



Conservation News



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APRIL 2004

'Any ranger would have done it...'

By Sue McKenna

KARIJINI Senior Ranger Paul Udinga, who saved injured English tourist Michelle Suri from being swept away during a flash flood at Karijini National Park this month, says his actions would have been those of any CALM Ranger.

Brushing aside the title of hero, Paul said: "We are all faced with situations beyond our control. Rangers do things to help park visitors every day – it's our job.

This incident put me to the test and I am glad I was able to do my best."

SES worker Jim Regan lost his life in the rescue. Paul's last memory was seeing Jim ducking out of the way of the torrent coming from above.

The rescue began on April Fool's Day with a 2.30pm emergency call to Karijini National Park headquarters to say a male British tourist, Oliver Peace, on a guided tour, had fallen at Weano Gorge.

A radio message via an emergency radio system was

received by Senior Ranger Maitland Parker, who sent Paul, Ranger Mick Sermon and PVS Information Coordinator Kellie Agar – who were about 40 minutes away working on the park's Vistat program – to the scene.

They met Hamersley Iron's Marandoo mine emergency response team and escorted them to the site. When they arrived, they were told of a second incident involving British tourist, Michelle Suri, who had fallen about six metres, in Hancock gorge, near Kermit's Pool.

"I went down into Hancock gorge with the Marandoo medics to assess both accidents," Paul said.

The police arrived and took control of the incident, along with the SES and St John's Ambulance officers. Police officer Mark McDermott met Paul in the gorge and stayed to ensure that all 'unnecessary' people were escorted out of the gorge.

Paul said his primary role was to assist emergency workers in traversing the area safely.

"It was dark and light rain was falling. We felt it was a priority to get anyone not totally necessary to the operation out of the area," Paul said.

The SES team was faced with the prospect of initiating the rescues separately and had successfully extracted Oliver by midnight. They then had to relocate their equipment to lift Michelle to safety.

"By this time it was 4am on April 2. Michelle was tied in quite tightly to a stretcher so that she wouldn't incur further injuries being winched out of the gorge," Paul said.

Paul, Mark and SES worker Ian McCallum stood in knee deep water, floating Michelle's stretcher across to the winch ropes which Jim Regan was setting up on the other side of the pool. As always, there was a trickle of water flowing into the pool from above.

"All of a sudden we heard someone yell out 'WATER' and we looked up to see a huge jet coming into the pool," Paul said.

The water rose quickly as the rescuers clung to the side of the pool trying desperately to get hand holds on the rocks and secure the stretcher.

"But we couldn't hold on," Paul said.

In darkness, the current swept them down another chute of water into the next pool, known as Garden Pool.

"Jim Regan was at the ropes, ducking out of the cascade of water coming down as we were all swept away," Paul said.

"I was beside the stretcher going down feet first... The force pushed us a fair way down into the water. I kept holding on to the stretcher, and concentrated on keeping Michelle's face out of the water.

"As we were spinning in the current and getting knocked around, the stretcher kept turning over. I knew that Michelle couldn't move and that if I let go, she was gone. I knew that I was in trouble, but that she was in worse trouble because she couldn't move.

"It was all black."

When they stopped, he held Michelle – still strapped into the stretcher – near the side of the pool against the current, not sure if any more torrents would sweep them away.

"The current was trying to drag the stretcher out of my hands and drag us further down the gorge. The next part of the gorge had drops of between four and 15 metres, a right angle turn and treacherous rocks," Paul said.

Michelle and Paul were alone – not knowing the fate of the other three members of the group. They stayed at the side of the pool until first light, when Paul was able to ascertain that Ian and Mark were safe around a bend.

"Until then, the rescue teams above had no idea of our whereabouts," he said.

The rest of the day was spent getting Michelle out. The police and Paul were the last out, at 4pm.

"Maitland Parker and enough people to make me think the whole of Perth was there, were at the top," he said. "It was overwhelming."

Pilbara Regional Manager Chris Muller said the rescue was a fantastic effort by Paul.

"He says any ranger would have done what he did, but he's the one who was there and did it. He certainly deserves to be recognised for his efforts."



Ranger Paul Udinga and Michelle Suri catch up in Perth after the rescue. Michelle had been on the last part of a 10-month trip around Australia when the accident happened. Photo by Sue McKenna.

