



GREENING THE PILBARA

Town life in the raw Pilbara is becoming greener and more pleasant with the help of people like Judymae Jackson and Michael Hughes.

Judymae and Michael were in Perth last month to receive Trade Certificates, having successfully completed four-year Horticultural Apprenticeships, based at the Bentley Technical College.

They are both employed by the Department in the nursery at Karratha, and were members of a group of 16 rural Western Australian trainees who started the course in 1980. The graduation ceremony for the 10 successful apprentices was held at the South Perth City Hall. In Karratha, Judymae and Michael advise on the planting and care of native flora for low-water home gardens, for park and roadside reserves and for the rehabilitation of mine sites and other erosion problems. Last year, one local shire planted 40 000 plants to help control dust.

Judymae Jackson and Michael Hughes take time out to enjoy the work of others, in the gardens surrounding the Forests Department Headquarters at Como.

Judy is particularly interested in the propagation techniques required to grow native plants in the Pilbara, while Michael makes a hobby of collecting botanical specimens in the region. The biggest problem they shared with their long distance study was coming to terms with a whole new group of plants, everytime they came to Perth for a course.

The Horticultural Apprenticeship includes four years' practical experience, with participation in a series of 'block' courses at Bentley College over the first three years. Studies include training in parks and reserves management, nursery practice, turf and green keeping, and landscaping, and concludes with a half-day practical examination in Perth.

"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.

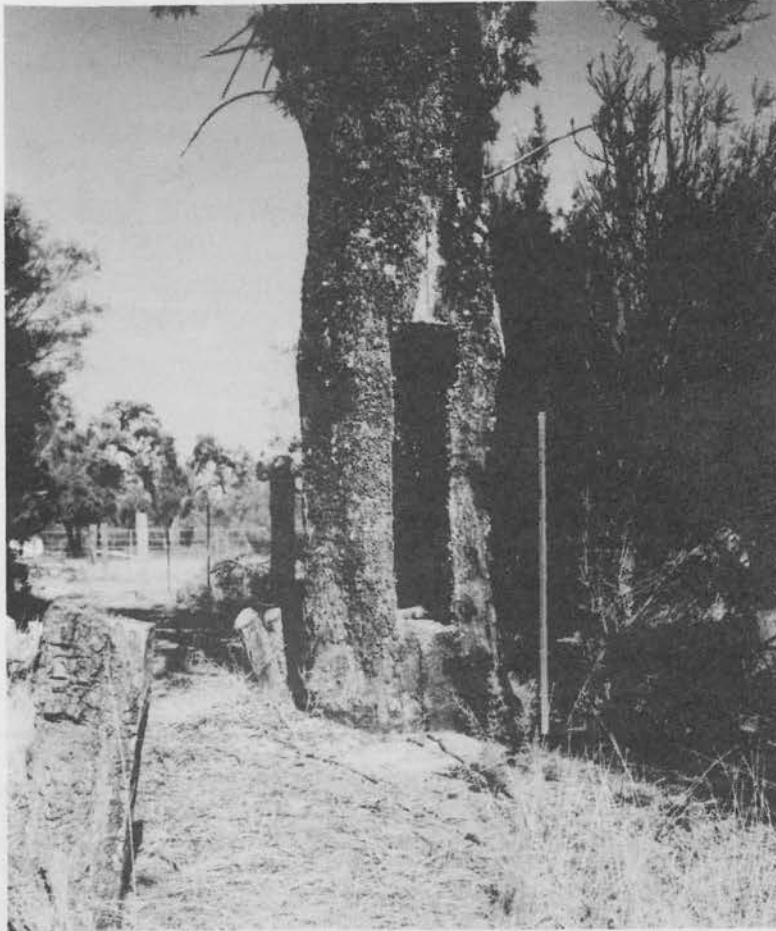
All enquiries and comments should be directed to Ian Kay, the editor, phone Como HQ ext. 327.

This contribution "From North to South West" was sent in by ROY BOYER of Yancheep. The poem was written by Roy's mother-in-law Mrs L HAWKINS (80+ years old).

Mr and Mrs Hawkins came to Australia in the early group settlement days (1920's), and they settled in Northcliffe and Pemberton.

