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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

# Noble Forester



History books don't emphasize it, but Julius Caesar, noble Roman who came, saw, and conquered, was also Julius Caesar, Superintendent of Forests and Trails. The position was not the most prestigious he held, but the fact that the Romans had such an official at all is noteworthy.

After an impressive military jaunt in the Orient, Caesar returned to Rome, was awarded a crown of oak leaves for his exploits, and was named Superintendent of Police. His political skills more than matched his military skills, and he was soon appointed Superintendent of All City Events and Public Ceremonies. After winning the good will of the people by staging a series of popular public events, he was elected Consul.

It was about this time that the Senate named Caesar Superintendent of Forests and Trails. The Romans felt so strongly about their forests that they were considered

sacred. Anyone who harmed the reserved land faced fines, physical punishment, and death for the sacrilegious act.

The Romans recognized the economic importance of their forests. They were even more aware of their military importance. The Roman fleet was a mainstay of the maritime economy of Imperial Rome, and the forests provided the building and armament materials for that fleet. Thus the overseer of this important resource could not be any run-of-the-mill bureaucrat. Julius Caesar obviously was not run-of-the-mill.

While Caesar's achievements in warfare, the arts, and politics are much better documented and remembered, those who today work to conserve forest resources can take some pride in knowing that Julius Caesar also was a forester.

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The Balingup Pine Plantation, south west of Kirup, is a high risk fire area. The blocks adjacent to the South Western Highway are managed as a fuel reduced buffer zone - thinned to 100 S.P.HA. the slash has been heaped for burning.

Last week Frank Quicke (Bunbury) supervised the burning of the heaps. Garry Stanger (Kirup) operated the flame-thrower while Philip Hawkins (Kirup) drove the four-wheel drive and trailer kit.

# Safety in Numbers

After giving thirty one year's service to the Forests Department, Forest Workman Arthur Chappel retired on 20 August. This was thirty one years without a lost time accident, and Arthur was presented with an 'Award of Merit' and a personal letter from the Acting Conservator Pat McNamara, highlighting the significance of the event.

Members of his original gang "Glenoran" - where he commenced work - and the "Wheatley" gang, with whom they combined forces in later years, gathered with other workmates to wish Arthur a happy retirement.

The Glenoran gang, then an outstation of Manjimup, has some pretty impressive figures to prove that safe working habits have been around for a long time. All of the following personnel worked with Arthur at Glenoran at one stage or another. Listed below are the number of years of service and the number of years lost time accident free of those who commenced work at Glenoran and attended the farewell and presentation.

	Service	LTA Free
H Winfield	38 years	30 years
C. Benson	32 years	32 years
A. Miles	31 years	31 years
A. Chappel	31 years	31 years
B. Miles	29 years	21 years
W. Tabaczuk	27 years	19 years
P. Liddelow	22 years	19 years
P. Ridomiljac	20 years	20 years
<b>Total</b>	<b>230 years</b>	<b>203 years</b>

"A pretty good effort".

If you want a standby crew, here is the remainder of the combined crew. This includes the nursery men with whom Arthur spent the last five or six years of his working life.

	Service	LTA Free
R. Church	25 years	14 years
D. DeLuca	21 years	16 years
J. Steele	14 years	14 years
R. Baker	14 years	7 years
<b>Total</b>	<b>74 years</b>	<b>51 years</b>

The service figures are up to the end of this year; LTA free are up to the 20/8/84.

I feel this effort could stand up to any challenge within the Department and perhaps further afield.

Can any F.D. gang better this record as a unit?

Note that up to seven of the Glenoran gang members worked together at the same time.

Paul Liddelow  
Manjimup



## PEOPLE

Ted Espinos (Busselton) retired from the Forests Department on 11 September, after 36 year's service.

To honour the occasion, the Busselton Division arranged an informal 'send-off' attended by his friends and work mates from the surrounding district.

Ted started his forest career in the mill at Ludlow.



Foresters Paul Rose and Grant Wardell-Johnson will re-commence their studies at Oxford University (England) on 24 September. They both aim to obtain a Masters degree in Environmental Studies.

Paul was the Officer-In-Charge at Walpole for 2½ years and also spent time as an A.D.F.O. at Manjimup Divisional office.

Grant is currently on a walking trek in Iceland prior to his studies. He was Officer-In-Charge of Ecology Research at Manjimup for three years and spent time as an A.D.F.O. at Dwellingup.

Some of Grant's artistic talent (photography) was displayed at a recent family exhibition in Bridgetown. His bush scenes and orchid 'portraits' have been well received.



And Raylene Daube has left the office at KIRUP (12 September) to marry and settle in NARAMBEEN.

After three and a half years at Kirup, Raylene will be missed, but the staff wished her all the best in her new career.

It's that time of the year again...

## The Nannup Golf Day



So shake the cobwebs off your sticks, balls and bag and enjoy a laugh as you "divot" your way around Pineridge.

Lubricate your limbs for the last of the FORESTRY Golf Classics. Imagine, next year it's CALM Golf Day. But don't LABOR over destiny; this year it's...

- Date:** 20 October 1984  
**Venue:** Pineridge Golf Club (just follow the signs)  
**Events:** 8.30 am Bushranger's Belt; 9 holes for novices  
12.00 pm Men's 18 hole stableford followed by Women's 9 hole stableford  
**Costs:** \$5/player  
\$1.70/BBQ pack (afternoon tea and salads provided; drinks available at the bar)  
**Prizes:** will be awarded for a variety of performances, after tea.

