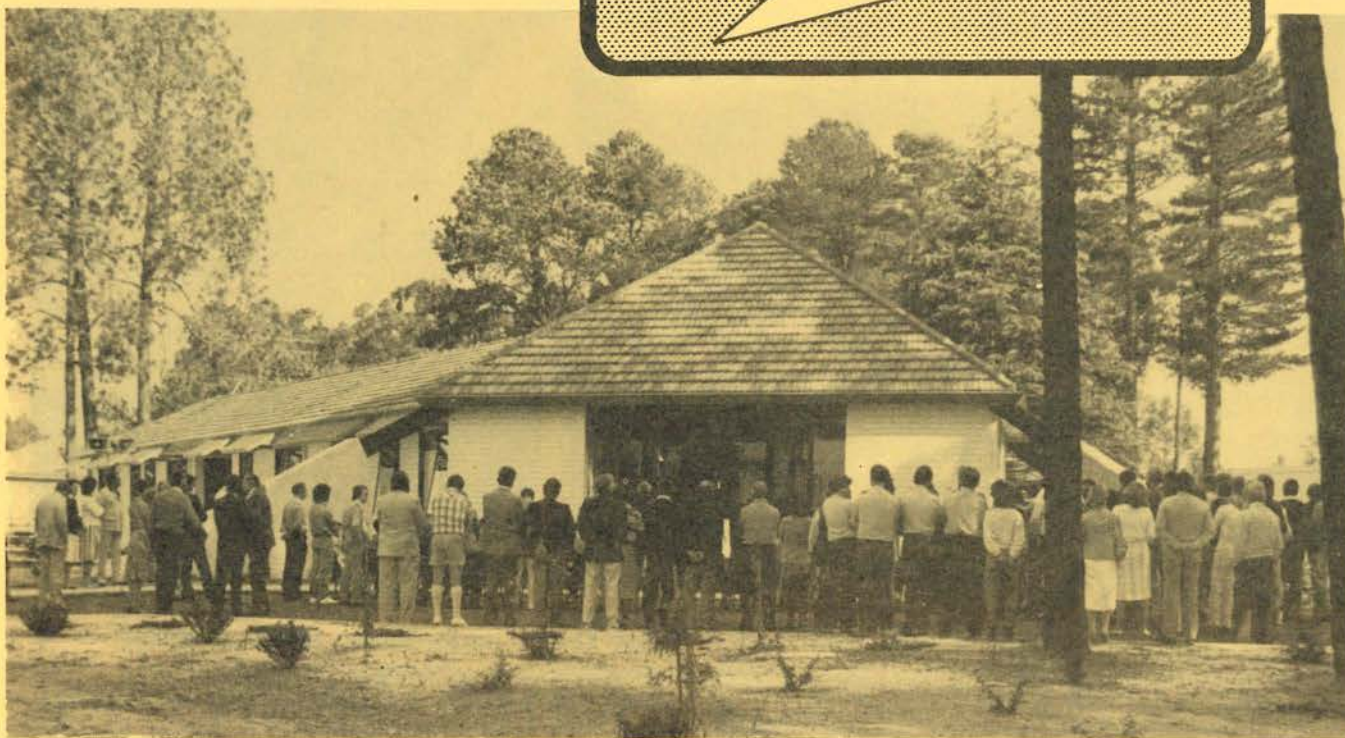




BUSH TELEGRAPH



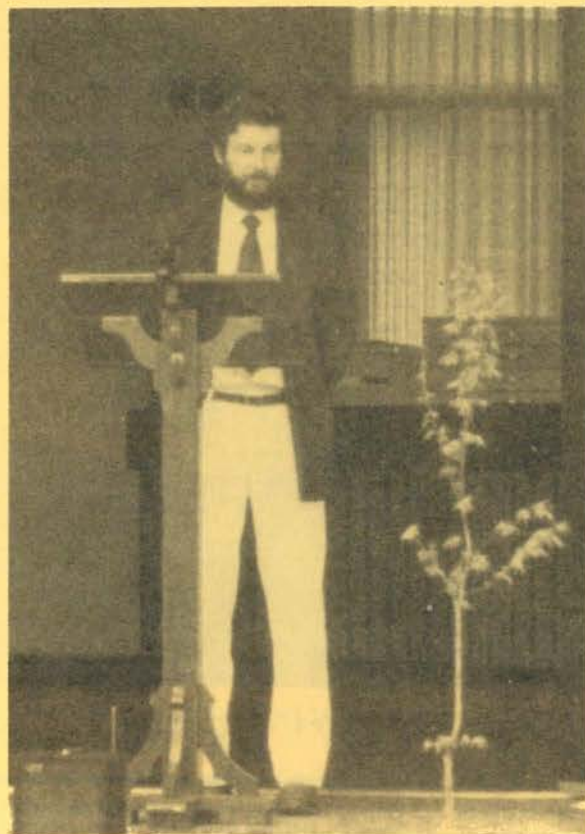
MANJIMUP IN THE LIMELIGHT

Part of the crowd outside the new offices.

