

## NINGALOO REEF PARK

## GETS THE GO-AHEAD



● Premier Brian Burke talking to the Department's General Manager Roger Underwood about the development of the Ningaloo Reef Marine Park.

THE Ningaloo Reef is to become WA's first marine park.

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, recently announced that the development and management of the marine park had been endorsed as a joint Commonwealth-State venture under the Bicentennial Commemorative Programme.

Mr Hawke announced six Bicentennial projects for WA.

They are part of an Australia-wide programme to mark the 200th year of European settlement in Australia in 1988.

Responsibility for the Marine Park will be vested in the Department of Conservation and Land Management once the area has been declared a national park.

Management objectives for the park include the conservation, monitoring and restoration of the natural environment, and the planning and control of recreational development so that the area is protected and available to the public.

The marine section covers an area of about 5000sq km while the on-shore part of the proposed National Park covers about 35,000ha.

The proposed park extends from the North West

Cape near Exmouth south to Amherst Point, about 260km.

The Ningaloo Reef supports a diversity of marine life comparable to other major coral reef systems around the world.

It is an important habitat for marine mammals, particularly whales.

As well as the richness of its coral cover and diversity of its tropical fish, a major attraction of the Ningaloo Reef is its close proximity to the shore.

This stretch of coastline has long been popular with fishermen and in recent years the number of tourists visiting the area has steadily increased.

The Minister for Conservation and Land Management, Mr Davies, has approved a study tour of the Great Barrier Reef Marine National Park by Colin Sanders and National Park Ranger George Duxbury, who is currently based at Exmouth.

### Unusual banksia found

AN unusual banksia, thought to be a new species, has been discovered near Arthur River.

The plant, which looks like a parrot bush when in flower, blooms for a few weeks in late spring.

It was found by Ken Wallace, of Katanning, a reserve management officer with the Department.

It is known in only one locality and is believed to be sensitive to fire.

Work on the survey, which will be used to compile an atlas to record all Australia's banksia species, began last year and will end in February 1987.

The co-ordinator, Anne Taylor, of the department's wildlife section, said yesterday that about 700 people across Australia were taking part.

More than 400 people were recording in WA, where most of the banksias were found.

## Protection plan for rare species

A MAJOR initiative proposed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management is expected to facilitate the erection of fences around populations of gazetted rare plants of the wheatbelt.

Recent regeneration successes have occurred where critically small populations have been protected from stock, and the practice is to be encouraged.

The two most striking examples are the Mogumber bell (*Darwinia carnea*) and the Wongan triggerplant (*Stylidium coroniforme*).

By 1980, these species had declined to very small populations in unprotected remnants of bush on farms.

In both cases, strong seedling regeneration has occurred following the erection of stock proof fences around the adult plants.

At present 132 plant taxa are gazetted as rare flora under the Wildlife Conservation Act, and the majority occur in wheat growing districts of the State.

Under the Act, no person is permitted to damage or destroy gazetted rare flora on any land (Crown or private) without first obtaining a written permit from the Minister for Conservation and Land Management.

This enables the Minister to monitor the status of rare flora and helps prevent the destruction of rare plants in ignorance.

In practice, the work is achieved by research staff and wildlife officers searching for the plants.

Their results are communicated to flora administration staff who determine land ownership and prepare relevant letters.

The wildlife officers then deliver this information to landowners in person so that effective means of protection can be discussed.

While the overwhelming majority of land owners have expressed an interest in conserving rare flora many have been faced with the prospect of having to fence off plants at their own cost.

Most hold the view that the Government should provide some assistance with this task.

However, the resources allocated to the fencing project will not be enough to protect all deserving populations so an important step in the immediate future will be to determine priorities.

## Public Interest

MORE than 1200 public submissions on the proposed management of the Shannon Forest and D'Entrecasteaux National Park have been lodged.

One submission from the Pemberton Apex Club contains more than 4000 signatures and another submission features a video presentation.