**NOMINATIONS PLEASE AT YOUR EARLIEST  
CONVENIENCE PH. (097) 56 1101.**

## SKIN & HAIR

A story from New Zealand that would warm the heart of D.F.O. Walter Codswollop.

"WELLINGTON (AAP): Mr Ivan Gutsell has skinned an opossum in 10.92 seconds to claim a world record for the Southland Opossum Skinning Club.

Mr Gutsell, of Mokareta, Southland, shaved 0.11 seconds off the record in the open sprint event at the South Island championships at the Waikawa Domain, Southland.

Mr Gutsell is from a well-established clan of opossum skimmers in Southland, and is related to a previous world record holder, Mr Adrian Gutsell.

The national championships were held after the South Island events, and there Mr Gutsell finished third - behind Mr Doug Gutsell and Mr Earl Gutsell, also Southlanders."

## FAREWELL FRANK



Frank Campbell was given a warm 'send-off' from the Forests Department S.H.Q. on Friday 7 September and a celebration to mark his promotion to the position of Assistant Commissioner with the Public Service Board.

Frank started as a cadet with the Department in 1956, fresh from University. He spent four years in Inventory and Planning, commencing at Manjimup, and later opened the branch at Harvey in 1958.

His 10 year 'operational' career started as O.I.C. at Dwellingup and included stints back at Harvey and Manjimup.

In the early 70's, Frank came to Perth in charge of Fire operations. He was appointed Assistant Conservator in 1978 and Acting Deputy Conservator in 1983.

Frank's administrative abilities have been recognized in his new posting, but he will be best remembered in Forestry for his enthusiastic promotion of the Department's Safety Programme.

Among other duties, Frank was responsible for the preparation of the first annual submission to the National Safety Council's C.M.L. Award, detailing the Department's industrial safety programme. The Department won the inaugural award in 1978 and was runner-up in 1979.

In recognition of his work for the Department and for his promotion of Safety in particular, Frank was presented with a sheoak replica of the original award containing a crystal whiskey decanter.

We wish him well in his new career.

"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.

# REFORMATION OF FORESTRY SUBCULTURE

A 'discussion paper' on the future role of the profession in W.A. by Bob Chandler (Bunbury).

Whether a catharsis or an imperceptible transmutation, the certainty is we will be different after the change (amalgamation).

Can we control the plunge or the drift?

We should try.

Foresters should choose the philosophies, persuasions and idiosyncrasies we wish to keep untainted and those we can, or should, relinquish.

Perhaps these can be stratified into Dead Wood, Affordable trappings, Essentials and New Horizons.

The rich sub-cultural population of foresters psyches will not neatly fit into little boxes, of course. But in spite of my jerking knee and the spectral nature of forestry impedimenta, I feel a classification of some sort is a starting point.

Therefore:

Dead Wood (or concept for culling, pruning or ploughing under):

- 1 Only foresters can solve forestry problems.
- 2 If you are not for us you are against us (greenies et al).
- 3 Production is paramount.
- 4 Burn, baby burn!
- 5 Recreation is only fun and games, froth and bubble.
- 6 Foresters are popular and much loved by birthright.
- 7 The public are predominantly nongs.
- 8 Certain political flavours are unpalatable.
- 9 "When I was an A.D.F.O. at Dwellingup.."
- 10 Foresters are without exception excellent administrators and become even more so with their seniority.
- 11 Foresters and their families live only for the greater good of forestry.
- 12 Waste not, want not. (You have to break a few eggs to make an omelette, or a few trees for a silvicultural system.)

Affordable Trappings (or the things we should ensure survive):

- 1 A proud tradition.
- 2 Forestry camaraderie.
- 3 The tieless, bootclad public servant.
- 4 In-house jargon and endearments.
- 5 Forests are forever.
- 6 Forestry - "a generalized specialty".

- 7 The forestry sense of humour and the art of iconoclasm.
- 8 "A day at Dryandra is better than a day off!"

Essentials (or the professional Holy Grail):

- 1 Multiple use wherever possible.
- 2 Operations by priorities.
- 3 Decisions by the scientific ethic and the rational approach.
- 4 Through the looking glass - clearly. The view of the century.
- 5 Sustainable ecosystems.
- 6 Forestry directions - Lead don't follow (and especially, no dragging).
- 7 The bastion is the forest estate.
- 8 Conservation through reserves.
- 9 Trust in dollars, but keep your intangibles safe.
- 10 Forestry's the name - land management the game.
- 11 Humble pie can be good nourishment.
- 12 The visionary eye.
- 13 Lumber crayon to Intergraph.
- 14 "Production" - not a dirty word.
- 15 Planning. Planning. Planning.

New Horizons (or the things the profession should get their teeth into):

- 1 Elevation of recreation and conservation.
- 2 Bridging the gap - Meet John Citizen: Opportunity.  
- Believe you me: Credibility.  
- Forestry for the common man: Participation.
- 3 Bridging the gap - Our persistent detractors: Conservationists etc.  
- Our rivals: Competitors for Forest Resources.  
- Our bemused confreres: Fellow professionals.
- 4 The sunburnt land - Mill logs to Mulga.
- 5 "My favourite is the ring-nosed phascogale."
- 6 "It's bloody dark down here."
- 7 System 6, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 9, 8, 12, 7.
- 8 Quo Vadis Timber?
- 9 Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate.
- 10 The era of expanding comfort zones.
- 11 Foresters - a new image.
- 12 "Ppsst! Spriggo! What's he carping on about?"  
"Dunno! Shaddup and just keep smiling!"

What more can I say?

Foresters are different.

They will be different again.

Viva la difference!