Family support vital for isolated rangers

By Sue McKenna

PAUL Udinga said the experience of the rescue had not dampened his enthusiasm to continue as a national park ranger.

"The variety and challenge of the role is what I enjoy.

"It's not a nine to five job, it's a lifestyle choice. This, of course, affects my family so their support is vital," he said.

"Noelene, as with other partners of national park rangers in isolated areas, is called on to do a variety of tasks to assist in incidents such as the recent rescue.

"They are the unacknowledged volunteer force," Paul said.

"Any time there is an incident, Noelene sets a number of things in motion such as keeping radio logs

and being a point of contact for outside services."

Paul has been a national park ranger for 13 years, the last two at Karijini. He, Noelene and their children Ben (12) and Elise (6) spent 10 years living in a caravan during Paul's time as a mobile ranger working in 15 different national parks across WA.

Paul said he would like to thank everyone who gave him support during the rescue and also those who supported his family during a very stressful time.

Special thanks went to Kellie Agar, PVS Co-ordinator, Senior Ranger Maitland Parker, Ranger Mick Sermon, Indigenous Trainee Cecilia Parker, Karijini Visitor Centre staff, Camp Host Ian Nichols, park rangers across the State and other CALM staff who offered their support through calls and emails.

"Finally I would like to thank the SES and Police for the support, dedication and professionalism they offer any time an incident occurs in the park," Paul said.



Paul Udinga's family support – wife Noelene and children Ben and Elise. Photo by Paul Udinga.

Working Together

National parks around the world are major destinations for local people and tourists alike, for the recreation and inspiration that their landscapes and wildlife provide.

Providing for recreation and nature-based tourism in a way that is compatible with conservation in national parks and other areas that we manage is one of the Department's statutory functions. Our records show that visitation is climbing towards 11 million visits annually to our parks and reserves, as well as a six-fold increase in the number of commercial tour operators over the last 10 years.

Providing an enjoyable but safe experience for visitors is a key part of our role, through pre-visit information, on-site signage and information, provision of safe access and facilities, tour operator licensing and accreditation, and personal contact through national park rangers, other staff, campground hosts and other volunteers. Our comprehensive visitor risk management program also includes site assessments and analysis of incidents to see what can be improved.

Nevertheless our national parks and reserves are natural places, there are hazards, and regrettably accidents do happen.

When they do, our staff are regularly at the forefront of search and rescue operations, often in difficult and dangerous situations, and often alongside the Police and SES volunteers. The recent rescue of two injured tourists in Karijini National Park, featured on the front page of this Conservation News, saw the tragic loss of SES volunteer Jim Regan. It also exemplified the selfless commitment and professionalism of national park ranger Paul Udinga, his work colleagues and their families at Karijini. The qualities of our staff in responding to emergency situations continues to be one of the strengths of the organisation, and one that serves the community well.

Keiran McNamara, Executive Director



Turtle centre opens at Ningaloo



At the opening were (back row, from left) Roland Mau, Kate Macgregor, Tourism Minister Bob Kucera, Terry Harrington, Ben Fitzpatrick, Tony Howard and Arvid Hogstrom and (seated at front) Jennie Cary and Daniel Oades.

By Kate Macgregor

A spectacular Ningaloo sunset and a rare shower of rain created the perfect setting for the recent opening of the Jurabi Turtle Centre.

The new interpretive facility, located in the Jurabi Coastal Park adjacent to the Ningaloo Marine Park, was opened by the Tourism Minister Bob Kucera.

The centre will promote conservation of threatened marine turtles that nest on Ningaloo's beaches and support a sustainable ecotourism industry in the area.

The facility, designed by CALM's Recreation and Landscape Unit, consists of a unique timber-decked structure covered by shade sails that is designed to resemble a turtle.

Exmouth District Staff and the Interpretation and Visitor Information Unit worked together to produce a creative range of interpretive materials that inform visitors of turtle biology, threats, conservation measures and the correct way to observe nesting turtles without disturbing them.

The project is a joint venture between CALM and the Shire of Exmouth.

One of the most exciting aspects of the centre is that it has drawn together a wide range of stakeholders, including government, community groups, Indigenous people and private enterprise.