Most of the contributions were from local residents, although their numbers were almost matched by metropolitan submissions and a few were received from the Eastern States.

There was one submission from South Africa. The Departments of Forests and National Parks prepared an interim report on the South-West forest area several months ago and called for submissions by the end of March.

CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea is delighted with the public interest.

"Once the submissions have been analysed, a draft of the area's complete management plan will be prepared for final public comment," he said.



● Phil Smith, MLA, congratulates John Carter on his achievement.

## RANGERS GRADUATE

THE last graduation ceremony for Forest Rangers was held at Bunbury on April 12.

In attendance were Philip Smith, MLA, Graham MacKinnon, MLC, David Smith, MLA and CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea.

Thirteen Forest Rangers, who completed their training in December 1984 under the Forests Department's two-year cadet scheme, graduated.

Deputising for the Minister of Conservation and Environment, Philip Smith presented the cadets with their awards.

The Keyne's Memorial Prize for the cadet showing the greatest merit in all aspects of the course was awarded to John Carter.

The Conservator's Prize for the cadet demonstrating all round ability throughout the course, was won by Stephen Davis.

At the ceremony the former Acting Conservator of Forests, Pat McNamara, made special mention of Frank Pridham's contribution to cadet training.

The cadets were also highly commended for their two-year accident free record.

**FROM MY DESK**



Older members of the Department who have read "The Wind in the Willows" will appreciate why the Matilda Bay headquarters has been tagged "Toad Hall" and (somewhat unkindly) I am being referred to as "Ratty".

Often a humorous comment contains a serious message, and there is a message in this joke which is very important.

The success of this Department will depend on many factors, but one of the most critical will be how successful the policy group interacts with the Operational, Services and Administrative wings of the Department.

Roger Underwood and I are determined that a gap will not develop between the policy and implementation group.

An understanding of the functions of the four policy directors and how they will operate in the Department will, I believe, minimize the development of a "them and us" attitude.

The policy directors have four broad functions. Firstly they will be a focal point of public contact for the policy area they represent.

Secondly, they have a corporate function as members of the senior policy group of the Department. In other words they, with Roger Underwood and myself, will be responsible for deciding major departmental policy.

Thirdly, they will have a roving commission to monitor policy implementation throughout the Department, and they will be responsible for co-ordinating major policy initiatives.

For example, Barry Wilson has overall responsibility for implementing the Ningaloo Marine Park proposal; Peter Hewett is co-ordinating the pine-agroforestry leasing scheme; and Chris Haynes has taken over responsibility for organising the initiation of the Aboriginal National Park ranger scheme.

Joe Havel is the only policy director who has 'line' responsibility.

He directs the research, planning and economics sections of the Department.

One of his principal functions, in addition to his managerial role, is to ensure the flow of technical information into the policy group.

The fourth function of the directors is one that offers the most potential for innovative and dynamic policy formulation and implementation, but it also could cause administrative problems.

There is nothing more frustrating to a Manager than to have interference in the operation of his section by senior staff communicating with staff under his control.

Tolerance is required on both sides for the system to work.

Although Policy Directors will have access to all staff in the Department, the management responsible for those staff will be advised whenever contact is being made, and no Director will make a change in an administrative arrangement without referral to an agreement with the Policy Group.

All administrative instructions will be made via the General Manager.

Communication is a two-way process.

It is important that, as well as the Policy Directors moving throughout the Department to discuss policy issues, all staff should visit the Policy Group at Matilda Bay whenever the opportunity arises.

If you have an idea or complaint, here is one way by which you can have it considered. SYD SHEA

# LANDSAT to aid forestry

LANDSAT Satellites will have an important role to play in forestry, according to Dr Brian Turner from the Australian National University.

Dr Turner, who was in Perth recently looking for an honours project for a student, addressed two seminars and attended a workshop while in WA.

One seminar was on LANDSAT satellites and the other on growth and modelling, a particular interest for him, along with simulation for silvicultural and wood volume forecasting.

Dr Turner said that until now satellite data had not been of great application to forestry.