Mrs Hawkins was married to the late CLARRI HAWKINS, who was an overseer at Shannon River for many years.

Mrs Hawkins now resides at Bunbury.



Disease Spreading ?

Foresters in Donnybrook were amazed and alarmed last week, with the discovery of a rare tree affliction on the common boundary of two hobby farms.

The only other known case in West Australia was first noticed in the karri forest of the far South, and Research Branch is now urgently investigating the migrational habits of the disease.

The attack on this Christmas tree seems to prove it has no species preference. "It could do untold damage if it got into our valuable blocks of wood at Como", said one member of the team.

NOTE The original 'bug' is thought to have been imported from California, on somebody's shoulder.



From North to South-West

When you travel down to the south west,
to see the tallest trees,
Do not forget your woollies
as you're sure to strike a breeze.

In spring time the bush is lovely
with different coloured greens ,
and the wild flowers are magnificent
the best you've ever seen.

There are many pretty colours
that have the sweetest smell,
and so many other types
too numerous to tell.

You can see the lovely creepers
reds, blues and pure whites.
Some creep along the footpaths,
and some climb to various heights.

When you see these lovely wonders
in the bushlands far away,
please stop to take a photo,
but don't destroy their play.

You will see so many places
along some river banks,
where you can have a barbecue,
where seats are made of planks.

Some love to do some fishing
whilst others lay around,
but if a bull ant stings you,
you'll sure jump up and down.

So many little insects
are seen down on the ground,
some are building little nests,
while others crawl around.

The birds are busy chirping
and whistling in the trees,
while most of the people down below
enjoy their cups of teas.

We must preserve our Forests
and glorious bushlands there,
so we may share a life time
in sweet and clear fresh air.

When your holidays are over
and your settled back up North,
think of our lovely green trees
and just how much they're worth.

You may tell your friends and neighbours
of your holiday down South-West.
And maybe one day we'll have the pleasure
to wish them all the best.

L. Hawkins.

1500 KM APART.....

In forestry terms, you can't get much further apart than Karratha (Page 1) and Esperance, but the overall objective at both stations is similar - helping people to 'live' with trees.

Agro-forestry & Shelterbelts at Esperance

Following the advertising of the Forester position at Esperance, staff will be interested in the outcome of Richard Moore's recent talks on "Management of Shelterbelts - What South Coast Farmers can learn from the New Zealand Experience".

Forest Officers Richard Moore, Peter Richmond, Ian Kealley and Norm Caporn spent the week 26-30 March in Esperance, attending the three evening talks by Richard and helping with the discussions held afterwards.

The talks were organized by the local Primary Industry Association (PIA) branches and attracted nineteen farmers at Munglinup, forty-one at Esperance, and twenty at Condin up. All the meetings were successful, with a high level of interest being shown in all aspects of tree planting. There were excellent question and discussion sessions covering aspects of Richard's talk, general forestry, shelterbelts, the planting of eucalypts and pines, and establishment difficulties.

The evening talks were followed by visits to farms in the area next day. The group visited eleven farms, covering a range of enquiries including general planting, salt rehabilitation, shelterbelts, establishment, agro-forestry and tree management.

The main conclusion of Richard's talk, "that sustained agriculture on the south coast will require extensive shelterbelts - providing the required shelter, preventing wind erosion and creating a valuable timber resource", was well received.

The talks and visits served the purpose of contacting a core of interested farmers in the Esperance area, breaking ground for the new Esperance Forester, and further extending contacts made in the past.

Many innovative farmers have been planting trees and developing new methods of machine planting and direct seeding very suitable, economical and successful in the Esperance area. Notwithstanding this keen interest, severe problems (attacks by grasshoppers and

beetles, poor seasons, establishment on old land, and erosion) are causing high mortalities and farmer disillusion.

With the high level of local interest expressed in the Forester position at Esperance, and the amount of planting required, the new officer will have no shortage of work. There will be a lot of learning to do and plenty of problems to solve.

Copies of Richard Moore's talk are available if required.

Ian Kealley
Kalgoorlie.

'People Talk'

Good news on the job front for JEAN REID (Como Library) with her 'permanent' appointment as Library Assistant at the Police department Headquarters from April 16.