Representatives from these groups worked together on the project and will continue to contribute to the centre's goals of promoting turtle conservation, supporting a sustainable wildlife based tourism industry and enriching the experience of visitors to the area.

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Smiles as Brixton Street conserved for future

By Rhianna Mooney

PLENTY of smiling faces graced Kenwick last month when the 19-hectare Brixton Street Wetlands area was handed over to the Conservation Commission as a nature reserve.

The fight to save Brixton Street Wetlands, one of the metropolitan area's most diverse wetlands and home to 320 species of native plants, began in the 1970s when the State Housing Commission purchased it for development. Community concerns during the 1980s fuelled a campaign to save the area.

Public pressure and an understanding of the biodiversity values of the site led to the Environmental Protection Authority recommending against the site's development in 1991, and supporting the move to class it as a nature reserve.

In January this year, the Department for Planning and Infrastructure purchased the land. Jeremy Dawkins, Chairman of the WA Planning Commission, was on hand at a ceremony to represent the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and present the Environment Minister with the management

agreement documents.

Environment Minister, Dr Judy Edwards, said the wetlands had now been returned to the community.

"Many people have been waiting a long time for the day when the way would be clear for the wetlands to be handed over to the Conservation Commission for management by CALM," Dr Edwards said.

She added the condition of the wetlands was a testimony to the hard work of many people including the Friends of Brixton Street, the Perth Wildflower Society, the Waterbird Conservation Group and the Environmental Weeds Action Network, which have all contributed to the ongoing management of the wetlands.

Dr Edwards singled out the work of Alex Errington, who has returned to CALM after 10 years as Deputy State Ombudsman, to revisit many of the land tenure recommendations that have been put on hold or not been completed.

"Alex has contributed many years of outstanding service as a senior public servant, and has been a prime driver behind having Brixton Street Wetlands dedicated as a nature reserve," she said.

Urban Nature for urban bushies

ANOTHER cause for smiles last month was the launch of CALM's Urban Nature program.

Environment Minister, Dr Judy Edwards, identified the handover of Brixton Street Wetlands as "a great day for conservation" especially because it was also the launch of the Urban Nature program, which built on the EcoPlan program that had been running since 1991.

The launch of Urban Nature marked the fruition of a State Government initiative to provide support to community groups in their efforts to manage bushland and wetlands.

Dr Edwards said this initiative assisted the development of partnerships with the community, which provided support critical to conserving areas such as the Brixton Street Wetlands.

"The program will identify and promote appropriate techniques for bushland and wetland management; work with the Bush Forever office to promote effective management of Bush Forever sites and raise

public awareness about urban bushland," Dr Edwards said.

"Another initiative is to build on Skills for Nature Conservation, a program run in partnership with the Swan Catchment Centre and Greening Australia (WA), which provides free training in all aspects of bushland and wetlands management for community groups as well as people working professionally in bushland restoration."

Urban Nature Coordinator, Margo O'Byrne, said the program had been running since 1 July 2003.

"Since the program started we've taken on two graduate recruits, Renee Miles and Lisa Bland, with Kate Brown joining us soon as Bushland Management Advisor," she said.

"Urban Nature has a bigger role of coordination, and we are able to work with land managers as well as Friends groups to achieve better outcomes for bushland."

For more information about Urban Nature and its projects, visit www.naturebase.net/urbannature.



Pictured at the handover of the Brixton Street Wetlands and official launch of Urban Nature were (from left) Chairman of the WA Planning Commission, Jeremy Dawkins; CALM Executive Director, Keiran McNamara; Environment Minister, Dr Judy Edwards; Urban Nature Coordinator, Margo O'Byrne; and Urban Nature's Lisa Bland and Renee Miles at Brixton Street.

Corporate Executive changes

CALM's Director of Corporate Services, John Byrne, has been seconded as Interim General Manager of one of the State Government's new Shared Service Clusters for six months.

His work will cover the Departments of Culture and the Arts, Justice, Community Development and Local Government and Regional Development, the Disability Services Commission and many small agencies.

In his absence, Ron Kawalilak, the Director of Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs, is Acting Director of Corporate Services. Caris Bailey, who was until recently the

Acting Director of Sustainable Forest Management, is Acting Director of SDCA.