Manjimup Divisional Office was opened by the Premier, Brian Burke, (Friday 26 October) in front of a large crowd of VIPs, contractors, Department staff, families and friends.

Preceded by Chris Muller's welcome and Pat McNamara's overview speech, the Premier used the occasion to make several important announcements:

- (1) He alluded to the urgent need to develop and maintain a viable pine-timber industry in order to replace the hardwood resource, and promised government incentives for the encouragement of agroforestry in the area.
- (2) He spoke of the government's commitment to the improved utilization of forest products through research and the need to double the annual area of hardwood rehabilitation; and
- (3) He stressed the government's support of foresters' work. The Premier pointed out



Chris Muller kicks off proceedings at Manjimup.

Continued on page 2



The same crowd inside.



Don Keene supervises a transfer.

"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.

Continued from page 3

that their experience in many areas - conservation, recreation, planning, multiple use land management, biological research and fire control - would be invaluable in the newly amalgamated Department of Conservation and Land Management.

The creation of 73 new positions in the new department should give officers the opportunity for promotion, relocation and specialization.

After the official presentation and the unveiling of the plaque, everybody moved inside to inspect the new accommodation and to enjoy the vast spread and refreshments laid out in the enclosed courtyard.

It turned out to be one of the social events of the year.

Foot-Note: The government has set aside \$107,000 in the budget for the construction of a Regional Office adjacent to the newly christened Division.

Ruth Austin finishes work with I&P Manjimup on 16 November after nearly six years.

Ruth and Alan Seymour (Kirup) will be married in Manjimup on 24 November.

Ruth and Alan met when Alan was working in Manjimup in 1982. They plan to live at Kirup.

DOWN ON THE FARM

The benefits of trees on farms were discussed during a field day held on 30 October.

Demonstration plantings and experiments, which are part of a collaborative research programme of the CSIRO and Forests Department of WA, east of Mundaring were visited.

Subjects for discussion included: Agroforestry with pines; trees for shelter; trees for the control of waterlogging and salinity; species for other farm uses.

Those attending included officers from the CSIRO, the Departments of Agriculture and Forestry, and interested farmers.

CRIC 84

On Saturday 13 October 1984 the third annual Central Region Indoor Cricket competition was held in Bunbury. The eight a side competition was hotly contested, with Kirup and Collie making the Grand Final.

Collie eventually triumphed, after a magnificent Captain's effort by "Bulldozer" McKenzie.

Placings were 1st Collie, 2nd Kirup, 3rd Bunbury, 4th Harvey and 5th Nannup.

Top pair's prize was also won by Collie - young John McKenzie and Brad Commins contributing a tidy 63 runs.

To bring everyone up to date - previous winners were Collie in 1982 and Kirup in 1983.

A special thanks must go to Busselton Division. For the third year in a row they didn't tell anybody, and failed to show up.

Next year we will be looking for a replacement for Busselton to maintain the six team competition.

Any responses to Mr G Stanger c/o Grimwade.

HOWZAT!

Ian Old
Nannup

★ ★ ★

The field day coincided with the release of an economic report by Dr David Morrison, of the Department of Agriculture, and Dr George Malajczuk, of the Forests Department.

They concluded that combining forestry and grazing could be twice as profitable as pure cattle raising for Manjimup district farmers.

Releasing the report, the Premier and Minister for Forests, Mr Burke, said it confirmed the Government's view that agroforestry could help accommodate the State's need for timber while maintaining the Manjimup district's agricultural base.

He said the Government was developing incentive schemes for farmers to begin practising agroforestry and these would be presented soon.

Copies of the report are now being distributed by the Publications Branch, Phone Como 329 and ask for Robyn.

★ ★ ★

Roger Edmiston (Como) has also been "down on the farm", helping the Land Management Society promote the use of tagasaste - formerly known as tree lucerne.

