

1(21) Oct 1984

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

EASTERN SURVEY

Kalgoorlie Divisional staff together with Inventory and Planning staff expect to complete a series of sandalwood surveys in the goldfields region on 2 November.

The first teams to complete surveys this season were Mike Tagliaferri and Ian Freeman (Kalgoorlie) and Kim Phillips-Jones and Jeff Hall (I&P, Manjimup). Surveys carried out were in the Plumridge Lake area and surrounds.

About ten nights were spent camping out and assessment was done with the use of landcruisers.

Sandalwood surveys have been carried out over the past four years to obtain resource statements for the sandalwood industry.

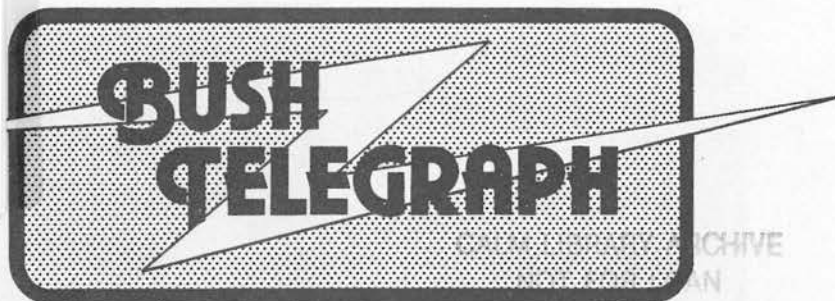
Sandalwood (*Santalum spicatum*) is harvested and exported to S.E. Asia. As powder, its wood is used in insect repellent coils and joss sticks burnt for incense. The wood is also carved. (Forest Focus No. 30 - story by Len Talbot).

Other areas planned for surveys this year include Scahill, Yellari, Coonana and Bullock Holes, Jaurdi, Mt Elvire, Diemals and VCL south-east of Bimbijy.

Kim Allen



Discussing the days sandalwood survey are Kim Phillips-Jones and Mike Tagliaferri. Ian Freeman is in the background.



Kim Phillips-Jones standing beside a sandalwood tree, a size that is typical of this area.

SOUTHERN RECORD

On 15 September, the Northcliffe 'gang' completed 17 years without a lost time accident.

The gang (part of the Pemberton Division) is engaged in Karri management, the felling of stags and the control of high intensity fires so the achievement is particularly noteworthy.

Current members of the gang are John MacDonald (O.S.), Allan Shepard, Collin Daubney, Mike Liebrecht and Mike McDonnell.

TEAM FROM THE NORTH



Met the gang at Karratha - on the job in the Nursery: Back row (Boys) Dave McMillan (L), Wally Edgecombe, Ken and Michael Hughes: Front row (Girls) Mandy Grdovic (L), Judymae Jackson and Julie Bromley.

Dave McMillan runs the nursery with the help of Ken, Michael and Judymae. Julie runs the office and Wally keeps an eye on the overall operation and the district.

Mandy and Sherry Read (absent) are employed under C.E.P. to landscape the nursery and arboretum.

Wally is really proud of his team. "The nursery produced over 100,000 plants for the region this season," he said. "It was a great effort."

IAN'S RETIREMENT

Ian Scambler's recent retirement from the Department was marked on Friday 21 September by a lunch time farewell with friends and colleagues, and a presentation.

Ian completed his early forestry training in Scotland and worked for seven years on rubber plantations in Malaysia before coming to Western Australia. His 15 year service with the Department included work at Harvey and Mundaring, and he was OIC at Harvey from 1974 - 78.

Laterly Ian was Regional Leader, Administration, at Bunbury (from 1978) and Northern Region (from 1983).

Ian has not enjoyed good health.

FOOTNOTE: Rae and Neil Burrows (Manjimup) have a new daughter, Kimberlee Shannon (6 lb 6 oz) and Rae are both well - Neil has cancelled any bush walks until his feet touch the ground.

NEW NEIGHBOURS

The overall concept of technology development in WA is beginning to take shape with the conversion of 32 hectares of pine plantation into a Technology Park.

The new Hi-Tech Park will be adjacent to the Forests Department's State Headquarters.

Work has already begun on the core building, expected to be ready for occupation early in the new year. It will house the Park's general manager and small staff - three or four at most; theatre, offices and seminar rooms; cafeteria, lounge and bar; and "incubator" rooms for research units working towards the prototype stage.

The word "park" will be no misnomer for the finished technology centre. Guidelines are strict about all aspects of architectural design, the amount of required landscaped area to buildings, and lawns and artificial lakes will probably figure prominently when the area is finished.

The plans show a winding cycle path within the perimeter bounded by Hayman Road, Kent Street and Jarrah Road. No high barbed-wire fences are allowed; all security arrangements must be contained within the buildings themselves.

The core buildings will be completed with minimum tree removal, and open areas will be grassed as quickly as possible.

The Park is only the first step along a path which could lead WA to the forefront of the future world economy, instead of being simply a quarry or food source for more developed nations.