Problems with image distortion, cloud cover, the inappropriateness of particular spectral channels and a lack of computer software, made aerial photographs more useful and economic.

However, with new satellites, well developed software systems and cheaper computer hardware, the data will become increasingly useful for forestry.

Possible uses include the monitoring of areas affected by fire, pests, flood, logging and mining.

Satellite application modelling.

## WEEKEND WORKERS

● INFORMATION centres at Mundaring and Kelmscott are open each weekend until the end of May and regular weekend patrols are undertaken in all forest areas.

Visitors have access to maps, guide booklets, and free advice on forest locations suitable for recreation and regulations covering forest use.



● Lois Carde (right) from the Kelmscott Regional Office, helps Paula Kezic from Armadale with information on forest recreation.

## JARRAH SAVED

AT LEAST 6000 WA jarrah trees will not be cut next year, thanks to a State Energy Commission decision to import NSW blackbutt for power poles.

A spokesman for CALM, John Slater, said the move was welcomed.

"We'll still supply some poles, but not as many as the SEC wants," he said.

"In the past couple of months we've been trying to turn it around, so the deals are based on what the forest can supply, not what the SEC demands."

The new poles are expected to last from 35 to 40 years.

## SEMINARS COMO RESEARCH 12.30-1.30

May 10: Stuart Crombie — "Rural dieback in New England: tree water relations".

May 24: Paul Brown — "Initial impression of tree decline in the wheatbelt".

## STAFF CHANGES

THE following staff changes have been made:

- D Gallagher: promotion to Jarrahdale.
  - M O Smith: promotion to Kelmscott I & P.
  - H Herington: transferred to Bunbury AP & I from Manjimup.
  - D P Lathwell: transferred to Manjimup from Dwellingup.
  - C E Dymond: temporary appointment to ANU Canberra.
  - A K Hill: temporary appointment to ANU Canberra.
  - M E Wilson: resignation Bunbury I & P.
  - D S Crombie: temporary appointment to Como Research.
  - D J Tenardi: permanent appointment at O.H.Q.
  - B J Fisher: temporary appointment to Bunbury (Tech.).
  - D G Kentish: permanent appointment at Busselton.
  - K Wombell: transferred to Timber Bureau.
  - J B Campbell: transferred to Timber Bureau.
  - P H Biggs: permanent appointment Bunbury I & P.
  - J R Ridley: transferred to Mundaring from Manjimup I & P.
  - S Samuels: resignation from O.H.Q. Mapping.
  - L K G Burns: resignation from O.H.Q. Registration.
  - R M Currion: transferred to Accounts from P.W.D.
  - P H Brown: transferred to Narrogin from Como Research.
  - M G Lamont: transferred to Nannup from Harvey.
  - C J Sanders: transferred to Wanneroo Research.
- The following Wildlife officers have been transferred to new locations:
- J J Alford: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - L R Anderson: Wildlife Investigations, Hay Street.
  - K J Atkins: Pingelly.
  - M L Barley: Hay Street.
  - J M Brown: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - A A Burbidge: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - H C Choo: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - P J Collins: Kalgoorlie.
  - D K Coughran: Wildlife Investigations, Hay Street.
  - R A Coughran: Manjimup.
  - P Counsel: Wildlife Investigations, Hay Street.
  - L E Coyne: Albany.
  - J C Crane: Geraldton.
  - R M Fitzgerald: Waroona.
  - G L Folley: Two Peoples Bay.
  - J A Friend: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - C J Frost: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - P J Fuller: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - P Gioia: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - J T Goodsell: Wildlife Investigations, Hay Street.
  - G R Graham: Woodvale Research Centre.
  - M S Graham: Katanning.
  - R P Gue Ho: Wildlife Investigations, Hay Street.
- National Parks staff transfers include:
- L M Roon: Como Accounts.
  - S Y Fast: Crawley.

# SEC WINDMILL TO POWER CAPE ARID

THE ranger's residence at the Cape Arid National Park on WA's south coast is to become CALM's first wind powered dwelling.

