instead, it is of prime importance in shaping the way we view the world. It is for this reason that the language of sexism concerns many women and men today.

What is sexist language? It is a language that either

- (a) excludes women (e.g. 'mankind', 'foreman', 'the man in the street') or
- (b) gives unequal treatment to women and men (e.g. 'lady lawyer', 'male nurse', 'the men and their wives', 'the fair/weaker sex').

It is based on stereotypes which assume that being biologically male or female necessarily implies a whole range of additional characteristics. Speaking in terms of stereotypes reflects insufficient thought and care about what we are communicating, as well as lack of awareness of our own biases and prejudices.

One useful test for sexist language is to substitute mention of a woman where a man is mentioned and vice versa. Would you say 'boy Friday', or 'Fred Smith, a tall blond who is married to a typist, was today awarded his second safety medal.'

The use of sexist phrases wouldn't matter if

- (a) *sexist language was accurate* but it isn't. It is misleading, distorting and inaccurate. It lacks precision and is ambiguous. It thus limits conceptual development and expression and for this reason alone should be abolished; and

- (b) *children and adults read the supposedly general term 'man' to mean men and women*, but there is evidence to suggest that they don't. Many studies with children show clearly that the language of text books and the school room so emphasizes a male image that that image takes precedence even when they are given neutral statements such as 'humans' or statements reminding them that there are both women and men in the world. And our inability to absorb the definition of 'man' as a general term for 'humankind' is apparently not resolved by greater maturity or advanced education.

So why continue with the use of sexist language? The reasons have evolved unconsciously and, as I said last issue, have nothing to do with grammar, but everything to do with keeping people in their place, with socialization.

For a boy, the general use of masculine pronouns (he, his, etc) to mean men and women is internalized as part of a continuum. He becomes aware that a symbol which applies to him is reflected throughout the animate world. Each time he uses these pronouns a link is strengthened between his own sense of being and all other living things. For a young girl no such continuum exists. When she uses these generalizing masculine pronouns she, in effect, experiences a violation of reality, an apparent contradiction, and she is expected to absorb and accept it at an age crucial to sex-role socialization.

We can only ponder the effect of this. Studies that show lower self-esteem in girls relative to boys perhaps indicate something of the outcome. Gail Shelston (1981) suggests that what children learn subliminally, at this point, from our language is that man is the norm, woman is the deviation; males are the species, females are a subspecies - and it's an attitude that stays with them.

Only consistent and conscious effort can reduce the subtle effectiveness of sexism in language. Just think, before you speak or write that report.

Compiled by Di Ward from Lorraine Marshall and Frances Rowland (1980) *Discrimination: Sexist Language and Attitudes* and Gail Shelston (1981) *Language and Sexism - An Argument for Change*.

Next issue: Alternatives to Sexist Language.

## Letters to the Editor

The Editor

The Forests Department is strong on recreation. I would like to see the Department put in a couple of camping areas on the coast (in places such as Busselton, Margaret River, or Augusta), for the exclusive use of the Department workers. I work at Grimwade and most of the workers here go fishing, camping, or boating. I am sure workers from some of our other areas do the same, and it would be one way of meeting other families who share the same interests.

Ian Anderson.

Dear Editor

The opinions expressed by the anonymous woman forester in Bush Telegraph, Vol. I, No. 2, do not necessarily reflect the views of other females working in the Department.

As a woman forester myself working in Manjimup, I cannot attribute any problems in my work to sexist attitudes and language.

Rae Burrows.

Dear Editor

For those with an historical bent, here's a piece of fascinating information which sets the price on forestry in 1896.

Woods & Forests Dept. Annual budget 1896: £2 210  
Total karri exported 16 347 loads  
Value £74 195  
or approximately £4.10/- per load

A big karri tree at Boranup was estimated to contain 120 loads of wood. Even allowing for a smaller average size of tree, each karri was worth around £500. Therefore forestry was valued at four karri trees per year.

Considering M. C. Davies, at Karridale, was alone cutting 800 trees per year, and total cut for the State came to 151 000 trees, (including jarrah), what price sustained yield?

Answer: 0.0026%

Problem: How many trees per year is your job worth? (Don't forget to include doodle pads, blotters, office memos, etc.)

Sid Sirex  
Como.