JEAN'S 'serpa' term was due to expire end of May (now extended to end of June) so her timing was spot on. Here's hoping a few more of us can be 'placed' - before the axe falls again.

* * *

Julie O'Connor (Manjimup Research) spent most of Easter weekend trailing behind power boats as a W.A. representative in the Australian National Waterski Championships.

Some 16 skiers from each state participated in jump, slalom, and trick events at Pickering Park, Bassendean.

At the same time, the world "Group Three" competitions were being held between Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, New Zealand and Australia.

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The Como Social Club has just returned from Arabia (after 1001 nights) and have excelled themselves with the organization of a 'BAWDY BANQUET' to be held at 'DIRTY DICKS' on Thursday 17th May.

Mead, meat, mirth and merriment will be served for all in Dick's banquet hall, 194 Cambridge Street, Wembley - \$28.00 members double, \$42.00 non members double, (all inclusive).

Book a bench to let your hair down - phone Deborah Greave on Como Ext. 263.

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There has been a good deal of discussion lately on "the Queen's English and how she is writ" Helen Alexander has just completed a letter writing course for officers at Como; Di Ward made a notable contribution in B/T on language justice; and Liana Christensen is currently preparing lectures on the presentation of scientific papers.

To break the ice for Liana, we have decided to publish some general "rules", in the hope that some of the rough edges will be knocked off before her school begins.

Rules for the Technical Writer

RULE 1 *Never use a short word when you can think of a long one.* Never say "now" but "currently". It is not "soon" but "presently". You did not have "enough" but a "sufficiency." Never do you come to the end but to the "termination." This rule is basic.

RULE 2 *Never use one word when you can use two or more.* Eschew "probably." Write, "it is improbable," and raise this to "it is not improbable." Then you'll be able to parlay "probably" into "available evidence would tend to indicate that it is not unreasonable to suppose."

RULE 3 *Put one-syllable thought into polysyllabic terms.* Instead of observing that a work force might be bigger and better, write, "In addition to quantitative enlargement, it is not improbable that there is a need also for qualitative improvement in the personnel of the service." If you have discovered that musicians out of practise can't hold jobs, report that "the face of rapid deterioration of musical skill when not in use soon converts the employed into the unemployable." Resist the impulse to say that much men's clothing is machine made. Put it thus: "Nearly all operations in the industry lend themselves to performance by machine, and all grades of men's clothing sold in significant quantity involve a very substantial amount of machine work."

RULE 4 *Put the obvious in terms of the unintelligible.* When you write that "the product of the activity of janitors is expended in the identical locality in which that activity takes place," your lay reader is in for a time of it. After an hour's puzzlement, he may conclude that janitors' sweepings are thrown on the town dump. See what you can do with this: "Each article sent to the cleaner is handled separately." You become a member of the guild in good standing if you put it like this: "Within the cleaning

plant proper the business of the industry involves several well-defined processes, which, from the economic point of view, may be characterized simply by saying that most of them require separate handling of each individual garment or piece of material to be cleaned."

RULE 5 *Announce what you are going to say before you say it.* This pitcher's wind-up technique before hurling towards - not at - home plate has two varieties. First is the quick wind-up: "In the following sections the policies of the administration will be considered." Then you become strong enough for the contortionist wind-up: "Perhaps more important, therefore, than the question of what standards are in a particular case, there are the questions of the extent of observance of these standards and the methods of their enforcement." Also, you can play with reversing Rule 5 and say what you have said after you have said it.

RULE 6 *Defend your style as "scientific."* Look down on - not up to - clear, simple English. Sneer at it as "popular." Scorn it as "journalistic." Explain your failure to put more mental sweat into your writing on the ground that "the social scientists who want to be scientific believe that we can have scientific description of human behaviour and trustworthy predictions in the scientific sense only as we build adequate taxonomic systems for observable phenomena and symbolic systems for the manipulations of ideal and abstract entities."

Letters to the Editor



Last week, I received an anonymous 'rocket' about our use of foolscap paper in recent editions of Bush Telegraph, and our first copy of a memo from the Records Review Committee to whom the Publications Branch is non-existent.

Considering both newsletters were published within two weeks of the memo being released, I can't feel sorry - but standardization is a great thing. (I wonder if I could arrange a memo for Phil Shedley, demanding all trees grow square?).

I. K.