

FOREST GUIDE FOR HOLIDAY MAKERS

The publication and distribution of high quality coloured maps and a guide book to reserves near Dwellingup signals a new era in forest recreation for Western Australia.

Presented as the first of a series, designed to guide the public use of developing forest recreation facilities, the new publications will be available from the Forests Department offices at Dwellingup, the State Headquarters in Hayman Road, Como, and tourist information counters. Kevin Vear (Officer in Charge at Dwellingup) is particularly pleased with the publications, and the fact that they were available for the May school holidays.

"More and more people, every year, are seeking bush holidays to pursue outdoor activities", he said, "and this increasing popularity has brought big changes in forest management, especially in areas closer to metropolitan Perth."

"The publications give comprehensive details of the facilities being developed in the Northern Jarrah Forest Reserve, and will greatly assist our liaison with the public," said Kevin. Just over an hour's drive south of Perth, the Northern Jarrah Forest Reserve surrounds the beautiful Murray River Valley. The reserve, recently set aside for recreation and conservation, is being developed by the Forests Department to better cater for the enjoyment of the growing number of visitors, and to protect the unique jarrah forest environment for future generations.



Eugene Herbert (landscape architect) and Maxine Copeman (recreational planner) examine the new map and directory for the Northern Jarrah Forest at Dwellingup. The map and directory were released this month.

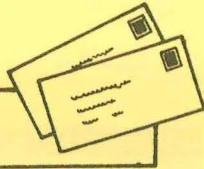
Regular holiday visitors will notice a number of changes, largely aimed at controlling traffic and moving campers away from the most popular day-trip sites. Vehicle access has been restricted near the favourite scenic spots, and these have generally been set aside as day-use areas. Secluded camping sites, for both groups and families, have been set up in alternative areas adjacent to the river.

There are a great many new facilities - toilets, car parking bays, bins, picnic tables and benches, and barbeques. Walk trails have also been formed and a children's adventure trail designed.

"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.

Letters to the Editor



Editor : Bush Telegraph

I am happy to report that we (in the West) did, indeed, seek to promptly rectify the errors that were published in Ecos No. 37, and the Journal of the Australian Institute of Horticulture inc., February, 1984 (repeat).

The following quote is from R. LEMANE, the editor of Ecos, and was his reply to a challenge by Mr McNamara on our behalf.

"....Again I would like to record my regret that the error occurred. Two letters setting the record straight will be published in the next issue under the heading 'A misquotation corrected'.

"The mistake arose from a misreading of a reference to the first Conservator's statement. It was not a deliberate misquotation. The article went through our usual checking process before publication, but unfortunately none of the people who read it noticed the error.

With the benefit of hindsight I am amazed that no-one, including myself, picked it up.

"As editor of Ecos, I am committed to its aim of describing research findings and their implications objectively. I am encouraged by the question put by your staff member: 'Should Ecos join the ranks of the emotionally committed, where else can the ordinary citizen look to get a balanced view?', as it implies that the magazine has earned a reputation for objectivity. The writers and I will be doing our best to ensure that it continues to deserve that reputation."

The full text was circulated to the regular (forestry) readers of Ecos, and I hope that further publicity in the Bush Telegraph will help to allay any lingering doubts, such as those raised in Bush Telegraph, Vol. 1 No. 11.

Alan Hill.

Feral Pig Control

In an effort to assess control measures for the growing population of feral pigs, professional hunters are being given 3 week's trial in State Forest. Using dogs to bail-up the pigs, the hunters are at present working in an area of forest between the Brunswick and Murray Rivers. The hunters will be paid a bounty of \$8 for each pig killed.

Over recent years, feral pig numbers in State Forests and reserves have increased, and their geographic range has extended. Pigs have the potential to spread diseases (including foot and mouth from cattle, and jarrah dieback fungus), pollute water supplies and damage the forest ecology.

The new campaign will complement data from existing trials which have been carried out by the Feral Pig Control Committee. When complete, information from three trial operations will go towards the planning of a comprehensive programme of control. Trapping and poison methods have already been tested.

Various Government departments - the Agricultural Protection Board, the Metropolitan Water Authority, the Public Works Department and the Forests Department - will contribute to the programme. Each department has special control requirements, depending on the areas they administer, and hunting may well prove to be the most practical method of control for water catchments.

Unnatural Laws

NINETY-NINETY RULE OF PROJECT SCHEDULES

The first 90% of the task takes 90% of the time, and the last 10% takes the other 90%.



JENNING'S COROLLARY

The chance of the bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.

Mike Skipper loading the blackboys in the Como Research Compound.