Under a State Energy Commission remote area power supply project, the cottage's power supply will be converted to a wind turbine system with the diesel generator as a back up.

The cost of installing the two kilowatt windmill is less than a quarter of the cost of extending the power main to Cape Arid.

The electricity generated by the wind turbine is stored in batteries and on full charge the batteries will last for up to five days.

Currently the diesel generator is run for 10 hours a day and causes noise and refrigeration problems.

The use of a wind generator at Cape Arid was suggested by Rangers who have lived at the site and know the wind frequency.

Besides the availability of electricity 24 hours a day, other benefits include the reduced cost and the impact overhead lines have on the landscape.

The windmill's performance will be closely monitored and the benefits of installing these turbines

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

at other CALM locations considered.

Investigations are also being made into the possible use of oil flushed toilets in National Parks where there is a water shortage, poor leaching or water catchment restrictions reduce the efficiency or exclude the use of septic tanks or leach drains.

Solar panels provide the power to recirculate the oil.

The technique has been used successfully in the Rocky Mountain National Park.

## Safety update on Sth coast



South Coast Region staff members got together at Esperance recently. Those who attended are: (from left, back row) Ian Solomon (Cape Le Grand), Chris Hunt (Cape Arid), Klaus Tiedemann, John Watson, and Steve Strachan (Stokes). (Front row) Trevor Smith (Mobile Ranger), Jim Smith (Fitzgerald River), and Richard Pemberton (Mobile Ranger).

## A MAJOR upgrading of rescue equipment is currently under way in the South Coast Region.

And Rangers in the regions were recently involved in exercises at Esperance to practise cliff rescue techniques.

This follows acting Regional Manager, John Watson's recent study tour of visitor safety programmes and rescue techniques in the US and Canada.

John undertook this study on a Churchill Fellowship.

He said he believed the upgrading of

equipment and rescue techniques was timely because of the increase in adventure activities throughout the region which encompasses the State's most serious rock climbing areas — West Cape Howe, Porongurup Range, Stirling Range, and Peak Charles.

As part of the programme to upgrade facilities, a search and rescue workshop-seminar will be held in Albany by the Regional Calm office and the Regional SES coordinator.

The workshop will concentrate on mountain rescue procedures and technique and will include workouts with several types of stretchers.



## Ranger seminar

CALM's National Park Rangers gathered in Perth earlier this month for a two-day conference.

Only emergency staff remained in the field while the 72-strong group, administration staff and supervisors were introduced to CALM's management.

For many, the gathering provided a

chance to meet old friends.

Pictured enjoying the social occasion are (from left) Ric France (Yanchep), Ron Davis (Yanchep), Karl Mucjanko (D'Entrecasteaux), Trevor Anderson — mobile (Cape Arid) and Terry Harnington (Yanchep). Martin Lloyd (Fitzgerald River) squeezed in front.

# GREENING PLAN TAKES

LIKE a well cared for seedling, the Greening Australia organization has grown rapidly in its first years.

Originally an offshoot of Bicentenary proposals from NSW and the Australian Year of the Tree (1983), the idea has spread to all states.

In WA this year funding exceeds \$80,000 and the money is being spent on a variety of projects including advisory publications and tree planting projects.

The Department of Conservation and Land Management is represented on the policy committee by the Director of Forests, Peter Hewett.

According to Dr Geoff Syme, the WA chairman,

the basic aims of the organization are:

- ★ To increase the public awareness of the value of trees and other vegetation in the community.
- ★ To encourage the retention and regeneration of native vegetation.
- ★ To encourage both rural and urban planting of trees and shrubs as part of the National Tree Programme for Australia's Bicentenary.
- ★ To provide information to all levels of Government, to the public of all ages and to organizations about the establish-

ment and the care of trees and shrubs.

- ★ To assess and make recommendations on tree projects of local Government, community groups and individuals, including applications for the financial assistance of projects and, to this end, seek and accept funds from appropriate sources, whether Government or private.

