CALM cadet wins coveted award

BILL Cuthbert, now a park ranger at Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park, was recently presented with the coveted Keynes Memorial Prize by Minister for the Environment, Bob Pearce.

The Keynes Memorial Prize is awarded to the field cadet who demonstrates outstanding performance in both theory and field work.

The ceremony was conducted at the Lord Forrest Hotel, Bunbury, where the Minister was a special guest for the presentation.

Mr Pearce spoke highly of the cadet program, commending the course content which he said had a balanced combination of both theoretical and practical lessons.

He then presented certificates awarded by CALM, and the Principal of Bunbury South West by Alan Byrne

College, Mr Frank Whitmore, presented certificates awarded by TAFE.

Executive Director Dr Syd Shea was also on hand to congratulate and welcome the graduates into CALM and to present his special award to Donna Green and Paul Blechynden, who equalled each other for all-round merit in all aspects of the course.

Donna and Paul work as forest officers at Pemberton and Margaret River, respectively.

The other graduating cadets were Darren Ball, Mark Graves, Peter Gibson, Edward Hatherley, Daniel Hunter, Therese Jones, Matthew Lloyd, Ian Miscamble, John McKenzie and Paul Udinga.

They had all successfully completed a two-year cadetship which involves theoretical and practical lessons.

For the first year, cadets attended Bunbury South West College, studying biology, fauna characteristics and identification, ecology, mapping and horticultural soils.

Their second year was spent at CALM's Dwellingup Cadet Training Centre, where they received theoretical and practical instruction in silvicultural management, fire management, recreation, law enforcement, environmental protection and utilisation of forest products.

The course was designed to provide a steady flow of trained staff to meet CALM's needs to provide competent junior supervisors and managers and to lay the foundations on which field officers can develop satisfying careers.



Bill Cuthbert and young visitor to Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park. Photo by Les Cuthbert