The Acting Director of Sustainable Forest Management is Paul Jones.

John said he was looking forward to the period of change.

"When I joined CALM as Manager of Financial Services, debt was increasing by more than \$10 million a year. This was threatening the future of CALM, so it was my brief to manage the problem.

"At one time CALM had \$130 million of debt but is now free of debt... Although it's history now, it's still important to me," John said.

New tourist facilities around Walpole

THREE new tourist facilities for the proposed Walpole Wilderness Discovery Centre have been described as providing "something for everyone".

The \$1 million centre will be spread over three sites: Mount Frankland, the Valley of the Giants and Swarbrick Forest, north-west of Walpole.

"It will allow a range of people to get a range of wilderness experiences," according to CALM's Frankland District Manager Peter Bidwell.

Each facility will provide a unique

experience.

Facilities at Mount Frankland will allow visitors to experience an introduction to the concept of wilderness, and the biodiversity and ecological values of the region.

The Valley of the Giants will include an outdoor classroom and provide directions to places to explore.

"Swarbrick, eight kilometres north of Walpole, will provide a human story. It will be telling the 'hard work' story of the area," Peter said.

He said the story of Indigenous

people, the early group settlers, local logging workers and conservationists would be told through artwork, including sculptures, and some interpretive panels at the site.

The sites were recommended by independent consultant Tourism Coordinates which was engaged by the Walpole Wilderness Area Community Advisory Committee to provide recommendations on the function, location and feasibility of the centre.

Work on the project is expected to start in September 2004.



Environment Minister Judy Edwards (centre) was pictured at Frankland, where a new tourist facility is proposed, with Walpole Wilderness Area Community Advisory Committee members (left to right) Councillor Alex Syme (Shire of Denmark), Dr Elizabeth Edmonds (community representative), Simon Neville (Denmark Environment Centre), Donna Selby (community representative), Ted Middleton (Shire of Manjimup), Simon Watkin (community representative), Jim Sharp (Director Parks and Visitor Services, CALM), Peter Bidwell (Frankland District Manager, CALM), Gary Schwab (William Bay National Parks Association) and Geoff Fernie (community representative).

Right on track

On Track is a monthly article sponsored by Corporate Executive, designed to illustrate CALM's strategic directions and corporate values. CALM's Science Director, Neil Burrows introduces this month's feature and explains the Statewide regional herbaria network...

"UNDER the guidance and support of CALM's WA Herbarium, more than 500 volunteers maintain and develop regional herbaria at 70 locations throughout WA.

"The volunteers' efforts augment the scientific understanding and knowledge of WA's regional plant communities, and assist CALM in sharing the information with the broader community.

"It is important this knowledge is able to be tapped in areas where conservation and recovery actions are being implemented.

"This month's story is about a local 'node' of the WA Herbarium – a Bunbury volunteer group – that has worked tirelessly in partnership with CALM's regional and district staff to contribute to scientific understanding of plant biodiversity in the South West, and to share this knowledge with the community.

"I acknowledge their teamwork, professionalism and commitment."

After seven years of volunteering their botanical skills and knowledge, a group from the Bunbury Naturalists' Club recently celebrated the opening of the South West Regional Herbarium at CALM's Bunbury Regional Office.

Since they began working as a herbarium team, the volunteers have donated more than 5,000 hours of botanical expertise and turned a small local flora collection into a significant representative collection of South West flora.

Their work covers labelling, identifying, pressing and mounting plant specimens provided from their own field work or from Departmental staff who return with specimens after surveys.

The volunteers update the specimens with name changes provided by the WA Herbarium and maintain more than 4,500 plant specimens in an expanding collection representing more than 90 plant families.

As well as their contributions to the WA Herbarium, the volunteers assist with biological surveys, implement recovery actions and assist in reserve management. In 2004 they will continue to process new plant specimens and identify gaps in existing collections that will lead to surveys in target areas.