Western Australia's income includes an ongoing Federal grant (\$25,000), a State grant (\$25,000), wages for part time employees, office facilities, private dona-

tions and a special State award of \$20,000 for the funding of specific projects such as the John Tonkin Tree Award.

Most important projects this year include suburban tree establishment programmes in Melville and Belmont, the continued upgrading of the Milyu Nature Reserve, and the publication of an urban guide for gardens and wildlife.

In the rural scene, the organization is assisting the Wickiepin Soil Conservation District with the desalinization of Lake Toolibin, and has published a small brochure explaining tax concessions for farmers planting trees.

A comprehensive "Manual of Community Participation" is also being produced.

## SHOOT

# UPGRADING FOR RADIO SERVICES

RADIO services within the new Department are being rapidly upgraded and reorganized so that field staff throughout the State can more easily communicate.

The revamped service will operate in two bands: VHF within the Northern, Central and Southern forest regions, and HF over the rest of the State.

The VHF system will also be extended to include Narrogin and Albany.

Officer-in-Charge of Radio Communications, Graeme Hutchinson says that his 11 staff have been busy over the last months installing new equipment for National Park Rangers.

"They have been our first priority," said Graeme. "Their existing equipment was outdated and in urgent need of integration with other services."

Forty-two new and additional HF radios will be installed by the next fire season.

A regional HF base station will be set up at Albany, and existing stations at Kalgoorlie, Karatha and Kununurra are being upgraded.

Long-term plans also include HF bases at Geraldton, Carnarvon and Esperance.

Centralized control of the HF operation at Como is being improved with the building of a quiet receiver location east of the Darling Scarp.

Statewide transmissions received at the site will be transferred by a two stage microwave link to Operations HQ at Como.

Other major Government departments, including the WA Bushfires Board and the Police are also expected to make the most of this

major reconstruction of transmission facilities.

Significant improvements in VHF radio communication technology also mean that officers from the WA Bushfires Board, the Department and local Shires can easily talk to each other.

New VHF radios being installed contain microprocessors which enable the mobile receiver to continually monitor up to 40 different channels.

## W.A. tree plant

INTERNATIONAL conservation group, Men Of The Trees, expects to plant more than 40,000 trees throughout WA over the next 12 months.

According to the group's spokesman, Mr Barrie Oldfield, there is a need for trees to be planted in WA to help counteract the rate at which forest areas are being destroyed.

United Nations figures show that 17ha of forests are lost throughout the world every minute by clearing for development and felling for timber.

In the WA wheatbelt alone, Mr Oldfield said an area as big as Rottne Island is lost every week due to wind erosion, and an equivalent area is also lost every month because of encroaching salinity.

# Consensus on reserve areas

THE establishment of conservation reserves in the northern jarrah forest region of WA highlights the ability of the mining and timber industry, conservationists and Government departments to reach agreement on conservation issues.

The Premier, Mr Burke, in December, 1984, announced that 97,000ha of State Forest between Mundaring and Bridgetown would be set aside as jarrah forest reserves.

The proposed reserves date back to the early 1970's when the least disturbed and best preserved areas were identified as a core on which the exploitation of minerals and timber was undesirable.

The proposal included surrounding the cores with a buffer in which outside activities, such as mining and timber cutting, were to be absorbed and reduced in intensity.

The problem with the reserves was that the reserves were covered by Alcoa's bauxite mining leases, and they contained a considerable amount of the State's remaining timber resources.

Public support of the reserves led to the proposal being submitted to and accepted by the System 6 committee.

Within Alcoa, arguments for designating areas of the mining lease for conservation were pursued by successive environmental managers, George White and Barry Carbon, and by John Quilty.

In September 1983, Alcoa, the timber industry and the Mining Management Planning and Liaison

Group (MMPLG) accepted a modified plan to establish a 49,000ha reserve in the Murray River Basin.

However, the reserve covered only some of the vegetation types considered desirable for conservation.