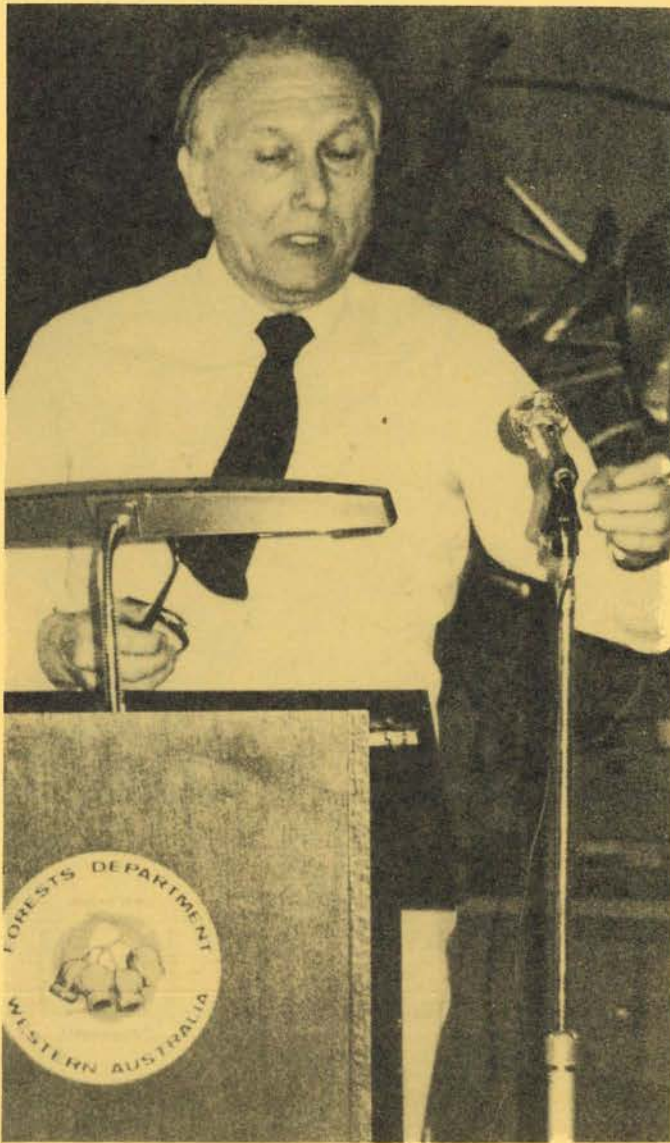
About 45 farmers and scientists with a special interest in tagasaste recently gathered at a Dandaragan property to discuss techniques of growing and using the plant, and to inspect plantations on the property.

Tagasaste, a leguminous tree or shrub, is an ideal feed supplement, producing large quantities of high protein, palatable fodder. It has adapted to a wide range of soils and climates, and seems to grow virtually anywhere.

Roger demonstrated a small scarifier suitable for tagasaste seed and said scarified seed had been found more satisfactory than boiled seed.

Seed had been planted with a cone seeder and remained dormant until after rains, when very good germination resulted.

In the Department trials Roger aims to develop a low plant, which with close planting can be handled as a pasture. It could then be grazed rather than topped.



Dr Alan Richardson.

FIRE SCHOOL

Every year, tonnes of leaves and twigs fall from trees and are scattered over the floor of the forest. As they build up in the undergrowth so does the risk of wild and uncontrolled fires.

By reducing the litter in different patches of forest the risk of a large running fire is also reduced. The operation, of course, requires skill, and a wealth of experience has been built up over the years.

As part of the Department's specialized staff training programme some seventy officers have recently been involved in fire control schools held in Busselton. Those participating have included officers from the Tasmanian Forests Commission, the W.A. Bush Fires Board and the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and rangers from the National Parks Authority, as well as Foresters.

Guest speakers at the school were Dr Alan Richardson, a lecturer in psychology from U.W.A. and Mr Norman Venus, a specialist from the Australian Institute of Management. Training included lectures on leadership and coping with stress, simulated exercises, introductions to new equipment and 'drilling' in correct procedures. While the controlled burn programme is paramount, the procedures and training were also applicable to the wildfire situation should it occur.

GO FOR IT

The Churchill Trust invites applications from Australians of 18 years and over from all walks of life who wish to be considered for a Churchill Fellowship to undertake, during 1986, an overseas study project that will enhance their usefulness to the Australian community.

No prescribed qualifications are required, merit being the primary test whether based on past achievements or demonstrated ability for future achievement.