They always welcome new volunteers. For further information please contact Teneille Brown, CALM Bunbury on 97254300, or email teneilleb@calm.wa.gov.au



Pictured were (back row, left to right) were, Mike Webster, Barb Edwards, Gloria McNeerney, Rita Watkins, Olga Green, George Watkins. (front row left to right) Jean Walker, Shirley Fisher, Lyn Clarke, and Sandra Fussell. Photo by Teneille Brown

Winners and grinners

EARLY mornings and hard slogs seemed worth it for the CALM Special Ks after they rowed to success in four events at the Lord Mayor's Cup Corporate Rowing Regatta.

Known as CALM Special Ks because their first names all start with K, CALM's Parks and Visitor Services Officers (from second left) Kate Moore, Kate Hassall, Karen Abel and Kellie Agar, all new rowers, came third in their first heat, first in the semi final, first in the novice final and then second in the women's crew final. They were coached and coxed by Jacqueline O'Toole (left).

Each event was 500 metres and saw government agencies and companies battle it out for the WA Rowing Club's annual fundraising event. Victory left a lasting taste in the mouths of some of the CALM Special K team members, who have decided to pursue their new interest in rowing and plan to join the club.



Marine conservation reserves update

THE process of creating Western Australia's newest marine conservation reserves continues for CALM's Marine Conservation Branch.

The proposed new reserves are: the Montebello-Barrow Islands; the Dampier Archipelago-Cape Preston region; the Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet area; the Walpole-Nornalup estuaries; and extensions to the Ningaloo and the Rowley Shoals marine parks.

CALM's Marine Conservation Branch manager, Dr Chris Simpson, said they were extremely busy on all the reserves.

"A draft management plan for the Rowley Shoals Marine Park was released in January and public comment closes this month," Chris said.

"Similarly, the proposal for the Montebello-Barrow Islands is still open for public comment and closes on 24 May.

Meetings

"Work towards the creation of the proposed marine conservation reserve in the Walpole and Nornalup inlets has seen the focus group already meet twice with a third meeting planned for the end of April.

"The group has recommended that the most appropriate reserve category for the area is marine park, and is developing a draft indicative management plan."

Advisory committee

Chris said the proposal for the Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet area had advanced with the advisory committee having met five times with a scheduled meeting later in April to consider public comment on the draft zoning scheme.

"In the case of the extensions to the Ningaloo Marine Park, the Coral Coast Parks Advisory Committee has provided advice on a draft management plan. The Marine Parks and Reserves Authority will be advising the Minister on the proposal."

You've got spam

By Rhianna Mooney

'SPAM' is no longer canned, processed meat but unwanted or unsolicited emails.

Spam has clogged our email inboxes – but we're not alone. It's affecting email account holders across the globe and governments are legislating against companies using unsolicited emails to market their products.

Spam is not a technological problem but a marketing technique used by companies. While we might be able to put a NO JUNK MAIL sign on our letterboxes, we can't do the same to our email inboxes.

Technology can reduce spam but can't prevent it entirely. However, there are some things we can do to reduce spam.

- Only give your email address out to sites and people that you trust.
- Check to see if the site sending the spam offers a service to unsubscribe.
- When you provide your email address on a website do not check the box that gives the site permission to add your name to other mailing lists unless you want to receive the information.
- Delete the emails without opening them.

Many of us have also noticed an increase in the number of virus alerts we are receiving. This is because more viruses are being randomly sent by email.

The viruses use subject headings such as 'here is the document' and 'please look at this' and might even claim to be a notice that a virus has been sent to another computer. These are tactics to entice recipients to open the attachment that, when opened, will infiltrate the computer system.

Fortunately, CALM, Conservation Commission and Forest Products Commission users are protected against viruses by computer software that filters and blocks certain files, and identifies and removes viruses attached to emails. To avoid the loss of any important information, the text of the email is still sent, along with an email advising that an attachment was removed.

Although users are protected again email-borne viruses, we should be wary of files that are provided on a disk and should scan the files with a virus program to be sure they're safe.

Closer involvement between CALM and Conservation Commission



Conservation Commission Chair Dr John Bailey (left) is pictured with new staff members Karen Prosser and Tom Hughson. Photo by Peter Baldwin.

By Peter Baldwin

THE Conservation Commission has said it will have closer involvement with CALM and external stakeholders during the development of management plans for the conservation estate.

Commission members have been nominated to liaise with park advisory committees and CALM planners through the various phases of management plan development.