Further negotiations were initiated in late 1983 to cover the rest of the System 6 proposal that fell within Alcoa's lease.

A Reserves Review Committee comprising representatives from Alcoa, the timber industry, the Conservation Council and relevant Government departments was set up.

A smaller working group

was given the task of developing a compromise proposal after agreement could not be reached.

Joe Havel (formerly Forests Department) and David Bennett (formerly CSIRO), who are now with CALM, mediated in the negotiations, which reached a breakthrough in September, 1984.

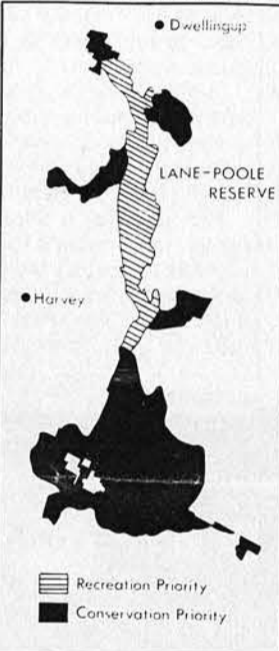
This resulted in a further 48,000ha being added to the jarrah forest reserves in the northern jarrah forest, bringing to 97,000ha the total reserve areas.

The largest and most significant of the reserves, a 52,000ha site centred in the Murray River Basin, will be named the Lane-Poole Reserve after WA's first Conservator of Forests, Mr Charles Lane-Poole.

(Mr Lane-Poole is regarded as the architect of forestry policy in WA and is responsible for much of the preservation of forestry land in the South West.)

In announcing the reserves, Mr Burke paid tribute to the role played by the major parties in the negotiations which were based on objective technical grounds and undertaken in a climate of compromise.

He said Alcoa and the timber industry have foregone access to resources of considerable value so that the reserves could be established to enhance the State's heritage.



# Society active in field

WA soils and landscapes are generally fragile and infertile by world standards, and in some areas agriculture has caused land degradation.

Farmers and researchers who were keen to do something about local problems formed the Land Management Society about 18 months ago.

It comprises 280 landowners and scientists who are working to improve the commitment of farmers to land conservation techniques.

The prime objective of the Society is to promote the management of agricultural and pastoral land for optimum productivity while maintaining fertility, stability and land values.

The society's 1985-86 programme is to encourage better land management through the development of an education package and the participation of young farmers in zone workshops.

The education package will draw on WA case studies such as Soil Conservation District projects, industrial projects and farmer experience.

In respect to the zone workshops, the society currently has eight zones ranging from Northampton near Geraldton to Esperance on

the south coast. Information on the Society and its activities is available from the Executive Officer, Georgina Shepherd, on (09) 321 8981.

CALM News will publish a series on WA's Conservation Groups and the work they are involved in.

This month we look at the Land Management Society.



At the Frankland Below Gordon Field Day L.M.S. Council member Ron Watkins brought in a backhoe to dig soil profile pits to illustrate water movement six metres below ground.

# Breakthrough for cuttings

The technique of growing pine trees from cuttings and needle fascicles has been perfected at the Wanneroo Research Station by forester, Gordon Chester.

## FARMERS' SEMINAR

More than 60 farmers from as far afield as Bremer Bay and Tenterden attended a tree seminar at Mt Manypeaks on March 12.

The day was split into two major segments: Trees for Profit and Trees for Protection.

In the morning Peter Jenkins, from Busselton, spoke on agroforestry, and Peter Richmond spoke on plantation forestry, establishment, and maintenance.

John Moulden, an entomologist from the Department of Agriculture, talked about insects and their control.

In the afternoon Dr John Watson, the Regional Manager of the South Coast introduced CALM to the audience, and was followed by Miss Terri Smith from Greening Australia.

John Humphreys later spoke on protection forestry.

It is a break-through which has enormous potential for softwood forestry in WA.

While development of the operation has taken nearly two years, Gordon is now confident that the method can be put on a commercial footing, based at the Manjimup nursery.