Fellowships are awarded annually to those who have already established themselves in their calling. They are not awarded to students or for basic study, nor for the purpose of obtaining higher academic or formal qualifications.

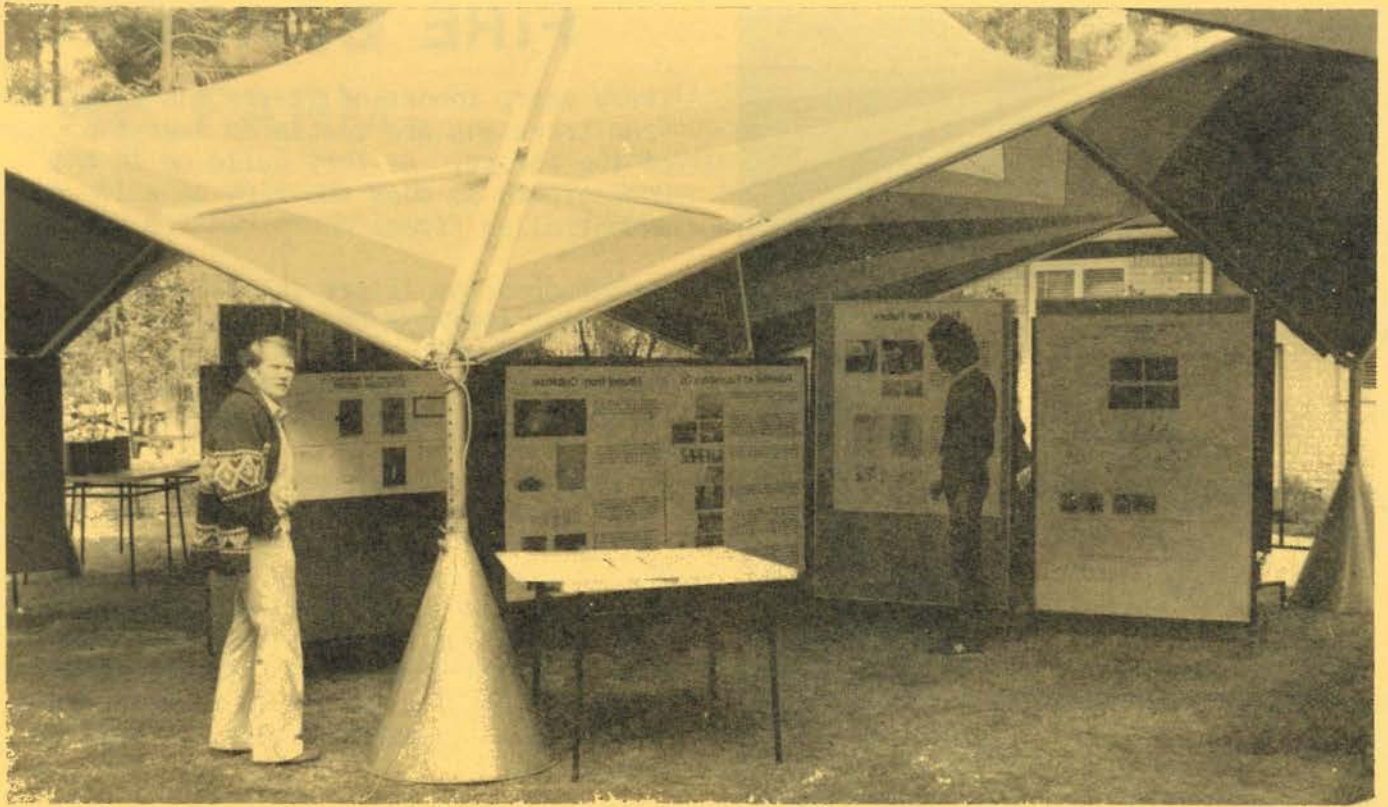
Successful applicants normally go overseas for about ten weeks and visit about two to four countries in pursuit of their studies. The Trust pays their air fares and a living allowance while overseas, as well as tuition fees and a family allowance if this can be shown to be necessary.

About 50 Australians are selected each year.

Details may be obtained by writing to:

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust (2)
GPO Box 478
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Completed application forms and reports from three referees must be submitted by Thursday 28 February 1985.



The static display at the 1984 Research Conference.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Forest Managers and Researchers got together again early this month at a three day Research Conference conducted by the Department in the State Headquarters, Como.

The conferences are held every year so that researchers and forest managers can discuss each others problems and be aware of needs.