Conservation Commission Chairman Dr John Bailey said the move was aimed at ensuring that the Commission had a more detailed understanding of issues that were being dealt with in plans so that it could add value during its deliberations on plans that came

before it for endorsement.

"It's important that a more in-depth understanding of issues is brought to the Commission by the members nominated," he said.

"This will be particularly enhanced by members' involvement with the park advisory committees that draw together a broad cross section of community interests and views."

CALM Director of Parks and Visitor Services Jim Sharp welcomed the initiative as a logical and important action given the Commission's statutory responsibility for the preparation of management plans through CALM.

"The closer involvement of Commission members will also help to ensure that the plans incorporate key performance indicators for

important issues that further supports another key Commission function of auditing our performance in implementing the plans," he said.

Members and the plans they are to be involved with are: Coral Coast Parks - Bill Mitchell and Regina Flugge; Esperance Coastal Reserves - John Bailey; Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve - Jenny Davis; Kalbarri National Park - Graeme Rundle; Lane-Poole Reserve - Peter Baldwin; Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park and Parks of the Leeuwin Ridge, Scott National Park and Gingilup Swamp - Pat Barlett; Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux National Parks - Joanna Young; Walpole Wilderness Area - Joanna Young; Wellington National Park - Tom Hatton; Yanchep and Neerabup National Parks - Graeme Rundle.

Plans under development without advisory committees: Dampier Archipelago (pre-draft) - Regina Flugge; Millstream Chichester (pre-draft) - Regina Flugge, Jenny Davis; St John Brook - Graeme Rundle.

The list includes two new Commission members, Dr Tom Hatton and Regina Flugge, who started at the beginning of the year.

Other Commission appointments have included Karen Prosser as Executive Assistant, and Tom Hughson as Forest Management Auditor on a six-month contract.

Greenhouse Strategy goes on the road

By Rhianna Mooney

CALM's Greenhouse Policy Advisor, Richard McKellar has been busy during the past few months travelling across WA to discuss the draft Greenhouse Strategy and encourage stakeholders and the public to make submissions.

The draft strategy was released in December last year for public comment and the consultation period ended on 31 March. Richard and Anne Braithwaite of CALM provided executive support to the Greenhouse Task Force, which prepared the draft strategy.

Since it was released, Richard has travelled to 13 venues as far east as

Kalgoorlie, as north as Kununurra and as south as Albany to conduct public briefings and meetings with representatives from local governments, industry bodies, conservation groups and government agencies.

Richard said the draft strategy contained initiatives to minimise the impact of climate change on the natural environment.

"We need to include climate change as a risk factor in our forward planning for biodiversity protection and fire management," he said.

"Many species endemic to areas with particular climates, such as those on the southern coast or in the Stirling Range, could disappear if the local climate changes significantly."



Pictured at the Carnarvon meeting were (left to right) CALM's Richard McKellar, CEO of the Gascoyne Development Commission Sue Jones, CALM's Exmouth District Manager Jennie Cary and Chair of the WA Greenhouse Task Force Fran Logan MLA.

National award for CALM-supported research

By Tracy Peacock

PERTH university PhD student Aggie Wegner has won a national award for her research paper titled 'Building better collaboration between protected area managers and the tourism industry'.

Aggie, a Murdoch University student, won the Bill Faulkner Memorial Award for the best PhD paper at the Council for Australian Universities Tourism and Hospitality Education 2004 Conference.

CALM supports her research, which focuses on partnerships between organisations involved in the tourism industry.

CALM is an industry partner in the Sustainable Tourism Cooperative Research Centre (STCRC) which offers post graduate research education programs and scholarships.

Aggie, said she was thrilled with the award.

CALM's Parks Policy and Services Coordinator Colin Ingram said CALM was also delighted with Aggie's win, adding the Department had put forward her research topic.



Aggie Wegner (back right) pictured with (from left) Murdoch University Senior Lecturer Dr Sue Moore, CALM's Director of Parks and Visitor Services, Jim Sharp, and Murdoch University Senior Lecturer Dr Jim Macbeth.

Conservation briefs

Training status retained

CALM has retained its status as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) for another five years after meeting all 12 standards set by the Australian Quality Training Framework.