BOUND FOR JAPAN

One little two little three little in fact, there are ten blackboys (Xanthorrhoea preissii), all with new hair-cuts, waiting patiently for the paperwork to be completed so they can wing their way to Japan later this month.

The consignment, travelling deep in damp saw dust and covered with hessian, will be used to help stock an Australian display of fauna and flora at the Awaji Farm Park, in the Hyogo Prefecture.

Hyogo Prefecture is West Australia's 'Sister-state' in Japan, and a number of committees have been appointed by the State Government to encourage relationships in trade, education and culture.

The Flora and Fauna Committee comprises:

Peter Hewett F.D. (convenor),
Peter Kimber F.D. (secretary),
Colin Sanders (Dir. National Parks Authority),
Dr. Paul Wycherley (Dir. Kings Park and Botanical Gardens),
Dr. Tom Spence (Dir. Perth Zoological Gardens), and
Doug Arnold (Dir. Fisheries & Wildlife Department).

Peter Kimber tells me that live koalas are in great demand in Japan, but that W.A. has big problems supplying a few for the park. "All the other Australian states have sister-states in Japan, so we are well down the list when it comes to exporting koalas," he said.

"However," Peter said, "we do aim to provide the park with a balanced representation of Australian species - both flora and fauna, and that should go a long way towards encouraging an understanding of Australian life."



'People Talk'

Como's Social Club has come up with another winner - a night at the Cannington Greyhounds on Saturday, 9 June.

Member's double ticket (\$25) includes gate entry, a free race book, wine, beer and softdrinks from first race (6.30 pm) to last (approx. 10 pm), and a four-course carvery meal you can eat overlooking the race course. Non-members double \$40.

The 'Finishing Post' Restaurant is air conditioned, with the tables terraced back from the finishing post, and electronic tote facilities operate from within the restaurant. After the race meeting, a late night disco (also included in the price) concludes the evening.

Cannington Raceway is on the corner of Albany Highway and Station Road, and there is plenty of off-street parking in Station Street.

Money and numbers to Debby (Como 263) by 31 May.

BUNBURY GRADUATION

The 1984 Forest Cadet Graduation Ceremony was held at the Regional Headquarters, Bunbury, on Friday, 4 May.

Having completed a two-year course at Bunbury Technical College and various departmental training centres in 1983, the twelve cadets were appointed as Forest Rangers on 4 January 1984.

At 3 pm, Pat McNamara welcomed the guests and cadet's families, and David Smith, the M.L.A. for Mitchell (Bunbury) later presented the certificates and prizes.

The Keynes Memorial Prize, for the cadet showing the greatest merit in all aspects of the course went to Kylie Kau, and the Conservator's Prize, for the runner-up, went to Timothy Foley.

After completing her course, Kylie was posted to Dwellingup Division where she is currently employed on general field duties. (Kylie is overseas on leave at the moment). Tim has also been posted to Dwellingup, working with research on mine site rehabilitation.

The staff of B/T also convey their best wishes to the new team, and hope that we will continue to hear from you - wherever you are posted.

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The new line up, at Bunbury. Back row: (L-R) Frank Pridham (OIC Cadet School), Tim Foley, John Miragliotta, Malcolm Grant, Matthew Lamont, Mark Read, and Andrew Darbyshire. Front row: (L-R) Craig Cardiner, Anthony Sutton, Steven Quain, John Kain, and Larry Hantler.

ARBOR DAY

'Community involvement' has been the guiding theme for two Department officers seeking to promote Arbor Day, on Friday 8 June 1984. Tammie Reid and Drew Griffiths (Como) have again worked closely with Perth's W.A. Week Committee, and will be helping with tree awareness activities throughout the week.

During W.A. Week, Tammie and Drew will assist Perth's 'Citizens of the Year' with their tree planting ceremony on Burswood Island, and will arrange for school children to release one hundred gas filled seed-balloons. They have also arranged radio talks, and will assist with the distribution of seedlings and pamphlets prepared in conjunction with the W.A. Week's tree committee.

In an Arbor Day re-enactment of the Foundation Day ceremony, students from the Perth Modern School will dress in period costume to act the parts of Captain Stirling, Mrs Dance and the soldiers. The lunch time dramatization of the tree felling which marked Perth's first Foundation Day ceremony (1835) will take place in Barrack Street, near the Hay Street Mall, on the site of the original tree. In the Town Hall adjacent, school choirs will sing 'tree' songs; and displays by the Department of Conservation and Environment, the National Parks Authority, the Department of Agriculture and the Forests Department will be open to the public.

W.A. Week celebrations in Perth will end with a family day 'Feste' on the Esplanade, on Sunday, 10 June.