Gordon's success is based on constant, monitored misting to keep the new plants alive until they take root.

Given the ideal tree characteristics required for a particular aspect of forestry and a bank of parent material, an operation can now be set-up to produce copies in bulk.

Interest in agroforestry is high at the moment and good planting stock is required urgently.

Ideally the trees should have fine branches, straight stems and denser wood to make the most of the wide spaced planting required.

The situation is ideally suited to Gordon's propagation techniques and the target for this year is to produce 30,000 new trees in order to start farm trials and satisfy initial farmer demands.

Young selected parent stock is chosen or grown from seed to provide the new material.

Later, needle fascicles and cuttings taken from these clone banks in Spring and Autumn are treated with a hormone to stimulate root growth, and placed in special nursery beds of coarse river sand.

A mini computer and sensing devices monitor the humidity in the covered beds and the new plants are automatically kept moist.

Within a month a callus forms and roots develop so that the plant can be potted.

After six months the potted stock is ready for planting out.

Field trials of cuttings growing in the Sunlands are already doing well and Gordon has also had Manjimup nursery soil trucked to Wanneroo for successful nursery trials.

Much of Gordon's work now will involve liaison with Operations staff to get the Manjimup nursery procedure up and running.

After that, there will be new challenges back in the laboratory.



• Gordon Chester with his cuttings at Wanneroo.

## Changes planned with programmes

Major changes to the Department of Conservation and Land Management's computer facilities will greatly improve day-to-day management.

The Records Management System developed by titles of files, their current location, and brings up, currently being installed on the Department's Perkin Elmer computer.

Work is expected to be completed in the central binocular of words in the ti-Records area by December, but some areas will be available from June or available for use for District and specialist branch.

The system stores records, small libraries, literature retrieval (e.g. research), storing circulars and accident reports.

Stage two of the project is planned for the second half of 1985 and will implement additional computing systems to assist with stock control, word processing and electronic mail.

The stock control programme will enable each District to create a computerized inventory of minor equipment and maintenance schedules, and the electronic mail system purchased by the Department will allow all users to send 'mail' to any other computer terminal.

A service will be provided by Records Section in OHQ to receive mail at their terminal and deliver it to any designated person in OHQ.

In this way the 'mail' system will be similar to a Telex, but will not incur a transmission cost.

A submission has also been made to the Department of Computing and Information Technology to install the LEX word processing package on the Perkin Elmer.

All Districts will be able to use this package with their existing terminals and printers in the new year.

Documents prepared with the LEX word processor will also be able to be transferred to, and delivered by, electronic mail.

## Historic sites recorded

Ian Jacobs from the Department's Inventory and Planning Branch at Bunbury knows that there are more attractions in our bush than flora and fauna.

Ian is a keen historian who has uncovered a number of items that indicate how forest activities were carried out in the past.

He has stumbled on these while combing the forest during inventory work.

One of his most interesting finds is of a stump with a staging plank still in the position it was left when the tree was felled decades ago.

Ian has also located a 'Chinaman's ramp' used for loading gravel trucks with a bulldozer.

Another find was of wooden rails and sleepers from an old logging tramway.

Ian has found numerous other sites and has recorded their location and description on survey assessment sheets.

These locations are relayed to various Districts so that they can be included on the Hardwood Operations Central System and, if warranted, the site protected.

## FOREST CADET SCHOOL HISTORY

Formal training of Forests Department's field staff started in 1921, when a Forest Apprentice School was opened at Ludlow.

The school established the basic concept of Field Officer training, putting major emphasis on practical activities with adequate supporting theory.

The students included new recruits and officers experienced in the timber industry.

In 1952 a major restructuring took place. Dwellingup became the chief training centre, although other forestry centres were used as well.

The course became more concentrated and more closely integrated with the local Divisional works programme, and cadets graduated every second year.

The main shortcomings of the system were its lack of training facilities and its failure to provide the numbers of recruits required annually.

