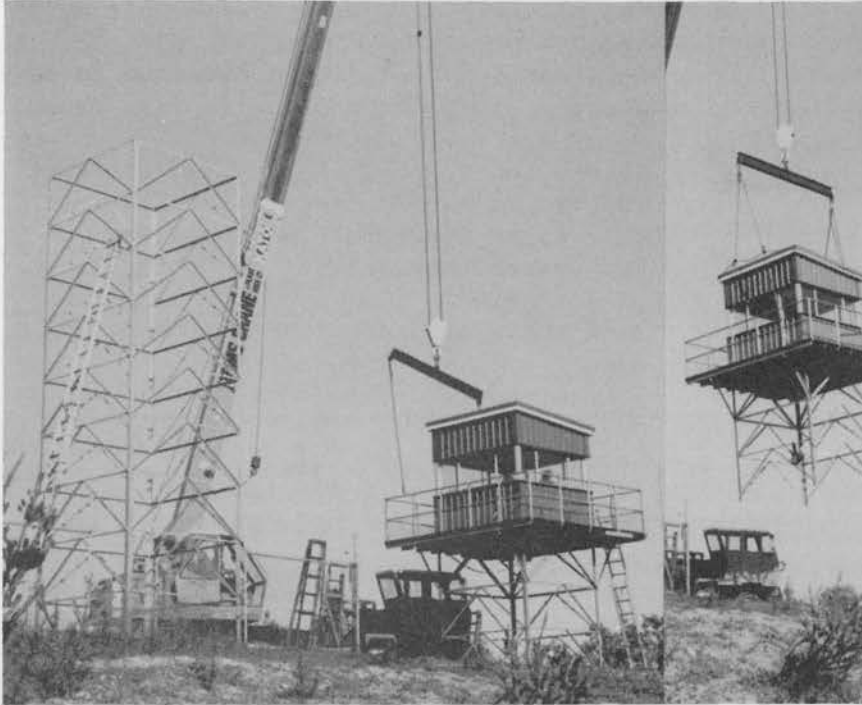




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# ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Channel 7 was on hand at Gnangara, last week, to film the installation of a 50' watch tower, at the lookout site above the forest settlement. The new steel and aluminium forest lookout replaces a rather woobly wooden one, built in the early 1950's.

Construction of the tower began at Wanneroo two months ago, and each prefabricated stage was trucked to Gnangara. The tower was built in four 10' 'lifts', with the 8' square deck and cabin separate.

On site at Gnangara, the base module was set in concrete and the remaining sections (including the cabin) were joined to form two final stages, ready for positioning by crane. The recent heavy rain closed the fire season; the old wooden tower was dismantled and on Friday 15 June the 'topping-off' operation was completed in four hours.

*UP, up and away .... the lookout tower cabin is hoisted into position during the final stages of construction.*



Mick Law, the Wanneroo District Forester was on hand to oversee the action. He told Max Harwood (from Seven) about the fire watch system. "We have three towers to give us complete area cover and rapid cross reference," he said. "Pines need constant surveillance in the summer and the towers are the most economical way of providing that." Mick pointed out that a large area of the pine plantations north of Perth are included in air space restricted by Pearce Air Base. "So aircraft are 'out' for spotting," he said. "Besides, the towers must also be manned at night, during electrical storms".

The other towers are sited at Wanneroo and Yanchep, and a fourth is planned.



Kylie Kau accepts her prize from Pat McNamara.

## PROUD MOMENT

Kylie Kau returned from a New Zealand holiday last month to a head office presentation of her hard-won Forest Ranger awards.

Pat McNamara was warm in his praise of her efforts, and other senior staff joined with him in wishing her all the best in her forestry future.

Kylie won the Keynes Memorial Prize for the cadet showing the greatest merit in all aspects of the course (January 1982-84), and several valuable books.

The 'Keynes' prize is the result of a bequest left to the W.A. Forests Department some twenty years ago by the Keynes family of South Australia. Prominent in forestry in that state, the family shares another close link with W.A. forestry - through Dick Perry's wife Kath.

One of the first to talk to Kylie after the Presentation was Bevan Campbell, C.O.D. Harvesting and Utilization. "It's great to see someone from Harvey doing well in forestry," he said. "I was O/C at Harvey for a long time, and I really enjoyed it down there," he continued.

Bevan went on to tell Kylie about his exploits and how, one night in the winter of '64, he (as a relative new comer) had had to evacuate the whole town to the High school grounds in case the local dam burst.

"Oh" said Kylie, "you'd probably remember me then - my twin brother and I were born in the headmaster's study that night."

For once, Bevan was stuck for words - briefly.

## Just a Minute !

It's eight o'clock and the whistle blows  
What I'll do today, heaven only knows  
But there is work to do, so what the heck  
I had better do a "Safety Check".

I have a good strong helmet to protect my skull  
And the area I work in is far from dull  
And glasses, of course, to protect my eyes  
It's not only owls who are termed to be wise.

Safety boots, too, are an absolute must  
Kept in good nick, for in them I trust  
To keep me protected in many a way  
For heaven knows what I'll do today.