BUNBURY LEADS

The entire staff of the Bunbury Office (53) have just qualified for a two year lost time accident free presentation. The special ceremony at Bunbury was attended by the Act. Conservator Pat McNamara, the Asst. Minister for Forests Dave Evans, the Director of I.F.A.P. Denis Glennon, the M.L.C. for South-West Province Vic Ferry and the MLA for Bunbury Phillip Smith.

Pat made special mention of the commitment required to keep a successful accident programme going. A commitment by top management (this was the 13th safety award attended by Dave Evans) and a commitment by staff (clearly demonstrated by Bunbury's achievement).

Each person was presented with an outdoor deck chair (for home use) in the colour of their choice.

Dave Evans quoted \$812 as the average direct cost of every lost time accident in Western Australia. With 37,000 accidents last year, Western Australia had the lowest number in Australia - total bill \$30M.



Peter Hanly (Information Officer) receives his deck chair from Dave Evans.

"And yet not all the cost could or should be measured in dollars" he said. "The reduction of personal loss and suffering was reason enough for government involvement in well planned safety programmes."

New First Aiders

First Aid Certificates have been awarded to head office staff who have just completed a five day refresher course under the guidance of Harold Pears (Collie).

When presenting the examination certificates Pat McNamara thanked the newly trained staff for their interest in the welfare of fellow workers. "Proper pre-medical care is vital" he said. "It can be life saving and often helped shorten recovery time."

The Department has a policy of training at least 20% of the field work force and at least two people in each head office module.

New first-aiders

- Ms Robyn Weir (Publications)
- Ms Cheryl Watters (Mapping)
- Ms Gio Di Filippo (I&P)
- Ms Julie Cook (Northern Region)
- Ms Dianne Knight (Records)
- Ms Debbie Greaves (Accounts)
- Ms Roxanne Horsley (Accounts)
- Ms Jenny Doelle (Safety)
- Mr Kerry McKnight (Secretary)
- Mr Steve Jones (Mapping)
- Mr Malcolm Briggs (Registration) and
- Mr Rod Mell (Stores).

BILL HAS GONE

After almost 20 years service with the Department, William Shaw Simmonds (Bill) retired on 5 September due to ill health. He was presented with a travelling bag by about 50 wellwishers at a send-off in Manjimup recently.

Bill began employment with the Department as a tower-man at Alco look-out tower in November 1964. In November 1966, he moved to Glenoran as a tower-man. For the latter period of his working career, Bill was a member of a Manjimup gang crew.

Bill will continue to live in Manjimup, spending much of his time playing lawn bowls.



Dianne Knight receives her certificate from Pat McNamara.

A Push Over



It was Monday morning, and hush fell on the group as old George approached. It puzzled him but in his prevailing good mood he dismissed it. "Thanks for the leg of pork Tim", he said, nodding at one of the younger men. "It was a bit stringy but I enjoyed it." Many of the group broke out into loud gawfs of laughter and his older mates couldn't look George in the eye. The truth came out as the noise subsided.

"That wasn't pork", said Tim. "It was an old goat I knocked over with the car. I trimmed a few bristles off the hearth brush, rubbed them in and raffled it at the pub for a joke." Old George choked. Not only had he been made to look a fool, but he had lost the joy of winning and young Tim was in beer money for a week.

Crestfallen, George stomped off over the cold ground to work in the nursery, sorting seedlings for sale. Strange, he thought, how he had hung on every golden word when he had first started work now, the young bucks of today think they know it all. I'm going to have to show some spirit and turn the tables or this job won't be worth hanging on to, he decided.

Just after lunch George saw his chance. Tim was taking the paper for a 'read' in the old wooden loo at the side of the gardens. The door shut and the handle turned.

With a finger to his pursed lips, George flagged a couple of mates to him and they crossed quietly to the rear of the loo. One heave and a thump and the 'house' was face down in the mud. All hell broke out from inside, but to no avail Old George winked at me as we walked away. "The camel may never have passed through the eye of the needle, but when that rich young man finally makes it through his swinging gate he'll be more than heaven scent."



The following major events occurred in Computer Services during August.

- The Perkin-Elmer computer was available for 94.9% during attended operation and 98.8% during unattended operation. The major downtime was attributed to air conditioning failure (2:15 hours), PWD work (3:10 hours) and disk failure (3:45 hours).
- David Nicholson joined the Section on 27 August and his position was the last outstanding vacancy. After initial familiarization with the Department and our computer systems, he will commence work on the Fire Behaviour Conversion project.
- The systems requirement manual has been completed for the Hardwood Logging project and after approval the design phase will commence. This next phase will involve Les Cooper, Neville Pratt and Geoff Lingwood.
- Submissions have been received from three companies to computerize the Plant Cost System which is currently functioning on failing accounting machines. After initial evaluation a decision regarding the future of the system will be made.
- Copies of the three year plan have been distributed and additional copies are available for those interested. Enquiries can be directed to Trevor Morgan on ext. 266.
- Should staff wish to view the Operations Area, or wish for visitors from divisions or other departments to inspect it, appropriate arrangements need to be made. Mr. G. Courtice, extension 274, will be only too pleased to accommodate your requests or enquiries in this regard.

"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.