Guests included academics from the University of Western Australia, Murdoch University, WAIT, and the CSIRO. There were also research officers and observers from the Metropolitan Water Authority, the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, the Public Works Department and Bunnings.

Some of these agencies mounted static displays in support of the main conference. The papers presented at the conference all involved the current work of forest researchers in our native forests.

More than twenty officers presented specific papers at the conference, but broadly speaking their work falls into four main areas:

(1) The management of wood production areas involving the study of tree growth and care, their protection from wild fire and the care of the environment.

(2) Site vegetation studies as a basis for forest management - the tree care of jarrah and the management of diseased areas.

(3) Management of catchment forests including the detailed research of leaf physiology and the rehabilitation of damaged areas (disease - mining) - and

(4) The management of conservation areas (eg Perup and Dryandra). There were also speakers from the National Parks Authority and the Department of Wildlife.

Highlights of the conference were the details of fauna research presented by Dr Per Christensen and the water cycle studies carried out in the Northern Jarrah Forest by John Bartle. Conference summaries are available from Roger Underwood (Como).

Graeme Siemon's wife Heather (Busselton) won a Daily News - Police Safety Award after being spotted on the Bussell Highway recently.

Heather's impressive driving technique earned her a special sticker and puts her in the running to win the new Camira SL, from City Motors.

MARATHON EFFORT

A record 10,000 people gathered on the normally deserted banks of the Blackwood River near Bridgetown recently for the sixth annual Blackwood marathon relay.

Two hundred and sixty four 5-member teams ran, paddled, swam, rode and cycled their

way along the 56.3 km course between Boyup Brook and Bridgetown.

Three Forests Department teams contested the event this year and there were a few starters in other teams.

Although some of our 'veteran' competitors had reservations about the crowds on the day both they and the new starters were enthused by the event and are just as keen to try again.

Compared to the 56 teams entered and our 6th place in the inaugural 1980 event our 24th, 68th and 73rd placings from 270 teams was still a pretty good effort. (One team did come in 11th last year so we're blaming injuries and anything else for our poorer showing this year).

You don't have to be in it to win to enjoy the day though - the challenge is enough for some, and still others enter for the fun of a family day.

There were lots of support crew and cheer squad members to help each team member to finish and recuperate.

After each leg is done there is still plenty of interest left in the day. Team involvement is one of the great attractions of the day, so it's not all over when you've finished. Even at the end there is always an element of doubt about the team's outcome while you wait for the vets to decide whether the horse was fit enough to survive disqualification.

It was a great day and we hope to see more enthusiastic supporters and competitors next year.

Greg Strelein
Manjimup

Jan Sutton (Staff-Como) has been seconded to the Public Service Board for a period of three months.

Nadia Clark (Accounts-Como) has moved in to the staff office to cover for Jan.

✱ ✱ ✱

Note: Because of 'space' problems the third article in the 'Harvey series' has been rescheduled - to appear next issue - Editor.

Nannup's Golf

Nannup's 20th Annual Golf day was held on Saturday 20 October. Some seventy players and their friends and families attended, proof surely of the event's continuing popularity.

All three stableford events this year were hotly contested.

In the men's 18 hole stableford the winner was Tom Rouse from Dwellingup on 47 points. Arthur Holland, also from Dwellingup was the runner-up on 43 points, on a countback from Wayne Burton (Walpole).

The ladies 9 hole stableford winner was Gwen Eastman with 23 points, with Jo Edwards (22 points) as runner-up.

Colin Podziuka (27 points) won the second Bushranger's Belt, a 9 hole stableford for people without a recognized handicap. Runner up was Neil Worrell with 26 points.

The Founder's Trophy (donated by Alan and Evelyn Hill) was won by Wally and Gwen Eastman (65 points) from Lyal and Laila Guthridge (62 points).

Dwellingup took out the Niggerhead Trophy for the first time. The Niggerhead Trophy is a teams event with a minimum of three players per Division - scores are averaged. Dwellingup's team consisted of Brett Humble, Tom Rouse, Arthur Holland and Wally Eastman with average points of 43. Runners Up were Nannup with 38.7 points.

Although numbers were down slightly due to fire commitments, all participants had a most refreshing day, and was delightful to see representatives from Mapping Branch (although one female had rather odd clubs).

Perhaps representatives from Divisions like Wanneroo, Kelmscott, Harvey, Pemberton and Kirup will be able to field a team and compete for the Niggerhead Trophy next year.

Ian Old
Nannup.