Organisation, Learning and Development Coordinator, Alan Byrne, acknowledged the outstanding efforts of the staff at the Dwellingup Training Centre, in particular, Laura Sinclair, Michelle Anderson and David Rawet and his team in Fire Management Services.

Forests links

A daily bulletin message sent out last month by CALM Librarian Lisa Wright asking for people who knew, or knew of people who knew, C.E. Lane-Poole (who left the Forests Department in 1921) brought plenty of responses.

Lisa was surprised at the response and was able to provide the James Cook University researcher seeking the information with many contacts.

"The ties to the forestry community remain strong and I am often pleasantly amazed when I am undertaking research how much knowledge and history is maintained in the minds of the families of the original foresters," she said.

Thematic interpretation

Professor Sam Ham from the University of Idaho's Department of Resource, Recreation and Tourism will present a two day workshop on thematic interpretation next month.

Professor Ham said the use of themes improved visitor experience in nature or cultural-based tourism.

The workshop was organised by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation

with support from CALM and Perth Zoo. It is suitable for communication and interpretation staff and provides practical skills and ideas on thematic interpretation.

It will be held at Perth Zoo on 6 and 7 May. Contact Gil Field on 9334 0580 or by email (gilf@calm.wa.gov.au) for more information or to obtain a booking form.

10,000 milestone

The Science Division's online bibliography of research papers about Western Australia's flora, fauna and forests since the 1890s has reached the milestone of 10,000 titles.

In the last 19 years, Science Division scientists have produced 57 per cent of the papers listed. The bibliography can be accessed at <http://science.calm.wa.gov.au/papers/>

Staff changes . . . Staff changes . . . Staff changes . . . Staff changes . . .

Contract

Lisa Archer, Landscape Architect, Recreation and Landscape Unit, Busselton; Kelly Poultney, Officer, Wildlife Branch, Kensington; Audrey Abraham, Officer, Information Services Section; Sarah Melville, Project Officer, Parks and Visitor Services Division; Murray Carter, Projects and Policy Officer, Regional Services, Crawley; Geoff Cullen, Project Officer, People Services, Kensington; Brad Johnson, Ranger, Swan Coastal District.

Permanent

Terry Cowell, Information Services Officer, Shark Bay District; Shawn Debono, Field Officer, Donnelly District, Pemberton; Daniel Coffey, Field Officer, Environmental Protection, Kensington; Vicki Carter, Officer,

Perth Hills District, Dwellingup; Wendy Herbertson, Officer, Perth Hills District, Dwellingup; Pamela Wood, Caves Manager, Blackwood District; Tamra Chapman, Zoologist, Wildlife Branch.

Promotion

Peter Bidwell, District Manager, Warren Region, Frankland District, Walpole; John Riley, Administration Officer, Wildlife Administration, Kensington; Kevin Crane, Marine Parks Coordinator, Moora District, Jurien Bay.

Temporary transfer

Tania Donovan, Business Development Coordinator, Corporate Services, Organisational Learning and Development to Parks and Visitor Services Division,

Indigenous Heritage Unit, Kensington; Michelle Chindemi, Assistant Conservation Officer, Kimberley Region, Kununurra to Exmouth District; Tim Firth, Assistant Fire Operations Officer, Warren Region, Walpole; Sonya Brunt, Assistant Policy Officer, Parks Policy and Tourism, Kensington to Nature Conservation, Crawley.

Transfer

James Jenkin, Information Management Coordinator, Police Service to Information Management Branch.

Temporary deployment

Grant Lamb, Environmental Officer, Mundaring Officer, Environmental Protection, Kensington; Marc Barendrecht, Fire Operations Officer, South West Region, Bunbury.

Secondment

John Byrne, Interim General Manager, Shared Service Cluster; Ron Kawalilak, Acting Director Corporate Services; Caris Bailey, Acting Director Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs; Paul Jones, Acting Director Sustainable Forest Management; Gail Dodd, Interpretation Project Officer, Interpretation and Visitor Services, Kensington.

Resignation

Nicole Robinson, Research Scientist, CALM Science; Stan Sochacki, Technical Officer, CALM Science; Kate Brunt, Conservation Officer (Flora), Merredin District.

Contract ceased

Frances Kirchner, Reserves Officer, Kalgoorlie.