In 1969 a further restructuring took place, and the course was divided into two separate academic years; the first at a Technical College, the second with the Forests Department.

The result was an annual graduation of cadets. For nine years, the first year of a cadetship was held at Mt Lawley Technical College.

In 1979 the first year course moved to Bunbury Technical College.

This association between Bunbury Technical College and the Department has produced 72 Forest Rangers, and there are currently 24 cadets in training.



• Leonie Burns and (Dr) Gary Robinson at the CALM-DOWNER.

## Social News

A highly successful social gathering was held at Operations Headquarters on Friday, April 19. The first function since amalgamation, the event was appropriately billed as a CALM-DOWNER, and gave everybody at Como a chance to meet and socialize.

The president of the old Forests Department Social Club, Drew Griffiths made the most of the opportunity to encourage new staff to join.

Now simply referred to as the Social Club, the existing constitution will be amended at the Annual General Meeting in July.

Membership of the club is voluntary and the deduction of \$1.00 from each pay is used to subsidize all functions.

The Club's present committee is:

Cheryl Watters (secretary); Debbie Greaves (treasurer); Ian Frame (vice president); Ian Kay (member); Stella Bickmore (member); Phil Davies (member); and Gary Robinson (member).



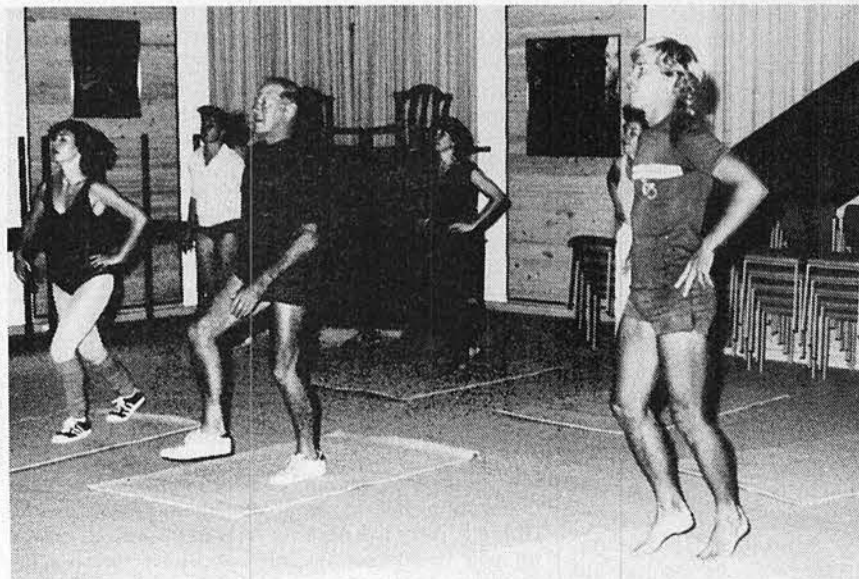
• Scott Samuels says farewell.

Scott Samuels of Mapping Branch resigned and left on April 18 for an extended overseas holiday. He plans to see how the other 99.9 percent live but promises to be back in Perth for the America's Cup Challenge. One of Scotty's loves is — you've guessed it — yachting. Bon Voyage Scott.



Larne and Paul Marsh (Yanchep) are the proud parents of twin girls.

Sharon and Michelle arrived just before the new Department and are now well settled in at home with sister Sarah (6) and brother Michael (4).



• Keeping active in body and mind has been proved beneficial and the lunchtime aerobic exercises at Operations HQ are popular with staff interested in maintaining their quality of life. These sessions are held in the Como Training Centre between 12.30 and 1.15pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. All newcomers welcome.

CALM News is the Department of Conservation and Land Management's new monthly staff newspaper. We hope you will become involved in its publication by sending articles (up to 400 words), letters, photographs (with captions), minutes from meetings and items of interest to: Address to Ian Kay, Editor, CALM News, Department Conservation and Land Management Como WA 6152 — or phone HQ OHQ ext 328.