Then there are earmuffs to protect my ears  
I know people who're deaf, and it allays my fears  
Because once I am deaf, there's little can be done  
To restore my hearing, and listen to fun.

And last but not least (I had not forgotten)  
To check on my clothes - myself, I choose cotton  
I could use wool, but it's a little bit dear  
'Tho' where fires are concerned, I have less to fear.

It took but a minute to check myself over  
And safety wise - I'm in the clover  
Thank heaven for safety, all give a great cheer,  
Now where in the heck is my Overseer.

N.D. (Ted) Haddrill, Yancheap.

## SUNDOWNER

Como Social Club are holding a Sundowner on Friday 6 July in the Headquarter's Canteen from 4.30-7.30.

It will be a Beer, Wine and Cheese Nite - a good chance to meet the new committee and say thanks to the old one.

Everybody's welcome. Members \$1.00. Non members \$2.00. Ring Debbie on Como ext. 263 and book your ticket.

If you would like to join and you are not presently a financial member of the Social Club, application forms are available from the Social Club Secretary.



▲1

Tower builders Ken Hansen and Alex Wilson (L-R) - glad to see it 'altogether'. "You get a great view of Perth City from the top," said Ken.

▲3

A tense moment as the riggers struggle to line-up the bolts and holes.

▲2

'On air' - Mick Law talks to Channel 7's Max Harwood. Lou Belci was on camera and Ross McLean on sound.

▲4

Nick Mucciarone mans one of the original wooden 'towers' at Gnangara. This one still helps visitors' to view the countryside.

## Social Club A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Forests Department Social Club is to be held on Tuesday 3 July 1984, at 4.00 pm in the State Headquarters Training Room.

Nominations are required for the following committee positions:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and General Committee Persons.

Nominations to the Social Club Secretary (Mapping Branch) by Friday 29 June 1984.

\* General Business:

- (i) Presentation of Annual Report
- (ii) Presentation of Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement
- (iii) Various amendments to the Constitution
- (iv) Any other General Business

\* Election of Committee for 1984/85.

Light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the meeting.

# WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

Until someone comes up with a better way to distinguish the world's several million types of plants and animals - there are over 190,000 species of flowering plants alone - scientists will continue to use the Linnaeus classification system of double-barrelled Latin names. Invented by the Swedish botanist Carl Von Linne, 200 years ago, the system is simple: the first word (always capitalized) gives the name of the genus; the second name (occasionally capitalized) identifies the species.

In the case of radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*), the "Radiata" is one of several species of the genus "Pinus". And there are five progressively larger groupings as well.

The Botanical Code, or International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, lays down the law when it comes to naming plant species. (Separate codes cover the names of animals, micro-organisms, and cultivated plants.) Proposals to name new species have to be backed up with specimens and published descriptions of the species' characteristics, then registered with the International Association for Plant Taxonomy in Utrecht, Netherlands.

This system is essential to the orderly naming of plants, but it can sometimes generate its own confusion. After Archibald Menzies "discovered" the Douglas fir in 1791, it was first called *Abies taxifolia* (a type of true fir). Later it was called a pine (*Pinus*) and given the name of Douglas (*douglasii*) in honour of the tireless English botanical collector David Douglas; still later the generic name *Pseudotsuga* was applied to it when it was realized Douglas fir was a different, and quite rare, genus.

Confusion continued to abound until 1950, when a Portuguese scientist named Franco unearthed a description of the tree published in the early 1800s by Mirbel. Today, the tree's full name is *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco - acknowledging the person who discovered it (Menzies), the first person to describe it correctly (Mirbel), and the detective work of Franco.

From 'Treeline' - November 1983 (the staff magazine of the New Zealand Forest Service).

# ON THE SHELF



Two research papers published this month concern pine 'problems' - one at each end of the production line.

Research Paper No. 79, by Hugh Chevis, examines "Pinus radiata death rates associated with Phytophthora species on the different soil types in the Donnybrook Sunkland of Western Australia."

The study examines variations in the numbers of P. radiata deaths between soil types, and whether this mortality rate is related to previously observed levels of decline in the original jarrah forest.

Research Paper No. 78, by Graeme Siemon and Des Donnelly, examines "The effects of exposure on the stability of heart-in studs of Pinus pinaster." Overall, the study confirmed that heart-in studs of P. pinaster, whether high temperature dried or conventionally dried, would perform satisfactorily when used in construction.

Also new on the shelf this month, is a technical paper (No. 6) by Roger Armstrong. Roger's paper provides a "Photogrammetrical inventory of karri (Eucalyptus diversicolor) regrowth in the south west of Western Australia." Black and white aerial photographs taken between 1951-1982 were used to accurately identify areas of karri regeneration suitable for forest management.

Extra copies of all current publications can be obtained by phoning Robyn - Como ext. 329.

Just arrived: Technical Paper No. 7 covers the Mechanical Properties of Timbers commonly used in Western Australia. Phil Shedley and Don Challis have collected and summarized all the relevant information to provide a convenient reference for those working with wood. Indigenous and Exotic species are tabulated separately.

"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.